Hybrid Worship and Community
Tools for Inclusion, Participation, and Engagement
How Did We Get Here?
Live-streaming primarily occurred in larger churches with infrastructure to support technology and staffing.

In smaller churches, sermons and services might be recorded and posted online.

Some video-conferencing occurred to facilitate meetings at great distances.

Most remote and virtual community options happened via social media platforms - Facebook groups and pages.
Pandemic Begins

Everyone scrambles to learn basic live-streaming in some form (YouTube, Vimeo, Facebook Live, etc.).

Meetings, conferences, and webinars are regularly held over Zoom or some other virtual gathering platform.

We continued to build live-streaming skills, add virtual greeters, hosting Zoom coffee hours, etc.

Some churches use Zoom for worship to build interactivity into the worship experience.

Churches reached beyond their usual community to find new attendees – some across the country.
Churches move from fully interactive worship to strictly live-stream as people return in-person.

Hybrid events and Zoom coffee hours have started to be discontinued.

Live-stream and virtual offerings are now available, but fewer options are streaming and more are moving fully in-person.
A Personal Reflection
Virtual Accessibility and Civil Rights
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**Accommodations** are typically grouped into four categories: presentation, response, setting, and timing and scheduling. Hybrid and virtual accommodations allow us to meet individuals with disabilities and medical vulnerabilities in all four categories.
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All of these accommodations can also benefit individuals without disabilities or medical vulnerabilities.
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Can you rethink the way you program your activities to be more inclusive for those attending remotely? Possibly breakout rooms for the passing of the peace or stations in the fellowship hall with computer screens and Zoom rooms during coffee hour.
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There will be mistakes and learnings in this process, take what you learn into your next service, program or event.
Hybrid Tech and Resources
Having the latest and greatest tech won’t compensate for a poorly planned virtual or hybrid event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential: Strong Internet Signal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essential: Fast Computer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential: Camera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential: Microphone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essential: Speakers</td>
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### Optional Resources

- **Projector or Large Screen**
- **Additional Camera**
- **Additional Handheld Microphone**
- **Additional Lavalier Microphone**
- **Sound Mixer**

**Don’t Forget:** Cables, Masking, Tape, etc.
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<tr>
<td>Platforms: Gather (Online Gathering)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staffing: Virtual Greeters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staffing: Zoom Hosts</td>
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<td>Staffing: Videographer/Video Producers</td>
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Choose a setup that will be easiest to use and most sustainable for your community - then build and grow.
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Facebook Groups (and other online chat groups) allow for asynchronous community building. Have moderators assigned to respond to every post, share service links and videos, etc.
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