

Church upgrades live steaming of services with JVC PTZ cameras

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The Customer:

Oregon City Christian Church (OCC).



Oregon City Christian Church recently installed two JVC KY-PZ100 robotic PTZ IP video production cameras to improve its coverage of Sunday services.

The Challenge:

Improve online presentation of Sunday services without making the church feel like a TV studio.

The Solution:

The church installed two JVC KY-PZ100 PTZ network video production cameras and RM-LP100 remote camera controller.

The Result:

Shari Scherschel, director of media and communications, said the RM-LP100 helps the new PTZ cameras mimic the movements of a traditional studio camera for on-screen pans and zooms. "You can do some nice stuff, and the presets are really useful," she said. "I really like the color and the clarity. They look really sharp, and they stay in focus while tracking."

Initially, Scherschel was wary of PTZ cameras because she needed to smoothly follow one of the pastors as he moved across the platform during his sermons. She was also skeptical about installing PTZ cameras instead of using traditional production cameras and operators. "I didn't want it to look like security footage," she explained.

After a week of rehearsal, Scherschel debuted the new system on Christmas Day 2016. The church now has a four-camera setup, with the KY-PZ100s mounted in the back and on the side of the sanctuary, plus two unmanned cameras locked down to capture shots of the band. A large monitor on the platform that displays Bible verses and other supporting images is often kept in frame during productions, and the image is clear enough for online viewers to read.

The control room is a long desk positioned behind the audio engineer at the back of the church. The live program is monitored on a new JVC DT-N17H ProHD LCD monitor. Scherschel handles switching duties, while another crew member adjusts both KY-PZ100 cameras using the RM-LP100.

Based in Oregon City, Ore., OCC has a growing congregation and attracts about 650 people across three Sunday services each weekend. In January 2017, the area closed down because of heavy snow. Knowing services would be canceled for the weekend, Scherschel recorded a service on Friday. It was well received; she said more than 500 people viewed the service online on Sunday. "We've had really great compliments from the congregation," Scherschel added.

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