



Case Study



Sanctuary of Comfort and Quiet: A Church Restoration

The congregation at McMinnville Cooperative Ministries had decided that carbon reduction was an important priority. McMinnville-based Cellar Ridge Construction proposed a plan that included air and duct sealing, wall and ceiling insulation, an upgrade to the heating system, installation of solar power, and for the stained-glass sanctuary windows, Cellar Ridge recommended Indow inserts.

“I had read about Indow inserts in the newspaper just a week before being presented the weatherization plan. It seemed like a great way to insulate the stained glass windows in our sanctuary while preserving their beauty.”

The church restoration was extensive, “We were blasted with sound on all sides of the sanctuary with trucks, sirens, and general activity. It was a perfect storm of noise,” said Zack Geary, the Project Coordinator at Cellar Ridge. “As each insert was installed, we could hear a slight noise reduction. Once one side of the building was installed, the difference was remarkable!”

The difference? “68 degrees is so much warmer than it used to be. The temperature is the same but the room is much cozier because the cold surface of the stained glass windows no longer sucks the heat out of our bodies,” said Pederson. “When I remove an Indow insert to show a congregant how they work, we can feel the cold air rushing in.”

And it’s quieter too, “We used to hear sirens and traffic going down 2nd Avenue but now we enjoy silence.”

The weatherization program done by Cellar Ridge has helped McMinnville Cooperative Ministries reduce its carbon footprint by 80% plus their sanctuary now shelters from the cold and noise.