

From: [M Bret Blackford](#)
To: [Steve Awtrey](#); [Steve Awtrey](#)
Cc: [Don Fitzgerald](#); [Bret Blackford](#); [Blackford, Bret B.](#)
Subject: : MX Communion Cup holder - additional thoughts (and some numbers)
Date: Thursday, January 2, 2025 8:05:46 AM
Attachments: [01.01.2025-PEW CADDY-MX CHURCH.pdf](#)

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update: It looks like there are currently **3** caddies per pew.

On Thursday, January 2, 2025 at 07:20:24 AM CST, **M Bret Blackford** <bret_blackford@yahoo.com> wrote:

McKnight Communion Process

Issue to be Resolved:

Currently, we need to pass the communion trays several times on a Sunday morning:

1. Pass communion trays with the bread and juice.
2. Pass trays to collect used cups.
3. Pass collection plates.

This process takes time and can become confusing. While it is essential to take communion together weekly, we aim to find a more efficient method.

Recommendation:

Minimize the passing of trays to just step #1 above. Initially, we propose eliminating step #2—the second passing of trays to collect used cups. After addressing this, we can explore additional improvements for the collection process.

Options to Handle Used Communion Cups:

Option 1: Add holes to existing pew caddy

Currently, each pew has a caddy for Bibles, songbooks, pens, and visitor cards. There is room on each side of the pew caddy for two 1-inch holes (four holes per caddy). These holes could hold used communion cups, to be picked up after the service. (See drawing [here](#).)

Option 2: Add additional communion cup holders to each pew

An extra caddy could be installed on each pew specifically to hold used communion cups, which would be collected after the service.

Some Numbers:

Total number of pews (~50 total but excluding back pews): ~46

Option 1: Add holes to existing pew caddy

- Drill 4 holes in each caddy (3 caddies per pew), providing **12** holes per pew for communion cups.
- **Time Commitment:** An afternoon to drill and clean (vacuum sawdust) 1-inch holes in the existing caddies.

Option 2: Add additional communion cup holders

- Approximately 3 additional caddies per pew would be required to ensure accessibility for everyone seated.
- **Time Commitment:** Fabricating and installing 138 cup holders (3 per pew × 46 pews) would be significantly more time-consuming than drilling holes in existing caddies.

Important Note:

We cannot change the communion process until there is sufficient storage for used communion cups. Therefore, improvements cannot be implemented until Option 1 or Option 2 is fully completed.

Final Recommendation:

We need to evaluate the aesthetics, functionality, cost, and time commitment for each option. An initial review suggests favoring Option 1 (adding holes to existing pew caddies). However, we recommend testing prototypes for both options:

1. Drill test holes in a single pew caddy.
2. Build a prototype of an additional communion cup holder to assess feasibility.

Once prototypes are reviewed, a final decision can be made.

--- Bret

On Wednesday, January 1, 2025 at 06:00:24 PM CST, **M Bret Blackford** <bret_blackford@yahoo.com> wrote:

I think 7/8" hole should work as communion cup is 3/4" at bottom and 1 1/2" at top (dimensions in attached).

On Wednesday, January 1, 2025 at 05:42:58 PM CST, **Steve Awtrey** <steve.awtrey@gmail.com> wrote:

I made a sample caddy I will bring to next meeting. I used a 7/8" hole.

On Wed, Jan 1, 2025 at 1:51 PM **M Bret Blackford** <bret_blackford@yahoo.com> wrote:

Steve Awtrey and Don Fitzgerald,

In our last meeting we were discussing ways to help the communion & collection process. One of you, I believe it was Steve, mentioned having a place to keep the used communion cups at the pew till after service might be a good way to help streamline that process (eliminating the need to re-pass trays for collection).

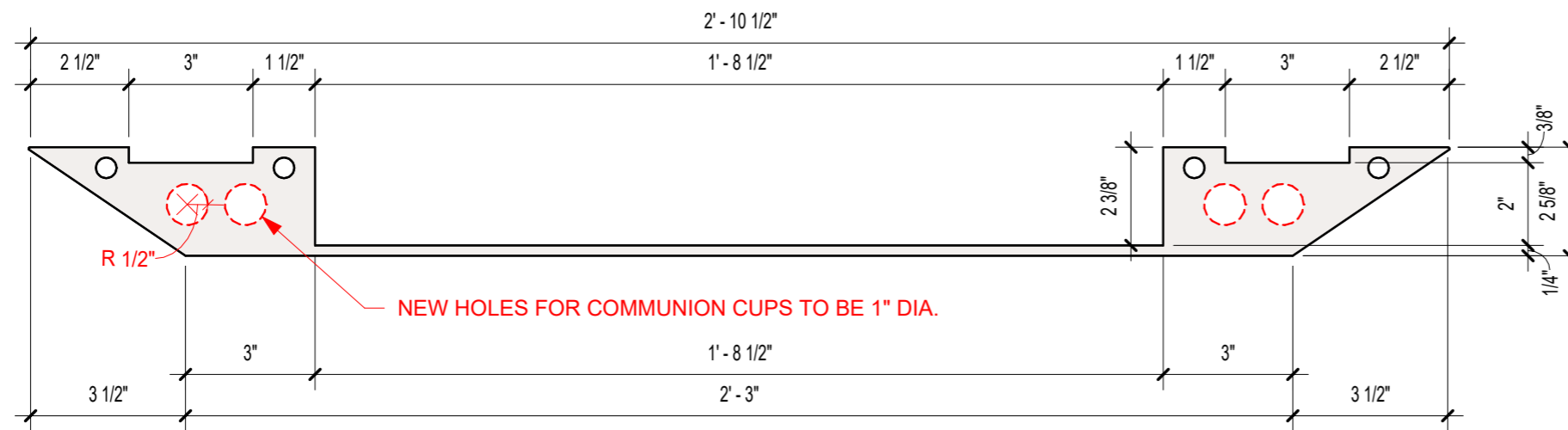
That sounds like a good idea so I made some measurements of the current pew caddys we have on the back of each pew. The drawing is attached and also available on-line here

- https://www.building.mx.mxcoc.xyz/media/misc/01.01.2025-PEW_CADDY-MX_CHURCH.pdf.

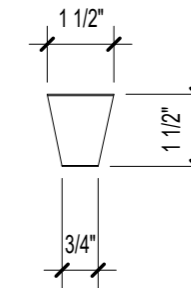
Per my measurements it appears that we can add 2 holes (1" holes) to each side of the pew caddy to hold communion cups. Something to consider. It seems worth trying on a pew or two to see if it might work, but looking at the numbers (drawing attached) it seems possible.

I'm sending to the two of you as you seem to be the most capable of working in wood to see if this can be done. Something to consider - and no rush on my part.

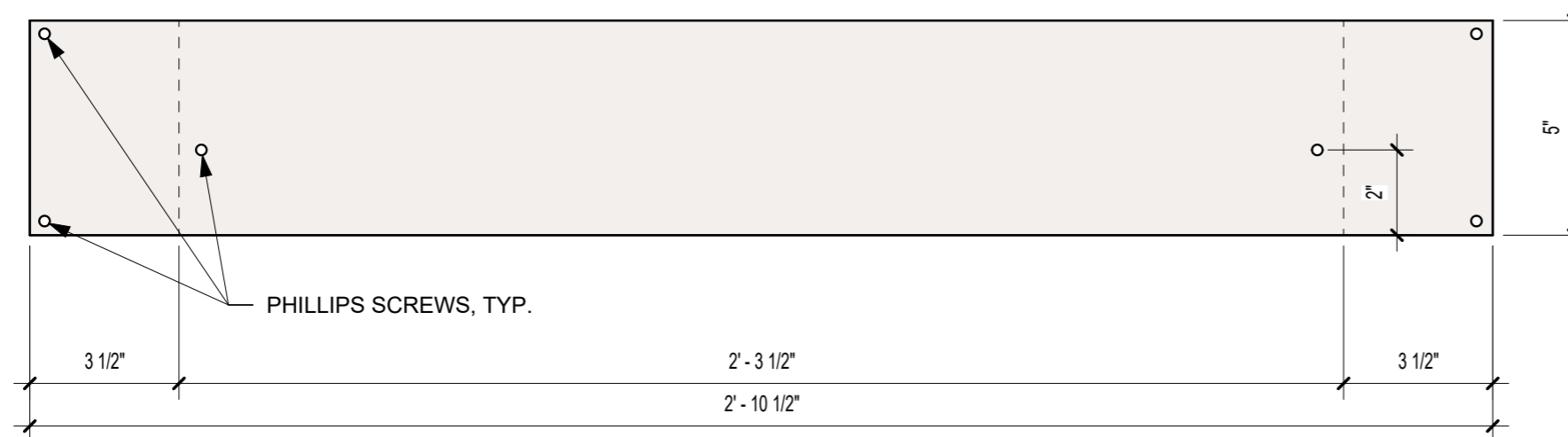
--- Bret



CADDY - TOP ELEVATION



TYP. COMMUNION CUP - FRONT ELEVATION



CADDY - FRONT ELEVATION

PEW CADDY		REVISION:	PROJECT NO: XXXXX
SHEET REF:	McKnight Crossings Church of Christ 2515 S McKnight Road, St. Louis, MO 63124		DATE: 01/01/25
SCALE: 3" = 1'-0"			001



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