**Digital Worship Experiences – Sharing the Grace of God in a New Age**

Presented by Pastor Laura Dunklin, St. Philip Lutheran Church, Roanoke, VA

Steps for Online Worship Streaming

* Discernment and Goal Setting
  + What is your goal?
    - Why do you want to stream church services?
    - Who are you trying to reach?
    - How will this help your congregation to proclaim the gospel?
  + How are you going to accomplish the goal?
  + There’s no one way to go about this, find what best proclaims the gospel in your context and run with it!
* Laying the Groundwork
  + Facebook Evaluation
    - What does your church Facebook page look like? Do you have one?
    - Is it up to date with worship time, current staffing, and events?
    - If the ultimate goal is for online viewers to become in-person attendees, how can your Facebook page help facilitate that process?
    - How does your Facebook page tell the story of your congregation?
      * Perhaps have a non-member explore member explore your church Facebook page and give feedback.
  + Technology Evaluation
    - What is your budget for the project?
    - What tools do you already have?
    - What service(s) or service component(s) would you like to stream? How often would you like to stream them?
* Setting up the System
  + Depending on your choices this could be a simple as a hand-held or mounted cell phone.
  + Example Set Up: A video camera mounted in the worship space. Camera connected to an iPad with the Mevo app. Mevo app is connected to our Facebook page. The iPad is connected to the church sound board via aux cable and enables the Facebook live to have audio and video. An additional speaker was placed in the sanctuary to pick up the sound of the congregation.
  + No right or wrong system, find what works for your context!
* Copywrite Law
  + Many churches stream their services on Facebook without obtaining the proper licensing, but CCLI offers an additional licensing agreement that covers online streaming and podcasts. You may purchase this to ensure you are properly streaming or you may decide to only stream the sermon portion of the service.

Expanded Digital Worship Experiences

* While there are many advantages to Facebook Live, one drawback is that a pastor or worship leader cannot easily engage with the online community while also leading the congregation.
* Open Doors, a digital worship experience was born out of the desire to provide a worship experience accessible to those who are outside of the church facilitated by rostered leaders.
* How Open Doors is produced:
  + The worship video is downloaded from the Mevo app onto the church iPad.
  + It is then uploaded to a Google drive with the PowerPoint slides from that Sunday.
  + The video is then edited to condense the service to one hour and add the PowerPoint slides into the video. The video editing app we use is Camtasia.
  + The video is then uploaded to our account with Church Online and a show time is set.
    - For more detailed instructions on this process, please see https://support.churchonlineplatform.com/
  + To spread the word about Open Doors, we post the link to our church Facebook page. We also pay for Facebook Boosting to have the post reach a larger audience.
  + The host pastors then log on at the pre-selected air time and facilitate the conversation as the online community worships together.
* Facilitating Worship on a Digital Platform
  + Be mindful that this is a diverse audience, avoid using “insider” language
  + Perhaps include helpful descriptors of various service elements.
  + Welcome and encourage questions and engagement, but don’t force it!
  + Don’t be afraid to think outside the box – see where the Spirit leads!