

IMPRINT

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ISSUE 1



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Easy & Inexpensive Solutions
For Smaller Ministries

Read This First

Thank you for downloading this Alliance eSource. By the very nature of your download, we can surmise several important aspects of how you are thinking and the struggles you are facing – (ready, let's see how we do...)

1. You are typically a smaller organization that feels overwhelmed in trying to keep up with technology and the systems that are needed to put your organization on solid footing.
2. Your heart is huge – FOR YOUR MISSION. That doesn't always translate into the actual running of the organization though, does it? You simply don't have the time and energy to do the research necessary to find adequate and reliable resources.
3. There is a twinkle of hope in your eyes that this resource will help point you in the right direction for inexpensive, but credible options that will provide practical help to get you where you want to go.

This is why we exist. The Christian Ministry Alliance is wholly devoted to the smaller organization. We believe in big vision from small footprints. Now, you don't have to conquer the world alone, you have a partner.

Within the next several pages we have outlined seven of our favorite resources that are reliable, experienced, and super affordable [sometimes FREE]. For each resource presented, we have given you a quick description of the service, why we recommend them, and a link to their website. Feel free to click through and do some digging.

If you find this resource helpful, please consider joining the Alliance. Through an annual membership investment, you will partner with small organizations just like you and be privy to discounts across our offerings with membership benefits that will make you smile. Go to www.christianministryalliance.org to learn more. Simply click on MEMBERSHIP.

**HELPING MINISTRY LEADERS GAIN BACK TIME AND ENERGY SO THEY
CAN FOCUS ON LEADING THEIR MISSION.**

1. TITHE.LY

Tithe.ly is a simple, but awesome online donation platform that is scalable to grow with your organization. It affords the option of multiple donation forms to be created by the user that can be linked as both a click-through form that opens a new browser window, or if you prefer – like we do – a pop-up modal form that allows donors to complete the transaction without leaving your website.

Why We Like It

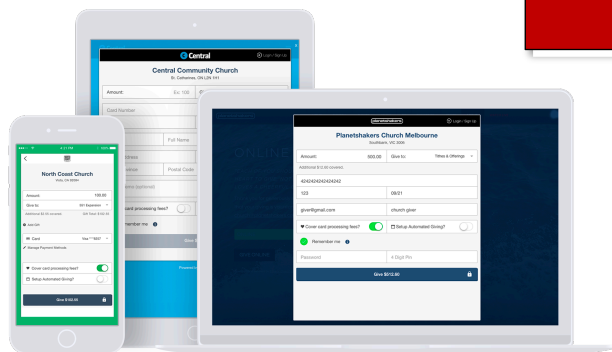
It is secure, clean, and **FREE** to implement. Transaction fees are standard at 2.9% + 0.30 for credit cards and 1% + 0.30 for ACH transactions. One of the best parts is that you get to inform Tithe.ly when you want your batch transactions deposited in your account. You have options of daily, weekly, or monthly batch deposits so you can have deposits made when it is most convenient for you.



Consider having your online donation batches deposited every Monday. That way it is counted as part of the weekly tithes and offerings from the Sunday worship service.

But wait, there's more.....Tithe.ly is always developing “newness.” They have recently rolled out a stand-alone EVENTS module that is attached to your account so that your event transactions and donations can all be processed by the same entity. This is a great resource if you are struggling with a way to implement online registrations. Yep, you guessed it, it is **FREE** to implement. And if that wasn't enough, they recently went live with their new Church Management System (ChMS). This is an integrated product with service planning built in, along with all the regular options you would expect. It is web-based and is only \$50/mo flat rate.

LEARN MORE ABOUT TITHE.LY



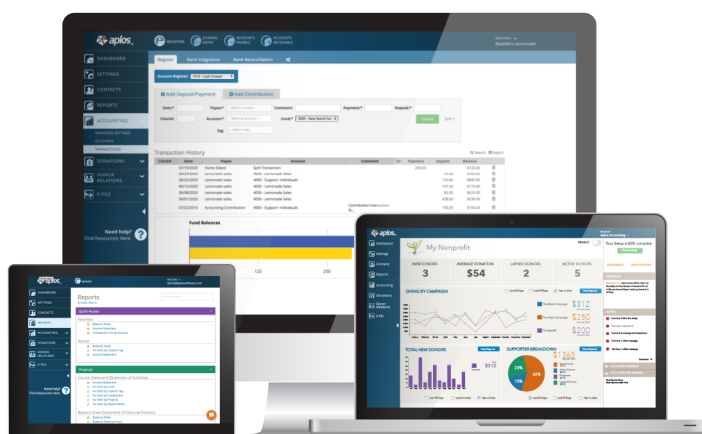
2. APLOS

Aplos is a Greek word that means “simple,” and it lives up to its name. We cannot recommend this software enough for the small nonprofit organization. They have taken the difficulty out of bookkeeping and made it easy and straight forward.

Why We Like It

Aplos has squashed the “overwhelmed-ness” out of bookkeeping for the average person. They have a simple straightforward interface that is easy to navigate and doesn’t try to over complicate the process of keeping good financial records. They have a reasonable source of built-in reports for your reporting needs and have a wonderful support back-end when you get stuck. Heck, we like it so much, we use Aplos for our bookkeeping too!

They have also built in a pretty good donor management module for smaller organizations that don’t want to separate donor management tracking with bookkeeping. You can do it all within one login, making your life and password management a lot smoother. And for those who want a one-stop solution, Aplos has a built-in online donation platform that will drop your donations directly into your chart of accounts. Payroll is not built into the native application, but they do integrate directly with a third-party processor, Gusto, to fulfill that need.



[LEARN MORE ABOUT APLOS](#)

3. CANVA

Odds are you have heard of Canva but may have not made the jump. You should. Look, the reality is, you more than likely are not trained in graphic design and furthermore cannot afford someone who is for your daily needs. Canva can help.

Why We Like It

Canva allows the non-graphic designer to do simple to complex graphic design with built-in pictures, shapes, icons, and other design assets at your fingertips. Just drag and drop where you want it, then download it in the format you desire. With presets for social media, flyers, brochures, and more, this is a no-brainer for small organizations. You can sign up for a **FREE** account or pay a modest fee for premium access. Either way, it takes the stress out of the design process.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT CANVA](#)

4. UNSPLASH

Unsplash is your **FREE** resource for quality images for your web development needs. It has its drawbacks in its breadth of available images, but with an open text search, you can search for almost any description and have a few images from which to choose.

Why We Like It

We really like Unsplash because it gives the small organization a place to go to find just the right image to represent what they want to present on flyers, websites, or just about any other item on which they want to place an image. All the images are free to download and are public domain.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT UNSPLASH](#)

5. CHURCH METRICS

What is the best way to describe Church Metrics? In one word – supercalifragilisticexpialidocious! It's that good. Now with a **FREE** subscription you can add the vital stats from your weekend services and track it all with metrics galore.

Why We Like It

Church Metrics allows small churches to track vital stats that has only been available to large congregations. Your small congregation can now track attendance, conversions, giving, volunteer activity, or just about anything else you can think of with its custom segmentation capabilities. You can even track adult attendance trends based on weather if you wanted. It is open season – if you want to track a metric for your church, this is your place. Church Metrics is part of [Open Network by Life.Church](#).

LEARN MORE ABOUT CHURCH METRICS

6. ALWAYS-UP-TO-DATE SOCIAL MEDIA IMAGES

This resource is an open-source Google Sheet that keeps updated information about the most appropriate sizes for images throughout your social media accounts. If you forget the preferred size for your Facebook cover photo, this is your place. Simply follow the link to download the resource and then follow the enclosed instructions how to be sure you receive updates as they are made. Now, you will always have the correct image sizes for your important social media posts.

GO HERE TO LEARN MORE

7. CAREINGTON

Careington is a great resource for small organizations when you cannot afford to provide health insurance for your staff. This is not an insurance provider, but a discounted healthcare savings plan that provides up to 75% discounts on healthcare services.

Why We Like It

Careington offers 5 different plans from which to choose, depending on your needs and budget. The plans are available for all staff in your organization and are priced both individually and per household, per plan requirements. They allow each family unit to choose from the level of care that is right for them. Services include telemedicine, dental, vision, chiropractic, Rx, plus so much more. The best part for us is that their monthly fees cover the entire family – and you can activate group billing so all your staff can be billed directly to the organization.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREINGTON](#)