

Rockpoint Church

Lake Elmo, Minnesota

Corporate | Residential | Education | Government | Hospitality | Transportation | **Worship** | Healthcare | Cultural and Event Centers | Commercial Lighting

Contemporary Worship Services Go Hi-Tech at Rockpoint

Rockpoint Church is a vibrant, 40-year old community church nestled in a tranquil Twin Cities suburb and provides worship services for about 700 congregants each Sunday, plus a wide variety of ministry activities during the week. To meet the needs of its growing congregation, Rockpoint recently embarked on the construction of a tremendous and bold new facility. The vision was to create a modern sanctuary equipped to handle a variety of production needs including contemporary worship services, theatrical dramas, special events such as Christmas and Easter concerts and national Christian music acts.

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In addition to the technology demands of the 7,200 square foot main sanctuary, Rockpoint also wanted large gathering and recreation spaces for pre-school, youth, teen and adult fellowship, a full-size gymnasium and a catering kitchen.

To ensure AV, lighting and presentation systems were a central part of the building blueprint, Rockpoint retained the expert design and integration services of local Crestron Dealer, Audio Video Electronics (AVE), to collaborate with local architectural firm, BWBR Architects, during pre-construction planning. With the implementation of a Crestron solution, AVE and BWBR were able to create a high tech campus environment that exceeded leadership’s expectations, while allowing technological scalability for a growing congregation.

Facing the challenges of a big vision and a unique design, coupled with a tight budget, a Creston control system was the clear choice to manage video, sound and lighting systems throughout the 60,500 square foot campus.

“When it comes to AV control systems, I prefer Crestron over any other manufacturer. They have the broadest product line with top notch service and support. Crestron is also clearly a leader in innovation,” asserts Kevin Crow, Vice President of Sales at AVE and system designer on the project.



Campus-wide Music Distribution with Adagio

To accommodate multiple groups and diverse activities, there are four separate gathering spaces ranging in size from 2300 to 4800 square feet. Crestron Adagio AAS-4 Audio Server was installed to distribute unique selections of worship music to each of the four different zones on campus.

Adagio provides Rockpoint with 250GB of secure, high-performance digital audio storage serving up thousands of hours of music in popular formats including CD, WMA, MP3 and WAV. Adagio enables teens in the gathering space, known as “the Warehouse”, to listen to their music, adults in the upstairs café to listen to different music, while yet a different selection of tunes is playing in the lower level café and children’s music is playing in the Children’s Ministry area. This proved to be the ideal solution for creating different environments within the church and fulfilled the need to reach out to all age groups.

“What we did with the Adagio Audio Server here, we’ve never done before or since. It’s that unique of an application and it serves the church’s needs perfectly,” Crow, an 18-year industry veteran, elaborates.

Adagio conveniently allows a user to search by title, artist or genre, select a song or customizable playlist and play it instantly, all with the touch of a few buttons from one of four APAD Wall Mount LCD controllers installed in each gathering space. All four zones can also be controlled from the Crestron STX-1700C

SmarTouch 5.7" wireless touchpanel that resides in the main sanctuary control booth. In addition, browser-based control from any internet connected PC is enabled, providing staff with system-wide remote control.

The Sanctuary - Advanced Architecture and AV Control Reap Large Returns

In the state-of-the-art, 600-seat main sanctuary the implementation of an architecturally advanced pie-shaped room design greatly enhances acoustics, visibility and space. Sound, lighting and video presentation configurations are designed for professional production and stage performance. All systems - lighting, video projection and sound - are integrated, managed and controlled by a powerful, scalable Crestron PRO2 Dual Bus Control System. The 5.7" active matrix color touchscreen provides simple user interfaces for staff of all levels to operate any device on the system. "Crestron ties together everything that is technology-controlled and makes the system easy to use by a layman or professional," explains Crow.

Custom programming of the touchpanel screen was also performed by AVE and provides phenomenal user-friendly GUI interfaces for two levels of user groups. Technician Mode, which can only be accessed by technical & sound staff with password privileges, is more advanced and allows full system control. Normal User Mode is accessible to all staff members and provides a simplified functionality, perfect for use during events such as weddings or funerals that don't require the full-blown system.

Three center-clustered Danley SH-50 speakers and two Bag End high output subwoofers provide concert level sound. Presentations and high definition video are powered by a Barco HD8 projector onto an 18-foot wide screen at rear of stage and a smaller screen on the rear wall for stage reference. Sermon slides, worship lyrics, computer/DVD video or live feeds from two high-definition pan/tilt cameras are displayed on both screens for simultaneous viewing from the congregation and



stage. With a single command from the Crestron touchpanel, the projector turns on/off and screens lower/retract depending on event requirements.

The AVE-designed stage lighting configuration was developed for both video camera and theatrical production, with eight separate light bars in various positions. Lighting presets can be recorded and recalled via the Crestron wireless touchpanel so users such as children's music directors can save a special event and recall it without changing the main system settings.

This concert-quality design allows Rockpoint to raise funds for its ministries by hosting popular national acts - most recently a sold-out Lincoln Brewster performance - providing an automatic, recurring and much needed ROI (return on investment) for the church. The flexibility, power and affordability of a feature-rich Crestron control system, coupled with the expert design and integration work of Audio Video Electronics, has helped Rockpoint Church realize its "big & unique" vision. Now, it can host events of any type while providing a modern, welcoming fellowship environment for all.

