Sanctuary Lighting Project Q & A

1. **Q- Why does the Building and Grounds Committee want to change the existing lights?**
   A- LED technology has made huge advancements over the past several years that offer huge cost savings and reduced maintenance demands. The current condition of our chandeliers requires 2-3 volunteers and staff members plus a certified electrician to maneuver the man lift around to multiple locations to repair the lights. This team is required to come out and rebuild the entire insides of the chandelier due to the declining wiring infrastructure and poor maintenance access to existing ballasts within the light fixture. For one set of ballasts to be repaired (one blinking box on a chandelier) it costs about $500. Last year 6 lights had to be repaired at a cost of over $3,000. There are currently 7 more lights that need to be repaired.

2. **Q- What is the expected cost savings?**
   A- The current chandeliers are using over 36,000 Watts to light the sanctuary. In an average year, that makes up $4,500 of our annual utility costs. The new LED lighting will have the same intensity using only 1,200 Watts and an annual utility cost of $150. That's a savings of $4,350 annually. We will also see a savings of $3,000-4,000 in maintenance and repairs costs for a total annual savings around $8,000.

3. **Q- What is the lifespan of the new LED lights?**
   A- The LED fixtures have a lifespan of approx. 30 years. They never burn out or need any additional maintenance within the 30-year life span. After their life expectancy they do not burn out, they just lose their intensity.

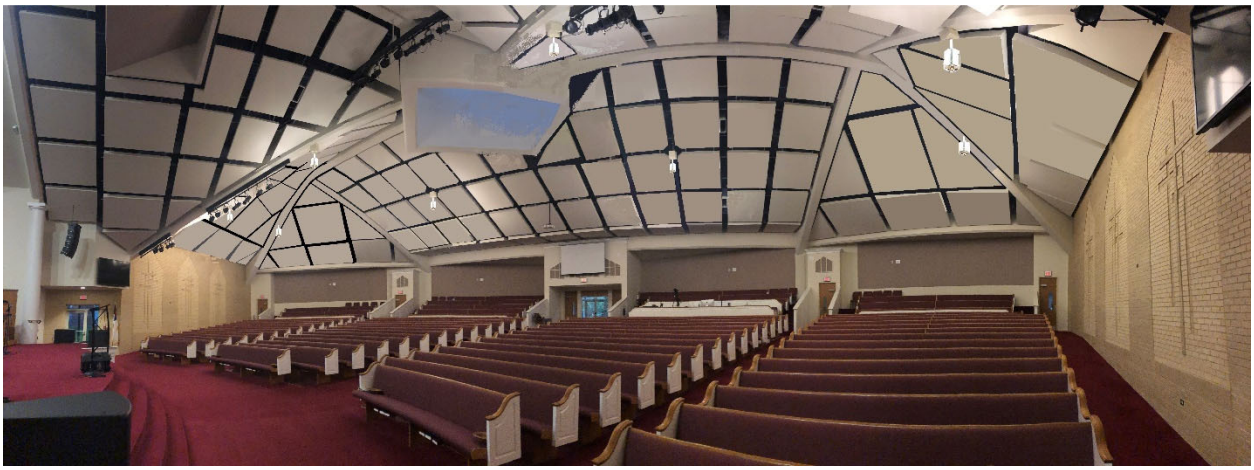
4. **Q- Do the new lights come with a warranty?**
   A- Yes, the new fixtures come with a full 5-year warranty. After the 5 years, the warranty is limited on a prorated basis up to 10 years.

5. **Q- How much will the new lights cost the church?**
   A- The major cost of the project is removal of the old chandeliers which costs about $18,000. The total project to remove the chandeliers and replace with a new LED fixture will come in around $47,000. The church already designated $50,000 for this project from last year's carryover revenue fund. No further funding should be needed. With the annual utility and maintenance savings, the lights will pay for themselves in 5.5 years. Over the 30-year projected lifespan of the new light fixtures, the church will save over $200,000.

6. **Q- Will this change the aesthetics of the sanctuary?**
   A- Yes, the look of the room will change once the large chandeliers are removed. The new lights are much smaller so the ceiling will be more open.

7. **Q- Why don't we just replace the chandeliers with new chandeliers?**
   A- The current chandeliers were custom made by a fabricator to specifically fit our sanctuary. Their custom-made nature makes them more difficult and more expensive to maintain. It would not be easy to get new chandeliers to fit our sanctuary without having something custom made. To have something custom made would be a much greater cost and could add to more issues down the road. Going with a standard LED fixture that is backed by a warranty is a much more cost-effective option.

8. **Q- How long will it take to install the new lights?**
   A- The project is projected to last about 2 weeks. That means for one Sunday half of the room will still have chandeliers and half will have new lighting.

9. **Q- What will be done with the old chandeliers?**
   A- Due to the weight and size of the chandeliers, they will need to be dismantled into pieces in order to be removed. They will most likely be recycled for the scrap metal.

Rendering of New Sanctuary Lighting