



St. Luke the Evangelist Church (Houston)

Replacing outdated tracklighting to a more versatile and useful lighting system

St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Houston had a problem with their aging track lighting system that illuminated all of their services. Light levels were low and the energy consumption from the 300 watt par lamps was high. The quality of the light was also poor with flat lighting and no beam control. With Easter approaching the Church contacted Jerome Dunn of StageLight a long time Strand Lighting and Selecon dealer seeking a new lighting solution to enhance their services.



PLI LED Luminaires provide clean bright light for both daytime and evening services

The team at StageLight had several problems to overcome:

- There was limited power to the ceiling of the Church as there was existing track lighting fed from single 20 amp circuits only
- Access to install traditional lighting was limited due to the high ceilings
- The architecture would make it difficult to hide wiring for a fully dimmed system
- Installation costs would be very high to install the new system

After a review of all of the technologies available and the costs of installing them StageLight identified a unique solution. They chose Selecon PLI focusing spot luminaires to deliver high performance lighting that could be installed without disturbing the architecture of the church or add expensive wiring. StageLight engineered and installed 6 outlet plugging strips to replace the aging track infrastructure fed from the existing single circuit wiring. This was made possible by the low, less than 100 watt power consumption of the PLI LED luminaires.

Next came the challenge of getting control to these very flexible luminaires so the church could take advantage of their color mixing and unique balanced white light control. The new WDMX wireless receivers for PLI luminaires solved this problem eliminating control wiring and giving the church the ability to use their new luminaires at any lighting position.

“Our church had lighting that was installed more than 30 years ago. The fixtures were failing and the lighting was poor. We wanted to be able to have general lighting as well as highlight the more important parts of our church sanctuary. The solution that StageLight was able to design took care of our immediate needs, but it also allows us to expand with more lighting options in the future. This design also saved our community from having the prohibitive costs of re-wiring the entire sanctuary area”, stated Rev. James Burkart, Pastor, Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist. The technical staff at the church were happy to tell us about the dynamic color and lighting choices the new luminaires gave them and happily it will be a long time before they need to rent a lift again to get up to the lighting positions.

The result was an energy efficient low maintenance installation that will allow the Church to enhance their services for any occasion. StageLight’s design will allow the facility to easily expand their system as budgets allow and free them from the cost of color filter and lamps for many years.



The PLI LED luminaires are considerably more expensive than a conventional stage luminaire on a luminaire to luminaire basis. What made this renovation work was the view that StageLight took of the entire project. They compared installation costs, dimmer system costs, and the cost of luminaires and power distribution and compared it to the much simpler installation they were able to do using PLI LED luminaire. On a total project basis StageLight saved their client money and gave them a better installation. Their client appreciated the creative freedom the new luminaires gave them allowing them to do more than any conventional source would have allowed them.

Lifts are a thing of the past for the Church as the PLI LED luminaires deliver long operational life and low maintenance.