



Gather Together Through Online Services

Serving Leaders in Ministry

Pastor: Leading your church in these ever-changing times will require creativity, resourcefulness, and quick adaptation to change. For most pastors, this will require changing the ways you connect with your people. Included are some practical tips for streaming your services online as you live out your **VOCATION AND CALLING**.

The following excerpt is by Stephen Reid Martin from Cineluxecollective.com. Check out his blog for more resources on technology, video, and equipment needs for your online services.

Here's the church, here's the steeple, open it up and there's no people. Thanks COVID-19, aka Coronavirus! It's crazy out there, so let's get to the point. What happens when this virus closes our church service?

I know what you're thinking: "I have a message to share and the message needs to get to the people that we shepherd. Our people are scattered, and we need connection. We also need to pay the bills, so when we once again return to some sense of normalcy, we will still have a staff to greet them at the door!" Ok, so let's get busy!

Here's what you will need in order to get the message to the people and get the bills paid. The good news is, you can do all of this very quickly.



OPTION 1

You will need:

1. Highspeed Internet connection or a hotspot
2. Phone/Tablet
3. Tripod
4. Facebook

You can find all of the links to the gear that you need HERE: <https://kit.co/Cineluxe/mobile-streaming-gear>

The first option only requires an Internet connection, a phone/tablet, a tripod, and Facebook. That's it. Log into FB and hit "**record.**" Regarding your Internet connection, you can use Wi-Fi at your facility, or you can use your data plan with your phone or a hotspot, but that is **definitely not** recommended.

This is all you need. However, for streaming, **SOUND** is **MORE IMPORTANT** than video quality. If you have amazing video quality but your sound is horrible, people WILL NOT watch. To improve the audio for **OPTION 1**, you could get a little shotgun mic for the iPhone or a lapel mic that will pick up sound a little better.

You have *nothing* if you do not have sound. Think about it, the whole world and everything in it was created by the SOUND of God's voice. Imagine if God's voice had been muffled, and the sound cracked, and creation thought He said, "Let there be . . . kite!" Our world would look much different than it does now. Okay, no more bad jokes.

OPTION 2

Use the equipment from Option 1 but add on a service like [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) to take contributions. Although many different payment options are available for churches, one can get started in about 10 minutes with [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly). How do I know?

Today, I set up an imaginary church with my account information, and was ready to start taking payments in 10 minutes. Not only that, but I could immediately add a link to Facebook and my website if I chose to. There are five ways people can give using [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly): mobile app, text-to-give, online giving, kiosk giving, and administrative giving (this is when a deacon or church administrator enters in a payment). No contracts are required, no set-up fees, and no monthly fees (except for text-to-give). You just pay 2.9% + .30 per credit card transaction or 1% + .30 per ACH/bank transaction. Text giving is an additional \$19/month after a 30-day trial. [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) is my recommendation for starting contributions immediately! You can evaluate other options going forward, but let's get the giving going!

Click [HERE](https://tithe.ly) to go directly to the Tithe.ly site.

Is there a possibility that you could have more people in the seats of your sanctuary when you return to services as usual? The answer is, "yes," because we serve an amazing God!

Feel free to reach out with any questions via: stephen@cineluxecollective.com
Stephen Reid Martin Portfolio: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/6520209>

