



## VIDEO PRODUCTION SYSTEMS FROM NEXTCOMPUTING

### CUSTOMER DESCRIPTION

Small house of worship

### PROBLEM

Live web streaming of services is quickly becoming a popular method for churches of all sizes to spread their beliefs and engage with a broader community of worshippers outside of the church walls. However, church leaders are faced with many challenges in implementing a high-quality livestream, including the high cost of equipment, lack of technical staff to operate equipment, minimal space to install equipment, and older facilities that don't lend themselves to installing standard broadcasting infrastructure.

### SOLUTION

Churches are looking for a turnkey system that is easy to use by non-technical volunteers with minimal training. The system must also be simple to setup, take up very little space, and come with a minimal up-front investment. Simple integration with popular streaming platforms such as YouTube, Facebook Live, and Vimeo/Livestream is important since churches will not have the capability to set up their own streaming services.



## OVERVIEW

Churches of all sizes and denominations are adding live streaming of services at a rapid pace. The benefits are obvious – churches can use video to attract new members, engage with their local community, and provide access for members who might have difficulty attending in person. In fact, many churches have been successful growing their audience far beyond the church walls, or even their region, and out to the global online audience.

While many medium to large churches have already taken the plunge into live streaming, some for several years already, most smaller churches are often just getting started or have yet to figure out what to do. They've heard about live streaming, perhaps have tried

podcasts (i.e., audio-only content), or have posted pre-recorded videos to their YouTube or Facebook account with varying results.

A smaller church might get by with a basic single camera setup run by an enthusiastic member, but will find that it does not create an exciting or engaging presentation. What is needed is a multi-camera setup that shows the service, including the pastor and participants from several angles and includes on-screen graphics to help online viewers follow along.

Ideally, the same system can also send the video output to a projector or other displays inside the church. This way the congregation can view the service further back from the front row or from another room.

Lastly, this solution can be set up and operated by one or two volunteers.

## THE SOLUTION

Livestream Studio Pro Hardware systems from NextComputing meet all the above criteria, making them the ideal choice for any size church, particularly smaller churches just getting started with live streaming. Here are the top 10 reasons these systems should be considered the first choice for church streaming:

**1. Ease of use** – The Livestream Studio software interface is easy to understand and operate by both non-technical and experienced users. Even a church volunteer completely new to video production can be taught to run a live stream in a couple of hours. Besides the default user interface, Livestream Studio also features several additional options that make it even simpler to use:

- a. Web Control – Livestream Studio comes with Web Control, a powerful feature that enables remote control of the software using a web browser. Running Web Control on an inexpensive tablet or Chromebook, a volunteer can easily change camera angles and graphics from anywhere in the church.

Multiple devices with Web Control can each be configured with unique interfaces, allowing several people to control different aspects of the production simultaneously. Since Web Control connects to Livestream Studio over the internet, users can run a production from literally anywhere with internet access.



*Studio One*



*Studio HD51*



*Studio HD550*

Competing systems either lack any remote control, only run on a local network, or charge extra for a separate app.

- b. Surface Go – Many production operators prefer a physical interface, but typical control surfaces for popular video switchers are very expensive and too complex for a new user. The Surface Go is a simple, elegant, plug-and-play device that runs off a single USB cable and gives operators tactile control of all the import features of Livestream Studio.
- c. Simple Mode – With the click of a button users can switch to a simplified user interface with minimal buttons and distractions. This presents the inexperienced user with only the basic features needed to run their show.
- d. Livestream Keyboard – All Pro Hardware systems come with a custom Livestream Studio USB keyboard with color-coded and labeled keys mapped to all the important Studio functions.



*Studio Surface Go*



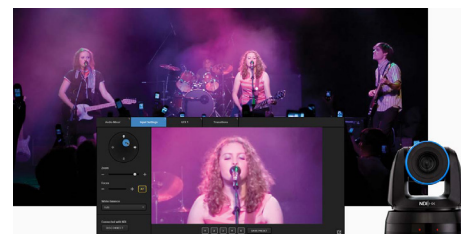
*Livestream Keyboard*

**2. Ease of setup** – Livestream Studio Pro Hardware turnkey systems from NextComputing make setting up a broadcast-quality streaming workflow painless. Out of the box, Livestream Studio Pro Hardware systems require no additional hardware to operate – all that's needed are your cameras. Systems such as the Studio HD51 come with up to (5) camera inputs, which can be a mix of both SDI and HDMI connections. Most Pro Hardware systems also include built-in analog audio inputs to seamlessly bring your PA system audio mix into the stream. Then once you have your perfect configuration, save it to a project file to quickly recall your exact settings for each event. To top it off, NDI support makes adding network cameras very simple as well; more on that next.



*HD51 Rear IO*

**3. NDI support** - Livestream Studio Pro Hardware systems support the increasingly popular NDI protocol, where cameras and other input sources can be connected over a regular ethernet network. NDI is the perfect solution for smaller or older churches where installing video cabling is difficult, but network cabling is already available or can be installed easily. NDI also supports Power-over-Ethernet (PoE), meaning the same Cat5 cable also powers the camera. This eliminates the need for separate power sources so that cameras can be placed almost anywhere throughout the church. NDI also provides very low latency, making it possible to send the output of Livestream Studio to a projector without disorienting lip sync problems. PTZ camera control is also built in; more on that next.



*Control any PTZ camera via NDI protocol and Set several camera preset positions per camera*

**4. PTZ camera support** – PTZ cameras are a popular way to capture high-quality video from locations where it would be difficult or impossible to place a camera and operator. All PTZ cameras have similar characteristics, namely the ability to robotically pan, tilt, and zoom the camera. Livestream Studio has built-in PTZ camera control, saving churches additional controller hardware cost. As mentioned above, NDI supports both PoE and PTZ camera control, giving you a single-cable solution to control and power all your cameras.

**5. Mevo camera support** – Livestream Studio has native support for Mevo compact 4K cameras. Mevo cameras can be set up and controlled using a smart phone or tablet and connected wirelessly to a Livestream Studio system. This wireless option is ideal for churches with no ability to run video or network cables, or that simply want the cleanest integration possible. Mevo cameras are also extremely affordable for churches with a tight budget.



*Connect one or multiple Mevo live-streaming cameras and control them entirely from Studio.*

**6. Streaming platform support** – YouTube and Facebook are the two most popular places to view video, so it makes sense that churches would also gravitate toward these platforms for live streaming. Fortunately, Livestream Studio Pro Hardware systems support both destinations natively, allowing users to login and create streams to either platform – or both – directly within the software interface. Additionally, for churches looking for more powerful features like access control, embeddable video players, and 24/7 support, Vimeo•Livestream is an affordable way to take streaming to the next level, while still providing simulcasting to YouTube Live and Facebook Live (subscription required).





- 7. Minimal space requirements** – Livestream Studio Pro Hardware systems are all designed to be as compact as possible. For example, the Studio One is about as large as a shoebox yet provides up to four (4) HD video inputs and all the functionality of Livestream Studio. The portable, all-in-one Studio HD550 comes with a built-in 17-inch monitor and convenient carrying handle, making it possible to set up a live broadcast from anywhere.
- 8. Fast return-on-investment (ROI)** – Raising funds for technology investments is a big challenge and the prospect of spending a lot on a video streaming setup can seem daunting for smaller churches. However, Livestream Studio Pro Hardware systems from NextComputing are not only affordable, but adding live streaming video to a church's services open the doors to new income sources to quickly cover the up-front costs. Various religious events such as baptisms, weddings, confirmations, and first communions can be streamed to an online audience of friends and family for a small fee. Churches can also tap their expanded online audience for fundraising donations through platforms like GoFundMe, Patreon, and Donorbox.
- 9. Reliability & support** – NextComputing has had its roots in rugged computer technology for almost 20 years. Livestream Studio Pro Hardware systems have been among the industry's most reliable live video products, producing thousands of events to millions of viewers every year. Vimeo•Livestream and NextComputing extend this long-standing partnership to customer support as well, giving you the responsiveness and confidence that only a fully-integrated system can deliver.
- 10. Room to grow** – Spending hard-earned funds on a solution that can't grow with a church's needs is particularly painful for small churches. Many live video products might be inexpensive and suited for a specific workflow today, but will be outdated within a few years as a church looks to improve the quality and sophistication of its broadcasts. Livestream Studio systems are designed to be flexible and expandable. For instance, churches can easily get started with just a basic two-camera setup, later adding more cameras, graphics, pre-recorded video clips, and remote guests with minimal, often zero, additional investment.



Studio One

## CONCLUSION

Demand is growing for live streaming of all types of content and religious events are no exception. But with the right tools and a little knowledge, even a small church can begin broadcasting their message to the world. Livestream Studio Pro Hardware systems from NextComputing are easy to use, yet powerful enough for any type of religious event streaming. Paired with some of the many cost-effective camera options available today, getting started has never been as easy and affordable.