Hughes Associates A&E has been Bonsack Baptist Church's architect of choice for the past 20 years. Our first endeavor was the multi-level, 25,400 square foot addition of a centerpiece sanctuary. The addition seats 524 in pews and a 78-seat choir platform on the main level, plus a 150-seat balcony above. The lower level serves as the fellowship hall which seats 400 and has an adjacent kitchen. Using folding partitions, the fellowship hall can be divided into classroom spaces when needed. This project was awarded the Virginia Masonry Council President's Award for Outstanding Masonry Design (1992). Following this project, Hughes Associates A&E made an evaluation of the existing church's property and developed a Master Plan which identified adjacent properties that would be needed to achieve the future vision of the staff and congregation.
Planning Growth

This Master Plan located future building modules including education, recreation/family life, and future increased worship space. Parking expansion was also identified on the master plan. Since growth of a church family is through children, the next major addition was the children’s education center. Large, bright, multi-functional classrooms, wide corridors, and build-in security check in stations, were the major features of this facility. As the church growth exceeded expectations, additional land was acquired, parking was added, and open circulation was incorporated. To reach a diverse group of worshippers, existing classrooms were combined and converted to a contemporary worship facility with audio-visual and acoustic solutions.

Solution

As a regional church and one of the most successful churches in Virginia, the latest project involves the addition of a multi-faceted family life center. Fellowship for 600 with a commercial kitchen is adjacent to a new welcoming commons featuring a grand stair to the upper level, a coffee shop, bookstore, and family-oriented activity spaces. The second and third levels contain a full recreation center with multiple sports activity spaces including basketball, volleyball, aerobics, game rooms, lockers, and toilet spaces. A stage/platform is strategically located to serve as the ever-expanding contemporary worship venue. An upper level running track and additional activity spaces complete the project.

Result + Detail

This addition will be the “front door” to this ever expanding ministry. The church is located in a residential zoning district, so a special use permit has been required on several project phases. Hughes Associates A&E has worked closely with the church and Roanoke County Planning Staff to prepare special use permit applications and presentation drawings.