

Sunday Sanctuary Broadcast



Each Sunday, the broadcast from the sanctuary needs a team “to make the magic happen”. Cameraman Howe and QC Tech Paula bring the sanctuary to Zoom with help from Brandon as Zoom host.

Adam or David bring Zoom into the sanctuary using touch screen sound control and visuals from the projector. Take note of the reference monitor mounted on the balcony.

Our Sanctuary in Use



Liona Boyd in Concert



Students for Music and Wellness

Looking Ahead

Further upgrades would enhance the remote viewing and listening experience. Our sanctuary’s design offers an audio experience admired by many, seen in groups using it for concerts and other events. Besides the choirs of RHUC, Liona Boyd, orchestras and musical groups have performed. *Students for Music and Wellness* recently recorded in the sanctuary, putting RHUC on national news! Additional improvements will enable the sound quality of the sanctuary to be experienced at home.

Longer Term Improvements to be considered include:

Instrument Specific Microphones

The placement and integration of purpose-specific microphones for the organ, piano and choir ensures that the sound heard in the sanctuary is also experienced online without the aid of being pre-recorded.

Speaker System Replacement

Once the core of the AV system has been installed, future improvements could include replacing the 30 year-old main speaker to address ongoing sound quality issues in some areas of the sanctuary. ***

*** Integration of a new main speaker is relatively inexpensive. However, the need for licensed riggers to remove the old system and mount a new one would drive up the cost of installation to a point past our present budget goals.

Other Possibilities

The integration of automated network lighting to improve visual quality of worship services and other events both online and in the sanctuary.

Expanding the video system to other rooms such as the chapel for the Broadcast of Smaller Services.

Timeline

As this work is considered Long Term, timelines and budget costs have yet to be considered by either the Transition team or the Church Board.

Boosting Our Signal



Support for AV equipment at
Richmond Hill United Church



Boosting Our Signal

- We can offer services to seniors and others who cannot come to church, helping us “Reach out with care to people at all stages of life” (Intention #6).
- Projectors and better connection to Zoom make the sanctuary usable for “hybrid” congregational meetings, ensuring “inclusion through accessibility.”
- It makes the sanctuary more usable for talks and concerts, helping us develop a “centre for community” that includes meeting and performance space.
- A projection system makes it possible to project lyrics, videos and other visual elements to services, helping us “create dynamic, engaging and meaningful worship”, especially that “engage all ages and cultures.”
- Finally, through Zoom, we can broadcast worship services to those who have moved away, both young adults away at university or for work, and members who have relocated. This is an unexpected side-benefit.



RHUC has embarked on a project to upgrade our AV capabilities. This project, to be implemented in Phases, not only improves the livestream services, but helps us to achieve some of our long term ministry goals.

Phase 1

The installation of one of two video projectors to project hymns, videos, and remote readers and prayer leaders (\$10,000.00). *

The installation of a reference monitor on the balcony (\$2,000.00).

The installation of a digital sound system, including an easy-to-use touch screen control surface (\$30,000.00). **

* The first Projector was installed with the belief hybrid services with both remote and in-house participants would be held in the late Fall and for Advent-Christmas.

** Two considerations were made regarding the sound system. First, with no significant updates made since installation of the sound and speaker system in the early 1990's, it had to be brought to a base level for other improvements to be made. Second, given that the team which runs the system is volunteer, it must be simple to use and maintain.



Phase 2

A Second Phase has been priced but no installation scheduled. It builds on Phase 1 and will improve the quality of sound and video as we broadcast worship.

It includes:

The installation of a second projector for the south side of the front of the sanctuary to allow views from all seating positions. (\$10,000.00)

The installation and integration of a controllable (PTZ) camera that feeds video into the core system installed in Phase 1. This will both improve picture quality and make sound integration possible. (\$15,000.00)

The installation of components to feed video into the sound system installed in Phase 1. This is required so that both sound and video are integrated. (\$9,000.00)

The placing of film over the south-east window to reduce glare without affecting its appearance. (\$2,000.00)

These two phases take care of the original aim of the project: to produce a hybrid worship service which is inclusive of those who choose to attend the service either from within the sanctuary or remotely from home.

