

projects



mountaintop community church

Client: Mountaintop Community Church

Location: Vestavia Hills, AL

Project Type: New Construction

Seat Count: 1,700

Opening: April 2001

Architect: Garrison Barrett

Contact: Joseph Britain | Director of Music | 205.823.7090 x114

AD Scope: Acoustics | Audio | Video | Lighting | Auditorium Design

Mountaintop Community Church offers services that are contemporary and casual, utilizing drama, music, the arts and technology to communicate to the MTV generation. Because of available budgets and the anticipated cost of site development, the church decided to construct a "gymnasium" type of building that could be converted to a family life center in the future when a larger worship center was constructed. Because the church would be "living" in this space for several years, they wanted to plan something that would be functional as well as cost effective.

The gymnasium shape of the sanctuary has inherent acoustical problems for speech intelligibility. AD worked with the Garrison Barrett Group to design seating, which arranges people in seating tiers so that the members of the congregation become human acoustic elements. This seating layout also serves the purpose of creating a sense of visual community as well. Technology was another key point to the design. Because of the high performance element of services, AD designed a left-right stereo imaging sound system. The main cluster design concept is similar to that at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville.