2. The sound of the choir is reflected off the wall toward the congregation. 3. Lights that illuminate the stained glass mural, at night from within the church, are housed on top or within the wall. 4. The wall screens the sight of members walking the stairs after they have been completely immersed in a pool of water. 5. The wall would also house a screen that displays the words to songs, bible verses, and live video of the pastor during church services.

The window frames or trusses that support the stained glass mural are translated directly from the columns’ geometry. The windows on the north and south elevations are also derived from the same geometry. Using the same geometry for all of the elements unifies the various elements into one entity. Even the recessed joints on the building facade respond to the building geometry. Each small element is related to and part of the larger elements. The vaulted roof adds a considerable amount of volume to the sanctuary.

The windows on the north, south, and west elevations are tinted to help reduce glare and heat gain within the building. The 30’ tall windows on the North and South facades also have tinted vertical glass braces to aid the frames’ resistance to wind loads. The window tint and braces will help to blend the intensity of the sun’s light with the shadows cast by the columns. The stained glass mural depicts Jesus with open arms welcoming all who seek him. The stained glass image is a semiotic reference that helps to identify the building type.
The second floor features an expanded narthex that allows access to the pews via three different pairs of doors to aid the congregation when entering and exiting the sanctuary. The inner flanges of the columns are hollow and house recessed lights, mechanical ducts, plumbing lines, and radiant heat cables. The embedded plumbing lines are used to divert rain water from the roof. The water is then channeled to drain tile below grade which connects to the town’s storm water management system.

Sound, light, and baby changing rooms are at the rear of the church, facing the altar. Each of the rooms is provided with one way glass which allows occupants to monitor the services. Directly in front of the two rooms are the pews. The seating arrangement offers a radial and cohesive arrangement that cradles the altar. The arrangement allows the pastor easy access to the nave during a sermon and provides clear lines of site from the pews of the altar. Various pews are also recessed in select front rows to allow wheel chairs to park there during services. The location of the wheelchairs will allow those confined to them to be a part of the congregation as opposed to sticking out in the aisles.

The sanctuary has three levels which consist of the altar, the musicians’ area, and choir seating. The pianists and organist would each face the choir. The enlarged area also provides an adequate space for duets, quartets, or recitals during special programs. The closer a soloist is to the congregation during a song, the greater the interaction between the two. The pulpit is now reserved for ministers only.

The baptismal pool is equipped with three large custom faucets controlled by a single valve. The three pipes represent the Trinity. The sound of the water filling the pool has the potential to be as much a part of the baptismal service as the message delivered by the pastor.
Balcony View

Figure 92
The balcony railing is a derivative of the column geometry. The railing is composed of transparent glazing to avoid inhibiting the view of the sanctuary. The glass is mounted between two vertical aluminum supports a horizontal brushed aluminum guard rail.

The window frame is also a direct derivative of the column geometry. The glazing is comprised of two different window tints. The darker tint is reserved for the vertical structural element. The more reflective tinted panes are used on the exterior.
Window Frame Geometry

Figure 95
Interior Wall Assembly

Figure 96
The 10' tall columns that support the exterior stair and walkway at the entrance owe their inverted form to the geometry of the cross at the end of the project axis. They are fundamentally the same element but inverted to form a sculpted capital.

The 40' tall columns support the roof vault which is based on the parabolic frame. The column lines are pristine and mostly symmetrical. When viewing the plan, it is revealed that the columns are not symmetrical. The tapered three dimensional structural element is not purely symmetrical due to the loading conditions imposed by the vault. The outside lower exterior flange is actually elongated to allow rebar to be bent at a greater angle.