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Tunnell-Spangler-Walsh & Associates Wins National Award for Design of Woodstock Community Church in Woodstock, GA

ATLANTA -- The Architecture Studio of Tunnell-Spangler-Walsh & Associates, (TSW), an Atlanta-based full-service planning, architecture and landscape architecture firm (www.tsw-design.com), has won a national Solomon Award for its design of the new Woodstock Community Church in Woodstock, Ga. (www.wcchurch.org). The awards are presented by *Church Production Magazine* and *Worship Facilities Magazine*, and are the leading annual national awards recognizing church building design across the full spectrum of church sizes and styles (<http://wfxweb.com/dallas-2011/awards/>). The winners were announced at the Worship Facilities Conference and Expo in Dallas Nov. 9. TSW won in the category of Best New Church Design, up to 800 Seats.

“A good church architect must first listen, then draw, then listen again,” said Jerry Spangler, TSW’s architectural director. “Understanding the ministry is paramount. That’s the approach our team brought to the design of the new 19,000-square-foot Woodstock Community Church. Church leaders had a vision of a natural, organic ministry that emphasized intimacy over grandness, so we focused on creating multiple gathering spaces characterized by natural light and fresh, contemporary finishes. The ‘Woodland Modern’ design style reflects the physical character the church wanted to project to the community as well as to its members.”

By carefully monitoring costs and making smart design choices, TSW was able to deliver a beautiful and functional design within the congregation’s modest construction budget. The final design incorporates three individual structures: a 300-seat sanctuary, a fellowship hall which accommodates weekly dining and basketball events and an educational wing designed for a future second floor expansion. Each structure has its own distinctive form and site orientation. A central gathering space and two exterior courtyards link the three structures.

Internally, natural stone and locally milled birch and walnut hardwoods accent the sanctuary and main gathering lobby. Externally, the off-white/warm gray/green color scheme reinforces the desired contemporary imagery. Views to the outdoors are emphasized throughout the design, including the sanctuary, and the design’s angular geometry creates a variety of interesting fellowship spaces.

“We are now blessed with a building tailored to our ministry,” said Woodstock Community Church minister Greg Michael. “The joy of knowing Christ and making Him known has been enhanced and we are grateful for that.”

About Tunnell-Spangler-Walsh & Associates

Tunnell-Spangler-Walsh is a full-service planning, architecture and landscape architecture firm. The award-winning company was founded in Atlanta by Bill Tunnell, Jerry Spangler and Thomas Walsh in 1990 and specializes in developing sustainable communities, greenspaces, homes and commercial buildings. TSW is a leader in the New Urbanist movement and employs a community planning and design process that links tradition and context with today's cultural and environmental demands. By integrating the disciplines of planning, landscape architecture and architecture, TSW delivers a continuum of design services to its clients, which has resulted in some of the Southeast's most appealing and successful mixed-use communities, campuses, commercial buildings, resorts, streetscapes, homes and parks.

Sustainable design is an integral part of all TSW work, from the master plan level to the individual building components. Most of TSW's staff are LEED Accredited Professionals and their designs incorporate a range of ideas for progressive energy and resource saving solutions. For more information, visit www.tsw-design.com.

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