



Case Study | Moody Memorial First Methodist Church

BOSE PANARAY SPEAKERS SOLVE CHURCH SANCTUARY SOUND ISSUES





ABOUT

Since the first Methodist Bible study in Galveston, Texas, in 1837, the people who created what is now Moody Methodist Church have provided spiritual and physical care for the city. In addition to Bible studies, prayer ministries, missions, and fellowship, Moody Methodist plays a large role in ministering to the sick and assisting those in need following catastrophes like Hurricane Laura. During the Pandemic in 2020 and 2021, the church played a significant role in the community helping the church community and families across Galveston cope and heal.

CHALLENGE

Moody Methodist Church was built in 1962 and construction consists of many hard surfaces throughout the building, including marble floors, walls and columns in addition to wooden pews in a long, narrow, open space that stands nearly four stories tall. Sound from loudspeakers bounced across the large space creating speech intelligibility issues. While the audio system had been maintained, Barry Hailey, Director of IT and AV Services, knew that new technology could make a speech intelligibility difference.





“We last upgraded the audio system with several column-mounted tower speakers in 2005,” said Hailey. “But even following that improvement, a great deal of ambient noise still existed. Our church centerpiece is a large Schantz pipe organ with 6,583 pipes. Adjusting audio between the organ and presenters required a lot of tweaking and church attendees still struggled to understand parts of the service.”



SOLUTION

Hailey turned to FORTÉ to develop a new audio solution to dramatically improve the listening experience of church goers.

“After evaluating the space and talking with Barry about the issues he was having with the old system, I immediately thought of Bose,” said Mark Warren, Account Manager at FORTÉ. “The Bose Professional Panaray MSA12X self-powered, digital beam-steering loudspeaker was an ideal solution for Moody Methodist Church. This particular loudspeaker delivers wide horizontal coverage unlike most traditional speakers.”

FORTÉ also recommended updating the church’s audio system processor with a new Bose ControlSpace EX digital signal processor to deliver high-quality sound system control. The entire system is managed using a new Android touch panel to enable operators to easily adjust the system when needed.

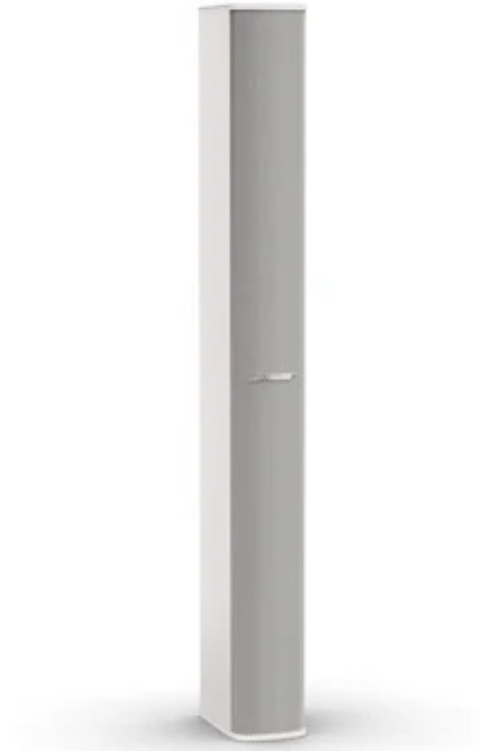


RESULT AND HUMAN IMPACT

The Bose Panaray MSA12x loudspeakers are wall-mounted – three modules on each side of the sanctuary at the front of the church. With this placement, audio from the pipe organ as well as those who speak from microphones is directed across the entire space.

“When Mark’s team said we could replace all of our current speakers with just two of the Bose stacks and still fill the room, I didn’t believe it,” said Hailey. “So they set out to bring us a live demo to prove it. I loved being proved wrong in cases like this. I was on board after the demo. Mark and his team came out on time and stayed on budget. The engineers and install team at FORTÉ were very professional and respectful of the space they were working. I was never told ‘no we can’t do that;’ they just made it happen. I’m very satisfied with the results. We will return to FORTÉ for future projects.”

“This was a terrific outcome,” added Warren. “Managing audio in large open spaces is always complex, but with the right plan and the right products, we were able to enhance the worship experience for all who attend Moody Methodist Church services.”



A set of three stacked Bose Panaray MSA12x Digital Beam-Steering Loudspeakers were installed on each side of the church sanctuary.

EQUIPMENT AND PARTNERS

- 6 Bose Panaray MSA12x Digital Beam-Steering Loudspeakers (white)
- 1 ControlSpace EX-1280 Processor
- 1 MIMO 7-inch Android Touch Panel
- 1 MIMO 7-inch Touch Panel J-Box