



Case Study Article about using wireless DMX ZOBO Lamps at Riverside Church

In the fall of 2018 the facilities and tech team from Riverside Church, Minnesota were searching for a way to do an LED upgrade of their overhead lights in the Worship Center at their Big Lake location. For a long time this facility had been using pendant can lights with standard white LEDs as houselights for the main seating area.



They were looking to improve the quality of light and ease of control in this space because the old LEDs were not very bright and gave off a harsh white light that could not be dimmed very well and they were not compatible with their DMX control panel used for stage lighting effects.

They run “full-production” services at the church and need full range dimming of all their lights and use a theater style DMX system to control the lights. The old LEDs in the ceiling cans could not dim below 20% power so this was a big problem to fix.

In addition, the ceiling is an A-frame design with some lights way up high and others close to the seating area. This range of heights requires that each light level needs different beam angle to create a uniform light pattern where people sit.

While at the WFX tradeshow to look for lighting solutions two church members, Tom Haley, Operations and Tech Director along with Josh Euerle, Facilities Director came across Luxium Lighting and had a chance to find out about various options for retrofit screw-in lamps made by Luxium. After talking with Tom Roth of Luxium and hearing about the ZOBO LED lamp they were very eager to try it out in their facility.



Because the existing hanging lights were spaced close together and some are not far from the floor they did not need a big strong 150W COB LED fixture which cost a lot and require extra work to change fixtures. The ZOBO PAR30 size light uses 20W of power and provides the equivalent of a 150W incandescent bulb. Plus they can easily adjust the focus of each ZOBO lamp with diffusers to get uniform coverage. Finally, with built-in wireless DMX control there is no need to run cables to each fixture. The ZOBO seemed like a perfect fit for their situation and would be economical because existing hanging fixtures could be used as part of the retrofit.



They tried out a demo unit of the wireless DMX controlled zobo and were pleased to realize that it would work for them and be easy and economical to install. So, they put in a budget request

and bought 50 ZOBO lights in the summer of 2019 and by September they had done the install. The new LED lamps cost about \$10,000 and did not require any special skills or other equipment so this was many times less expensive than the alternative of a total replacement of their overhead light fixtures.

According to Tom, they typically have the ZOBO lights adjusted to a warm white setting at about 80% of full brightness. This is plenty of light for worship services and events. Sometimes they change the color of the lights to change the mood of the room for certain kinds of events.

Because the lights have a lot of brightness they created a “worklight” preset on their control panel and can flood the whole room with plenty of light for cleaning and other work that happens periodically.

They have been very happy with the new ability to control all the lights in their worship center using a central control console and have had no trouble with the wireless DMX operation according to Tom Haley.

“Now we have the best light in that area we have ever had” says Facilities Director, Josh Euerle.



Here is a before and after view of the Worship Center at Big Lake. Using existing ceiling fixture with new LED lamps it is now easy to set the mood to match the activity.



For more information about Luxium Lighting please call 833.LUX.LITE or go to www.luxiumlighting.com or email to info@luxiumlighting.com