

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Proposal: Sanctuary, Parish Hall, Outside Events Upgrades  
Prepared for: The Vestry (and Congregation)  
Prepared by: The Sound and Vision Integrated Worship Workgroup  
Date: Sunday, August 1, 2021

## Objectives/Summary

It is with great enthusiasm that we share with you our suggestions for an important addition to our Church Sanctuary and Buildings. On May 3, 2021 Mother Barbara announced a workgroup, headed by Peg Newby and consisting of Mother Barbara, Gretchen Schlabach, Lucinda Brunner, and Lorraine Langer. We were tasked to examine upgrades for the: A. Sanctuary, B. Parish Hall, and C. Outside Events. We discovered that much of the existing equipment is from 1967. In 2010 upgrades to the church's original sound equipment (speakers, recording device) were made. In 2019, efforts were made to explore sound/vision upgrades, again, until COVID put an abrupt stop to the efforts.

Unlike the two previous sound/vision inquiries, the pandemic prompted us to contemplate the addition of cameras to enable streaming. Thus, we considered what is needed to have a good worship experience both in the sanctuary and at home. By updating the existing system, those that participate remotely can have an experience as inclusive and welcoming as they would in-person.

## Goals

As such, we considered:

- ◆ Worship: specifically, what we can do to give all parishioners (in-person and remote) a fine worship experience.
  - Sanctuary/In-person experience should be hearable and recognizable. Some of our current challenges include: the sound controls are in a location where adjustments cannot be heard; much of our current equipment is beyond its practical life-expectancy; and our speaker system is not designed to maximize speech intelligibility.
  - Zoom/streaming experience should be seamless. By reducing the number of devices and number of people operating them we can minimize the distraction of movement during the service. Additionally, the equipment upgrades will improve overall sound and video.
- ◆ Other influencing Zoom/Streaming factors:
  - National and Diocesan churches direction is to continue these services, and will not go away any time soon, if ever.
  - Benefits
    - St. Paul's, for example, streamed a Christmas Eve and Easter Service, as well as, 2 funerals and 1 wedding allowing attendees from all over the country to view the service.

- Parishioners, who are unable to attend in-person, can still be part of our worship services and church activities
- Programs of varying interests can be streamed to our community and beyond.

**Solution**

After interviewing three vendors and reviewing their proposals, we chose Integrity Systems, Inc. We agreed that Integrity Systems, Inc.: effectively explained the technical and practical aspects of the proposal, demonstrated flexibility with options, and were cost effective. Furthermore, Integrity Systems, Inc. received very good reviews from St. James Cathedral, St. Chrysostom’s and Christ Church in Winnetka.

We visited Christ Church in Winnetka to see Integrity Systems, Inc. upgrades and found the equipment blended pleasantly with the architecture, and the digital processor was easy to learn and operate for streaming. Furthermore, Integrity Systems, Inc. speakers would allow us to move sound throughout the room in a way that will enhance intelligibility and improve clarity without creating feedback and without huge variances in audio volume throughout the church.

**Proposal**

We propose that the Vestry consider the Sanctuary, Parish Hall, and Outside Events upgrades from Integrity Systems, Inc. for a total of \$51, 577.76. Page 3 and 4 show a simple list of needed equipment and illustrates where the new upgrades would be made. Below is a budget that includes all three areas.

**Budget**

Description	A. Sanctuary	B. Parish Hall	D. Outside Events	Subtotal
Equipment	22,647.72	15,535.79	1,588.89	39,772.40
Sales Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shipping	881.91	621.43	63.56	1,566.90
Labor	5,622.40	4,290.05	326.00	10,238.45
Subtotal				51,577.75
Total	29,152.03	20,447.28	1,978.45	51,577.76

This is a one-time payment with minimal recurring cost. Thank you for your sincere considerations. Respectfully,

Peg Newby, Chair  
 The Rev. Barbara A. T. Wilson, Rector  
 Gretchen Schlabach, Sr. Warden  
 Lucinda Brunner, Jr. Warden  
 Lorraine Langer, Director of Music

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
 Sound and Vision Integrated Workgroup  
 List of new equipment for the Sanctuary

Item (New Audio Video)	Quantity	Location
Nave Long Speakers	2	Wall Mount
Wireless Ear Microphones	2	Priest/Guest
Wireless Handheld Microphone	1	Mobility/Readers
Fixed Microphone	1	Lectern/Readers
Hanging Recording Mics	3	Musicians/Nave
Speaker Monitor for Organist	1	Organ Console
Web Cameras	3	Priest/Readers/Musicians
Audio Rack System Controls	1	Back of Nave
Video Data Recorder Controls	1	Back of Nave

Notes:

To currently stream our worship services via zoom: we use 8 devices (computers, phones, iPads) that 6 people (co-hosts, etc) operate. This proposal would help us change this to 4 devices and 3 people, to manage streaming.

Color Key for Diagram:

Blue Boxes = New Equipment

Gray Boxes/Circles = Existing Equipment

Green XX = New Electrical Outlets

Black X = Existing Electrical Outlets

Sacristy Priest

Integrity Systems:  
Location of old and new equipment  
In St. Paul's Sanctuary

Sacristy Sound System

