

Audio Visual Committee Report, 2016  
Diane Kewley Port and Chris Haynes, Co-Chairs  
10/4/16 DKP

AV Committee Members: Chris Haynes, Diane Kewley Port, Steve Krahnke, Molly O'Donnell, Steve Pollitt, Bob Port. ex. officio: Andy Beargie and new member, Andrew Walden.

This summarizes various projects the AV Committee has been working on during 2016.

In February Rev. Macklin asked us to find ways to sound proof an office for the incoming associate minister. This was expanded to include other sound reducing projects on the second floor. The full project was completed in mid September, with thanks to the contributors as follows.

1. A sound deadening wall was built for Rev. McNeill by Steve Pollitt using a design developed by Diane Kewley Port.
2. Several new door seals to reduce sound transmission were installed by Steve Pollitt.
3. A small, bubbly fountain donated by Rev. Leite was placed outside Rev. Macklin's door to mask sound in the hall.
4. Velour drapes were made and hung on the minister's doors to reduce sound transmission. Contributors were: overall project, Diane Kewley Port; sewing, Juliet Port; aesthetics, Molly O'Donnell; hanging, Steve Pollitt.

For several years a sub-committee known as the Window Committee has sought a way to reduce light transmission through the round window in the sanctuary. The problem is that bright light causes interference in vision for many people and poor quality streaming of Sunday services. While the Window Committee examined options, Steve Krahnke designed and installed several creative and colorful translucent hangings over the round window. In June at the congregational meeting, it was decided that for the time being Steve Krahnke will design and make another hanging using more substantial materials, and purchasing the shades that were presented by Molly O'Donnell and Diane Kewley Port will be deferred. Steve's goal is to install the new circular window after thanksgiving.

The electrical conduits in the entry way were enclosed by Steve Pollitt

An ongoing project to improve conversation in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour is in the construction stage. Absorption panels to reduce noise will be hung on the beams in an unobtrusive brown color. Diane Kewley Port provided the design, and Chris Haynes is supervising project completion.

Another ongoing project is to upgrade some of the mics and replace lights in the Sanctuary. Of particular interest is to improve the sound recordings from the choir. This is related to the Window project because they can all be accomplished at the same time by renting a small scissor lift.

A note about a future projects: A larger version of these panels could be placed near the Administrators office in the hall and down the stairs to improve the working environment for Rev. Macklin and Carol Marks. They could be an aesthetic enhancement as well, given the large choice of fabrics available. Sound treatment for the Commons is still needed. Perhaps absorption panels might be used there, in conjunction with diffusers.