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## MUSIC MINISTRY SANCTUARY PIANO INITIATIVE May-August 2021

During a routine piano tuning just before the Easter week 2021 services, it was determined that our Sanctuary Chancel piano was no longer able to be used – **it would no longer remain in tune, no matter how much we tuned it.** Thankfully, we were able to borrow a grand piano for a few weeks in March and April and afterwards used our smaller Chapel piano.

As a result of the retirement of our Kawai Sanctuary Piano, a team began searching for a profoundly better instrument to accompany and inspire our Music Ministry long into the future. Our Piano Team included Joshua Konow, Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton, our piano technician Brian Wilson, Marcia Snavelly, Bruce Gigax, Pat Haynish, Randy Fusco, Melissa Owen, Laura Taylor, Ken Horner, and Marty Culbertson. **Their fantastic insight created an avenue to dream towards our musical future.**

This was an exciting initiative, approached with the utmost care, attention to detail, and prayerful diligence. The team looked for a grand or concert grand piano that is responsive to the person playing it, has an inspiring sound that can be shaped and molded to suit any style of music, and with construction that enables it to tolerate changing environmental conditions (dry or humid Sanctuaries!).

After reflection, the team ranked all the pianos that had been played on the various visits and extensive national research, including those in Cleveland, and arduously narrowed the list to a final choice, **a new Mason & Hamlin Model CC concert grand.** This instrument will:

- Enhance our Sunday and special service worship experiences,
- Create new opportunities for our youth at Federated events or piano recitals, and
- Expand our Performing Arts Series, allowing us to benefit from ticket and rental revenue along with creating multiple new touch points to our community.

Every year we are blessed to have unrestricted gifts donated to Federated in memory of loved ones. A special thank you to the donors who gave those gifts and to the families of those memorialized. A portion of unrestricted gifts given since 2019 in memory of loved ones was used to support this initiative, carrying their legacy forward for generations to come. **Combined with gifts from members and friends, by mid-August our Music Ministry Sanctuary Piano Initiative inspired \$134,000+ in commitments and we are so grateful!**

Music heals and fills our soul at Federated and it is a great honor to share music in ways that heals others as well. **Thank you!**