

Frequently Asked Questions and Resources:

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- How can we hold meetings in a video venue?
 - <https://smallchurch.tech/how-to-go-virtual-in-a-hurry/> this is a very practical article for smaller churches trying to get their services online.
 - <https://churchonlineplatform.com/> is a free service from LifeChurch in OK that allows you to combine whatever streaming service you currently use (Vimeo, etc) with some ministry tools.
 - The simplest way is just to use your phone and stream from it to Facebook Live or a similar service. A tripod with a phone holder attachment makes this MUCH nicer. If you already have a tripod, the attachment will only cost you \$7 on Amazon - <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/product/B071HPDCJ3/>
 - If you are using a webcam, it might already have a tripod connection on the bottom, be sure to check. If yours doesn't and you want to use a tripod, you can buy a new webcam like the ones mentioned at <https://thewirecutter.com/reviews/the-best-webcams/>
 - If you are using a webcam, a USB microphone will make the quality of your audio much better. This one will cost you \$60 - <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/product/B001R747SG/> and comes with everything you need.

- Should small groups be encouraged to meet online?
 - Zoom is great for small groups. For \$15 per month per group you could have a very robust solution. Sign up at <https://zoom.us/pricing> (there is a free plan but it is limited to 40 minute meetings.)
 - Microsoft Teams (Free Version) <http://office.com/TeamsFree>

- How can we minimize lost revenue?
 - Encourage electronic giving- online, text, ACH.
 - Planning Center Online <https://www.planningcenter.com/giving>
 - PayPal Non-Profit- <https://www.paypal.com/us/non-profit/fundraising/fundraising-online>
 - Generush is run by the Assemblies of God Credit Union in Springfield and has excellent rates: <https://generush.org/> (their fee is 2.99% on credit card transactions for the introductory plan and 1.99% on the best plan). ACH rates are a flat fifty cents in the intro plan, 25 cents in the better plans.
 - Redirect mail to process checks during the shelter in place.

- How can our staff and volunteers work remotely?
 - <https://blog.techsoup.org/posts/nonprofit-resources-for-remote-work-during-the-covid-19-outbreak>
 - Non-profit pricing for Church using Microsoft Office365 \$3 per user, per month (Email server, File Serve with Sharepointe, Office programs, Teams Collaboration.
 - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/nonprofit/office-365-nonprofit-plans-and-pricing?activetab=tab%3aprimaryr1>
 - 3rd party Reseller- <https://ccbtechnology.com/nonprofit-program/>

- How do we serve our community (opportunities)?
 - Contact City Councilman
 - Contact County Supervisor
 - Network with local churches

- What language are you putting on your website?
 - Here is what Chi Alpha has done - <https://xastanford.org/coronavirus>
 - Bethel Church, San Jose- FAQ www.bethel.org/health
 - Venture Church, Los Gatos - <https://venture.cc/covid-19-updates/>

- Should we meet for services -
 - Review the county supervisor's recommendation
 - Consider your witness in the community regarding safety and government compliance.
 - Churches in America have a long history of compliance with government health regulations in times of crisis.
See <https://www.9marks.org/article/how-dc-churches-responded-when-the-government-banned-public-gatherings-during-the-spanish-flu-of-1918/> and <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2020/march-web-only/seattle-churches-stop-meeting-to-slow-covid-19-coronavirus.html>

- How can we screen people before they come into a meeting?
 - Once meetings become legal again, a Lutheran missionary named Lyman Stone has practical advice on this at [Witness in the Plague](#)

- How can churches minister to kids?
 - Offer resources like Bible App for Kids
 - Have your Children's Ministry do a video for your kids. It doesn't have to be fancy
 - www.bethel.org/kids
 - Orange Kids has made some resources available for free - <https://orangekidmin.com/coronavirus/>