

News about our Sanctuary Grand Piano

Most of us have heard the phrase “all good things must come to an end”. This happens now to be the case for our beloved Boston Grand Sanctuary Piano - which is the reason for this letter. Simply stated, after 32 years of extensive use, we have been advised that our piano is worn out and needs to be replaced. The professional appraisers we trust have summarized it this way, “This is a very unstable piano which is not worth repairing and has lived it’s service life.”

Our sanctuary piano holds a special place in our hearts and plays a vital role in our worship services, concerts and special events. Its melodies lift our voices in praise to God that uplifts our spirits. This being the case, quality new grand pianos in today’s prices, that last for many years, are expensive and can run from \$75,000 and in excess of \$100,000. Used grand pianos also vary in cost and can have a reduced quality of sound and life expectancy.

Your Worship Ministry Team is leading the effort to obtain a replacement piano with unanimous support from our Session of Elders. We plan to proceed in two phases:

Phase I: This phase has already begun. We have placed advertisements in search of a gently used grand piano that meets our specifications - or perhaps even a new donated piano gifted generously by someone or some organization. We are advertising for a “high quality professional, semi-concert grand that is 6 to 7 feet in length and American or European manufactured”.

This first phase effort will proceed through April.

Phase II: Should phase one fail then **sometime in May** we will move to the second phase and launch a fund-raising campaign to purchase a new grand piano as we did to purchase our current piano many years ago. If we need to move to this part of the plan then it will require significant financial gifts from the congregation, over and above our current giving to Northwood’s budget to support our ongoing ministry and mission.

As you probably have surmised from the above comments as we proceed in this two-phase plan, there are many variables leaving us with some questions yet to be answered. As we move forward, we pray the picture will become clearer before moving to a significant campaign.

Northwood’s Worship Ministry Team appreciates your prayers and support during this time as well as hearing of any leads you may have as we seek a special piano that will hold a place in our hearts and play a vital role in our worship for many years to come.

If you have information or knowledge of a quality grand piano available for donation or purchased as gently used that may meet our needs, please contact Stephanie Carson (727-458-9749) or Dennis Rasmussen (727-641-8330). Thank you for your support and appreciation of the music ministry of Northwood Presbyterian Church.