

WANTING TO GIVE GOD OUR VERY BEST

Our church sanctuary is clearly the most important room on our campus. The committee is intent on coming up with a plan that serves the congregation in very practical ways. We also want to recognize that just as God has given us his very best, he deserves nothing but the very best that we can give him.

Look for more updates from the Sanctuary Renovation Committee in the coming weeks.

November 9

Communion Accessible to All

November 16

Helping Others to Hear and Be Heard

November 23

A Warmer, Well-Lit Space

November 30

More Than a Make-Over

ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS

On the weekend of December 7, the Renovation Committee is planning a brief (10-15 minute) presentation after each service, which will summarize these four areas.

We're also planning a lengthier presentation sometime in January, complete with artist renderings, access to our design consultant, Paul Barribeau, from Groth Design Group.

We are looking forward to sharing what we've learned and receiving feedback from all our Peace members.

The Sanctuary Renovation Committee

Don Radke, Chairman / Mike Marquardt, Secretary
Rodney Schulz / Betty Wolf / Janice Radke / Brian
Horst / Minette Wolf / Clarence Roethle
The Pastoral Staff

Peace Sanctuary Renovation

Helping Others To Hear & Be Heard



The Lutheran Church has often been called "the singing church." What do you think is the reason?

Do you feel more confident singing by yourself, or when you clearly hear other voices around you?

Have you ever noticed that some of the kids groups that sing in church are sometimes hard to hear in certain parts of the sanctuary?

Do you know how old our assistive listening system is?

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD

Verbal communication, whether spoken or sung, is the main vehicle for our worship. This verbal communication has three basic directions or channels:

1. God speaks to us through his Word and through his called servants.
2. We speak to God with our prayers and praises.
3. We speak to each other as we join our voices together in spoken responses and in music.

In our Lutheran worship, it is vitally important that all these channels are clearly heard and understood by all. The Sanctuary Renovation Committee has been looking at how we can improve communication in each of those channels.

ENHANCING ACOUSTICS

Music works through all three of these channels, bringing the Word of God to the listener, sending praise to God, and encouraging fellow believers in their faith. If a space is more acoustically dead, singers don't hear each other as well. This can cause aural tuning issues for choirs and can make singers feel like they're singing by themselves. Most people, whether the person in the pew or the 7th grader singing in front of church, don't like singing solos, so if they can't hear others around them singing very well, they get shy and sing and speak more quietly.

In an acoustically live environment, singers hear each other more clearly, which allows choirs to better sing in tune. It allows young kids with developing voices (think preschoolers with small voices or even adolescents going through a voice change) to be heard better by the congregation. Most importantly, the supportive sound gives more confidence to singers both in the pew and in the choir to participate more robustly.

On the other hand, an acoustic environment that is too live can cause problems with echoes that can reduce speech intelligibility.

PROPER FLOORING CAN HELP

Carpeting is the number one obstacle in achieving a more live acoustic. Hard surface flooring can help provide an acoustic environment that is supportive of choral and congregational participation. Hard surface flooring in the chancel is especially helpful for choirs that sing in front so they can hear each other. This makes it easier to sing in tune, and to help singers sing more confidently. It will also help blend the voices together and project the sound out to the congregation better. It can even help our organ sound more present and lively.

IN THE LOOP

If the flooring is going to be updated, we have an opportunity to bring our aging assistive listening system up-to-date. By putting a certain kind of wire under the floor around the perimeter of the sanctuary, we would position ourselves to be able to make use of an Audio Induction Loop System, which allows people with *T-coil* equipped hearing aids and cochlear implants to receive a clear audio signal wirelessly from the church's sound system. This would be a vast and needed improvement over our current assistive listening system.

HELP FROM EXPERTS

The Sanctuary Renovation Committee has engaged an acoustic consultant to help us get scientific data that will guide us in achieving the right acoustical balance, which in turn will help us sing our praises better and help us hear the Word in song more clearly. He will also help to make sure our current sound system will be appropriately adjusted to the new acoustic environment so that all can hear the Word without difficulty.