

Metal Roof Replacement Provides Church With Long-Term Protection

First Church of Nazarene of Pasadena | Pasadena, California

RELIGIOUS

CHALLENGE

Every fall, southern California residents brace themselves for the annual Santa Ana winds that blow through the region. The strong, extremely dry offshore winds typically sustain 40 miles per hour with gusts exceeding 70 mph. This year, the Santa Ana windstorm was the worst southern California had seen in more than a decade with wind gusts as high as 100 mph. The storm uprooted trees, downed power lines, and left the city of Pasadena in a state of emergency. The uncharacteristically strong storm also ripped the metal roof off the First Church of Nazarene of Pasadena, leaving crumpled and twisted metal panels strewn all over the church's Pasadena campus. "The church's custodian called me during the night to let me know some pieces of the roof had come off in the storm. I was thinking a piece of the roof came off, and then it was about 30 minutes later that I got a call that three-quarters of the roof was missing," explained Scott Anderson, the church's executive pastor. The church's original roof, which was about 30 years old, had been leaking for several years and had already been suffering from wind uplift prior to the storm due to fastener failure.

SOLUTION

After the windstorm passed and the damaged metal panels were removed, Anderson immediately began looking into roof replacement options. Familiar with The Garland Company, Inc., Anderson contacted local representative, Sean Magee, who had facilitated roofing repairs earlier that year, to survey the roof and provide recommendations for a roof replacement. Aware of the problems the church experienced with its previous roof and of the high winds possible in the region, Magee recommended Garland's R-Mer® Span structural standing seam roof system. In addition to finding a solution with the necessary strength and durability, Magee was also challenged with finding a metal system that preserved the aesthetic value of the church, which sits against the beautiful backdrop of the San Gabriel Mountains. "The sheer strength of R-Mer Span and its ability to withstand wind speeds up to and exceeding 110 mph provided the church with the peace of mind of knowing that they would have no future issues with leaking or any risk of the panels blowing off," Magee reported.

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Scott Anderson
Executive Pastor
First Church of Nazarene of Pasadena

Magee, in collaboration with Garland Engineering, recommended metal for the roof replacement as a high-performance material that provides the strength, durability and functional diversity to accommodate the various changes in plane on the church's 55,000 square-foot roof. The eight-sided roof features 24-gauge, 18-inch wide steel R-Mer Span panels that provide the industry's highest wind uplift rating, guaranteeing protection against the fierce Santa Ana winds. The PVDF copper penny painted steel panels, varying in length from 1 foot to 106 feet, were roll formed on site to provide continuous panels from ridge to eave, ensuring watertight integrity. Because the church's wooden deck was not true to plane, 16-gauge hat channels were used in various locations throughout the roof to ensure the roof panels lay evenly. The deck also dictated the roof design with panels sloping upward to the penthouse-style wall, which extended 40 feet from the roof deck.

Magee coordinated the project with Western States Roofing Company of Northridge, Calif., to ensure the system was installed properly. The church's steep 7:12 slope contributed to a challenging installation process, which was controlled by a meticulous safety plan and diligent supervision. Anderson was pleased with the success of the project, his first with Garland. "I had heard that Garland was the guru of water intrusion protection. So, when the roof came off and we were looking for somebody that could help us, they were the natural selection," he explained.

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Project: First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena

Location: Pasadena, California

Garland Rep: Sean Magee

Type of Project: Reroof

Materials Used: R-Mer® Span