

BRAWNER LIGHTS CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



The First Baptist Church of Springdale, AR just completed its second year producing the Northwest Arkansas Christmas Pageant. The church of over 12,000 members transforms their 3,000 seat worship center into a theatrical space over the course of several weeks for the four performances of the large scale production.

The show starts featuring a very festive celebration of the sights and sounds of Christmas including a performance from the 200 plus member choir. Act II is an emotional, theatrical story of Christ played out with a cast of over 300, live animals, flying angels, elaborate sets designed by Randel Wright and extravagant costumes.

Brawner & Associates designs lighting for the show and handles the installation. This includes the re-hanging of the house lighting system and the installation of a large rental system. Ron Robertson leads the efforts onsite along with master electrician Dave Evans.

"The setup is a little tricky considering the theatrical conversion that is trying to be accomplished in a facility not designed for that," says Donnie Brawner, owner of Brawner & Associates. Brawner says, "It's Ron Robertson who goes down and focuses the show, works through rehearsals with the production staff and builds the entire show for opening night. His work was exemplary this year. The lighting adds so much to the

emotion and impact of the show. It's important for our lighting to be complimentary, tasteful and help share the emotions of the show while not being distracting and over-powering. Ron does a nice job with that." Ron Robertson is a freelance designer and programmer that also works for Brawner & Associates and assists Donnie Brawner on multiple projects.

The show, produced by Buster Pray, Associate Pastor of Worship Ministries, saw 8,000 visitors and continues to grow strong.

"We are privileged to help First Baptist Church Springdale out with their production, and really enjoy the experience," says Brawner. "We enjoy what we do, which I feel gives us a real advantage. We take pride in it, and want to help share the message."

Brawner & Associates is a turnkey production firm specializing in lighting design and consultation services. Other projects include annual meetings for Wal-Mart, Ranger Boats, numerous theatrical production, outdoor extravaganzas, and new facility consultation projects. Brawner & Associates is also working on the design of a new 30 million dollar church facility for the Church at Pinnacle Hills in Rogers, AR and a new church in Atlanta, GA, Horizon Pointe. Donnie Brawner is also the lighting designer for the Dallas Christmas Festival at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Dallas, TX.