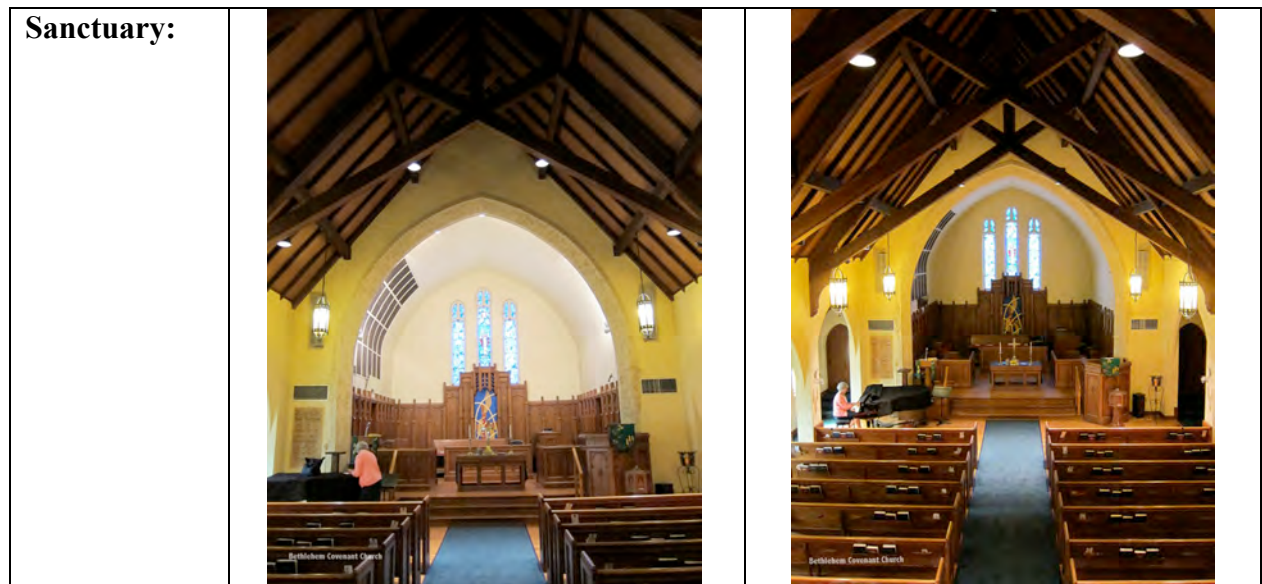


Bethlehem Covenant Church

Sound Systems Assessment and Planning

This document outlines the current and future uses of sound systems in the sanctuary, community room and fellowship hall. Recommendations for improvements to existing systems or replacement and upgrade of systems will be designed to meet the needs and future uses that are detailed for each of the spaces. Continued discussion and edits to this document are desired as the planning process moves forward!



Activities: Sunday services, seasonal services and special services. Funerals, memorial services and weddings. Communion services.

Sound uses:

- Speaking from pulpit and lectern with wired microphones.
- Use of wireless lapel style mic for pastoral message and speaking. A second wireless mic for communion services.
- Choir from platform area. Choir from rear of sanctuary or as processional down the center aisle. Choir from step area of the platform.
- Piano and pipe organ accompaniment for music and congregational singing.
- Occasional contemporary worship band (location at front of platform and near piano side).
- Audio recording of services (currently to CD) to distribute to members and friends of the congregation.
- Wide variety of music types and styles.
- Drama events in the sanctuary (Christmas pageant - children; Passion Sunday drama - adults).

Current needs, Future planning, and goals:

- Possible expansion of music to include more contemporary worship band, special music programming or concerts.
- Possible re-arrangement of platform area to provide more flexibility for music and special services.
- Add audio recording delivery of services to the church web site for download.

- Assess current sound system for audio quality, flexibility and dependability. Ensure high quality audio for the current and future programming while providing flexibility for the growth of future programming in services.
- Include hearing assistance system for those with hearing challenges.
- Possible addition of image projection system and video recording capabilities.
- Sound delivery to the narthex/ hallway areas to the rear and north side of the sanctuary as well as kitchen, nursery, and community room.



Activities:

Church social gatherings, meetings, community meetings and gatherings, voting, and receptions. Children's choir rehearsal and coffee hour after worship on Sunday.

Sound Uses:

- Primarily speaking from lectern or presentation area. Music playback. Audio from projection system. Capability for sanctuary sound to be heard in this space.

Current needs, Future planning, and goals:

- Possible location for contemporary worship service including worship band – no sound reinforcement needed.
- Acoustics and current sound system need evaluation to provide better intelligibility.
- Sound system should be flexible to meet the variety of uses and setup configurations.



Activities:

Church social gatherings, seasonal services (annual Lucia service), meals, community programs.

Sound Uses:

- Speaking from lectern or presentation area(s).
- Sound reinforcement for live music events.

- Playback of pre-recorded music.

Current needs, Future planning, and goals:

- Assess the quality, age, dependability of the current system.
- Capability for audio recording and archiving.
- Sound delivery to kitchen.

NEXT STEPS:

I would like to schedule a time to come back to the church to more critically assess some of the existing equipment in all three spaces- especially in the Community room and the Fellowship hall and run some simple sound tests in the spaces. This will give me a good idea of the current sound situation and help me to provide an accurate recommendation for the sound systems in these rooms. I will be able to decide if some of the existing equipment may be useful into the future.

At that point, I will be able to provide a recommendation for each of the rooms for your consideration. That recommendation can be used to generate cost estimates as well.

Regards,

-Brian

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