About the Church

Located in Murphysboro, Illinois, Christ Community Church began as a result of a tent revival that came to town in 1920. In 1977, the church founded the Murphysboro Christian Academy and, in 1996, the church expanded by moving its worship services from 16th and Poplar Streets into the school’s gymnasium. The church continued to grow and, in March of 2006, they completed a beautiful new church home, pictured here.

Known as a “church for the unchurched”, Christ Community Church’s new 500-seat worship center was designed to be open and inviting. Most of the seating is contemporary theater style. There are overflow rooms in the back with padded chairs for additional seating. Just outside the worship center is a coffee shop that sells specialty coffees and teas before and after service. In the future, the church plans to add a Christian bookstore.

The Sound System

Christ Community Church is known for its vibrant and contemporary worship style. Electronic systems, including sound and video, provide important support for this worship style and for the church’s frequent dramas and concerts.

For their new church home, Christ Community Church asked Ed Taft of Hytek Systems to design and install its sound system. Taft had provided equipment and support for the church in its prior church home and he understood the church’s needs.

Taft worked with the church and their architect during the early project stages to help choose equipment and plan the system design. The new worship space was to be fan-shaped with a wide stage. Taft knew that the standard loudspeaker system for this space was an “exploded cluster”. However, the church wanted good stereo imaging which is difficult to achieve with an exploded cluster. After discussing the situation with Community’s TAG Team (Technical Applications Group) Taft modified the exploded cluster into a dual LCR (left-center-right) loudspeaker system. He chose Community iBOX Series loudspeakers and a Miles Technology Multisonic Imager to create the LCR mixes. The six hanging iBOX loudspeakers are supported by a pair of Community Tandem Series TD218S subwoofers discretely located on
HyTek Systems is a full-service, design-build sound contracting firm and Community dealer. Founded in 1982, HyTek is located at 1008 Pin Oak Road in Carterville, IL 62918. Owner, Ed Taft, can be reached at 618-985-3564 or at et_hytek@hotmail.com

About HyTek Systems

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Sound System (continued)

the stage and a group of surround loudspeakers on the rear wall of the auditorium.

Taft faced challenges during the construction phase. In particular, the stage was constructed five feet larger than originally planned which also moved the loudspeaker locations five feet farther into the room. Rather than doing a complete redesign Taft simply re-aimed the loudspeakers during the installation process. “Community’s yoke brackets made this easy,” he says.

Taft takes a unique approach to sound system commissioning. He performs extensive system testing, does a preliminary system equalization and then spends several weeks “getting to know” the system during various client events. During this time, Taft continues to adjust system levels and equalization until he is satisfied with the final sound quality and distribution. At Christ Community Church, Taft notes that he needed very little equalization. Taft says, “the iBOX loudspeakers sound good right out of the box, with a minimum of EQ and processing.”

Equipment Highlights

- Community iBOX Main Loudspeakers Models iHP1294, iHP1264 (12”, two-way, full-range)
- Community Tandem Series TD218S subwoofers
- QSC ISA 1350 power amplifiers
- Allen and Heath GL3200-832B 32-channel mixing console
- Miles Technology M86 Multisonic Imager (LCR imaging)
- Audio-Technica ATW wireless microphone systems with Micro-Set headworn microphones

The Loudspeakers

Community’s iBOX Series is a family of high-performance, professional loudspeaker systems available in black, white or unfinished with a wide variety of optional mounting brackets and accessories.

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Celebrating 40 years of innovative loudspeakers, Community has been a leading supplier of professional loudspeaker systems since 1968. Headquartered in Chester, Pennsylvania, Community distributes its products to over fifty countries on six continents.