
IMAGINING A PLACE FOR THE ARTS IN ADAMS COUNTY



Southwest Adams County Arts Vision

The Lutheran Center

7375 Samuel Drive in unincorporated Adams County

- Arts organizations in Metro Denver are invited to imagine with us a new venue for concerts, performances, and education.
- Located eight miles north of downtown several blocks from the Pecos Exit on Highway 36.
- What do you need? What do you want?

*Presented by Kent Mueller, kmueller@rmselca.org
Lutheran Center Arts & Outreach Coordinator*

THE NEED

Adams County has periodically conducted a quality of life survey that repeatedly finds that the lowest rating is the lack of opportunity to attend cultural activities. Below are two key excerpts from ***Artfully Adams: Adams County Arts & Culture Master Plan***:

Overall. Adams County conducted a quality of life survey in 2012, 2014, and 2016. Each year, approximately 68 percent of survey participants gave excellent or good evaluations to the quality of life in Adams County. That being said, the lowest ratings related to sense of community and opportunities to attend cultural activities. While some of this feedback may relate to the geographical vastness of Adams County, a strategic focus on enhancing art and cultural offerings will create meaningful change in how residents experience arts and culture in Adams County.

Opportunities to attend cultural activities. Of the 15 quality of life indicators, respondents rated "opportunities to attend cultural activities" last. Percentages of satisfaction moved from 41 percent in 2012, 43 percent in 2014, to 48 percent in 2016. While it made incremental growth, it remains the greatest opportunity to enhance quality of life in Adams County.



SOUTHWEST ADAMS COUNTY ARTS VISION

BACKGROUND

CHURCH CLOSING 2010

Valley Lutheran Church closed in 2010, leaving their church building facility to the Rocky Mountain Synod (a regional office) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, which is an open, welcoming, and inclusive church. In 2014, the Rocky Mountain Synod moved its regional headquarters to this site, occupying the detached, north building only.

VISION

After a partner non-profit organization departed, the church and office annex have remained vacant. The board of the Rocky Mountain Synod is envisioning repurposing the church hall, basement, and office area to be a center for music and arts education and experiences. We are passionate about matters of justice and equity, and are enthusiastic about providing a place for the arts in an underserved area of metro Denver, about 8 miles north of downtown in unincorporated Adams County.

WHAT DO ARTS ORGANIZATIONS WANT AND NEED?

Before we commence with renovations to build an appropriate, flat stage area and begin other projects, we would like to know if there is significant interest in moving ahead with our vision. Our survey is asking these questions:

- Is there a need for rehearsal space, teaching studio space, group classes, and meeting space in this Adams County location?
- Is there a need for shared office space and conference room availability?
- Is there a need for a concert/education venue in Adams County that would seat approximately 180?
- If so, what is a necessary stage size to be appropriate and flexible?

HELP US IMAGINE

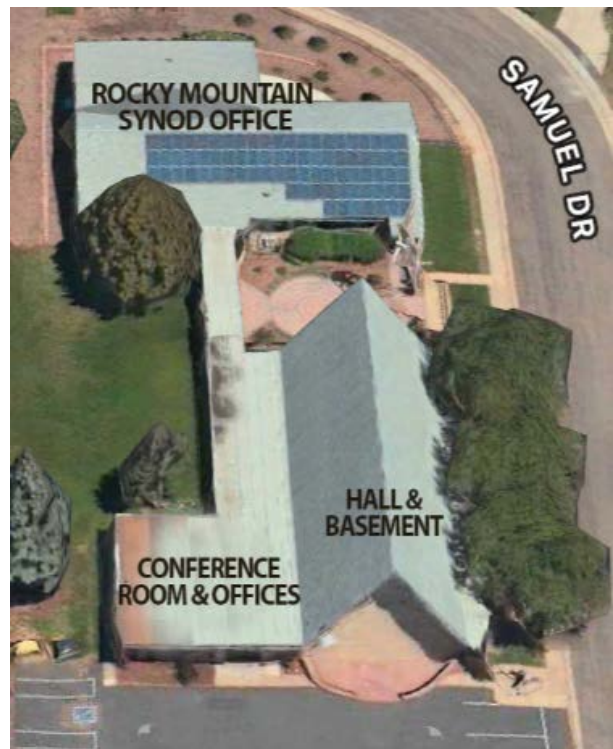
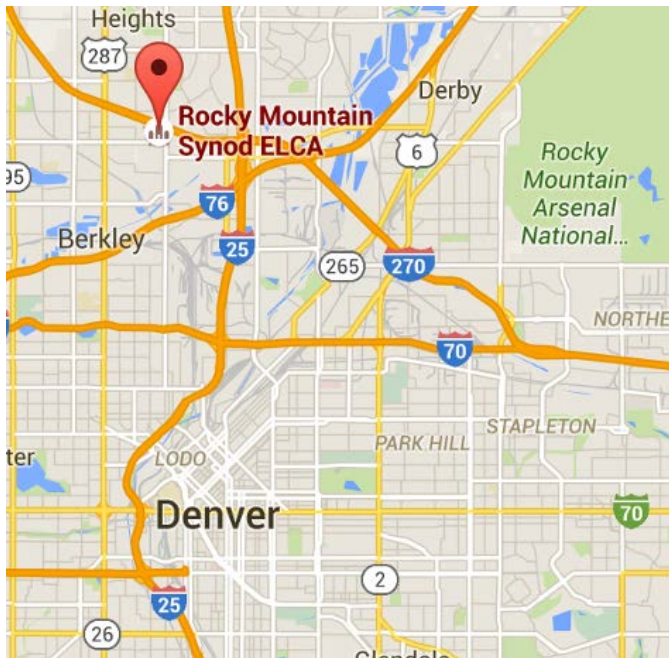
We are seeking input while we are in the fundraising stage of our project. Questions? Contact Kent Mueller, kmueller@rmselca.org

We invite priority responses to our survey prior to March 1, 2022, but are happy to receive responses after that date. [**PROVIDE YOUR SURVEY RESPONSES HERE.**](#)



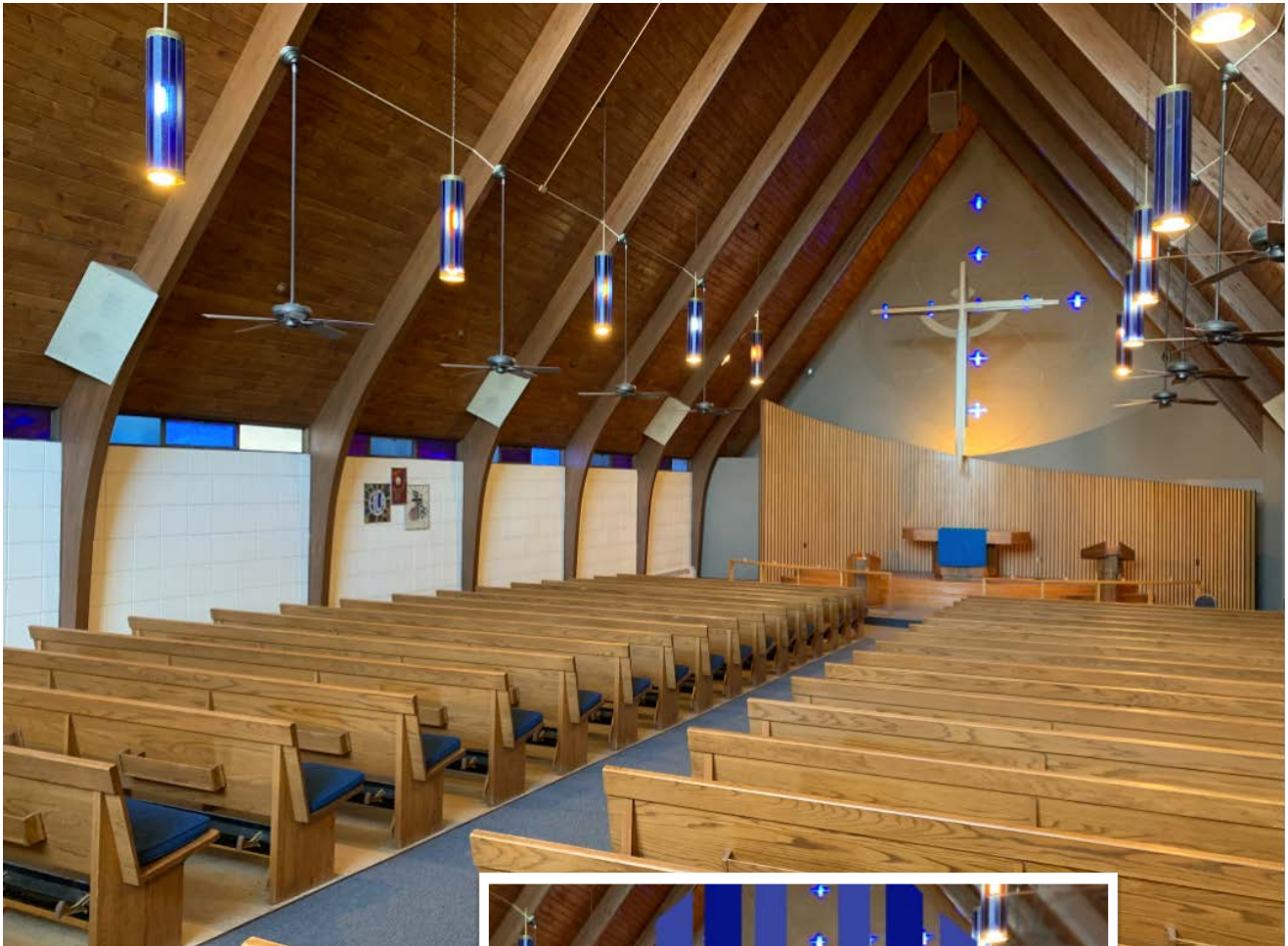
FACILITY AND LOCATION

7375 Samuel Drive is located in unincorporated Adams County, several blocks from the Pecos Exit on Highway 36 with excellent highway access from all directions.

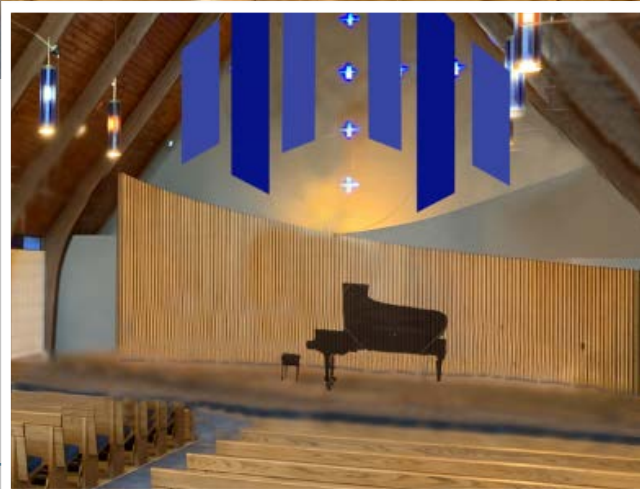


HALL FOR THE ARTS

Renovations are imagined that would provide a more useful and flexible setting for concerts and events. The cross and furnishings will be removed to de-emphasize this as a former worship space, and the stage area will be flattened. The hall features raked seating for about 180.



Digital imagination of renovation:



BASEMENT

The basement provides for a medium size gathering room, kitchen/eating area, five classrooms, and a digital media room. Currently, the basement is not accessible without stairs.



OFFICE ANNEX

The office annex includes a reception/office area, an office, a board room, and an additional meeting/office room. A shared workspace could be possible for several arts organizations. Renovations are planned to expand the single restroom so that it is accessible and gender neutral.



GROUND

The grounds provide space for possible outdoor events. In the summer of 2019, Augustana Arts received an NEA grant for outdoor concerts in underserved communities. **Stratus Chamber Orchestra** and **Life | Art Dance** performed under a rented tent.



NORTH BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM

Conference room space is also available in the North Building when not otherwise scheduled. This is the location of the Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA, regional offices.



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