

# WHAT TECHNOLOGY DO WE USE & PLAN FOR IN THE WORSHIP BUILDING?

Lutherans have been adapting new technology to the life and witness of the Church since the invention of the printing press lowered the cost of Bibles and allowed Martin Luther wider distribution of his ideas than had been possible previously.

Faith Lutheran Church will incorporate a range of ministries in its worship building that will be enhanced by the technology we have adapted to our mission today.

Three **video** cameras will someday record our worship services and be available for making our own short movies. They will give us the ability to record both video and audio for our shut-ins and for those who want a copy of the service, including the sermon, to review or share.

Our P3 Room (Prayer, Planning and Production) will enable us to edit the raw feed from the cameras to produce commemorative videos of special events including confirmation, weddings, baptisms, and so on.

We will be able to produce our own “Introducing Faith Lutheran Church” videos for visitors, as well as the larger community through mass mailings.

We will be able to produce short video clips to illustrate sermons, make announcements, and share video from the many ministries we have developed and/or support locally and around the world.

We are currently able to record sermons as MP3 **audio** files which will be downloadable from our web site.

And, speaking of our web site, we will be able to produce streaming video that will enable us to send real-time video of events at the church that will make it possible for relatives and friends anywhere in the world to see significant events at the church, such as weddings and baptisms, on their own computers, as they happen.

In addition, we have purchased and provide hearing assist devices so that worshipers will be able to adjust the volume of our worship services through individual headsets.

The technology in our building will not be limited to the worship space and P3 room, however.

The narthex will someday contain one and possibly two video screens so that people waiting for worship to begin or fellowshiping after it is over can see announcement and information material broadcast for them. The pastor’s office will have a small video screen that will enable him to see what is going on in the worship building before he gets there, something that will be particularly helpful for weddings. The conference room has a small video screen and a dataport to enable teachers and presenters to use the latest in instructional materials.

We are also hoping to have enough money to install dramatic **lighting** that help us focus on the importance of what happens at worship. It will bring focus on the Chancel area where the Word is proclaimed and sacraments are administered. Lighting will be programmed to shift attention to the font when there is a baptism, to the pulpit when the Bible is read, to the altar when communion is given, and so on.

To paraphrase an old saying, technology is a great servant, but a poor master. Faith Lutheran Church has employed current technology to serve God and the expression of God’s will. We have been and will continue to be a congregation that is adaptive to all aspects of our culture, including the methods of communication, while employing it to convey the unchanging Word of God.

