

# Merritt Island Baptist Church Worship Center



**Client/Contact:**

*Merritt Island Baptist Church  
140 Magnolia Avenue  
Merritt Island, Florida 32952  
Rev. Troy Dobbs, Pastor  
321-453-2144*

**Location:**

*Merritt Island, Florida*

**Project Size:**

*85,000 SF*

**Completion Date:**

*1988*

**Construction Cost:**

*\$5,000,000*

**Principal-in-Charge:**

*Richard A. Veenstra, AIA*

**Program/Challenges**

Merritt Island Church contracted VRL Architects when the previously designed new sanctuary was over the church's budget. The VRL design team was faced with the task of designing a 2500 seat worship center with a minimal budget.

**Solution**

The resulting design featured a square building with vertical stair and restroom towers framing the entry way. A flat, long span trussed roof allowed the sanctuary to have a tall ceiling. The great height accommodates a 50 foot high "living Christmas Tree", an event anticipated annually by the local community.

One balcony was built in the initial phase. The sanctuary was prepared to receive a second, future balcony.

