This is a list of all the supplies we bought to make live streaming possible:

For this setup, we decided on a 2 Camera setup. Total cost was about $2,000.

For the main unit, we decided on a SlingStudio system (myslingstudio.com). Why? because it is plug and play, giving us setup flexibility and ease of training for volunteers. It is controlled via a Mac or iPad, which the latter is probably better for volunteers and gives you added mobility.

The unit has one HDMI port built in, and so we just bought a 25ft HDMI to Mini HDMI cable to go from a camcorder to the unit. We chose the Canon Vixia HF R800 for a good image and value. It plugs into a wall outlet so battery life isn’t an issue.

For the second camera, we purchased the SlingStudio CameraLink. It’s a wireless HDMI transmitter that pairs well with the main SlingStudio unit. This gives us location flexibility as it can send a signal up to 300ft away. Just be prepared to use a USB battery bank with it, as it only has a 2hr battery life. We used my personal camera, a Lumix G7, as the other camera. You could get one for around $500, or just get a second Vixia HF R800 for this purpose.

We also bought the SlingStudio USB Hub. This allows us to connect the unit to Ethernet (highly recommended) and to a USB Hard Drive (or SSD, also recommended) to record the stream.

We then used a typical 3.5mm audio/Aux cable to plug into our speaker system. Your mileage may vary depending on your sound setup though.

Now, for the fun part... How do you get internet to a field across a parking lot? Glad you asked. Since we wanted (and since it was our only option) to hold our service outside, a Wi-Fi network was a terrible idea, and Ethernet cables don't really work well past 200ft. For this, we purchased two Ubiquiti airMAX Litebeam AC Gen 2s. These units can send internet up to 15 miles, so this should work for you :) We set these up as a Point to Point system (see tutorials on YouTube) and mounted them to our building and the other to a power pole. It's pretty easy to configure. We then plugged in the SlingStudio unit to the LB Gen 2 and got internet with pretty much no lag!

We used YouTube Live to stream the service out to the church. Vimeo also works well for this.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me (j@jamesgreer.media) and I will be glad to help!

Enjoy!

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