

# Music Licensing & Video Licensing Resources for Congregations and Larger Church Events

## Copyright Issues

The purpose of the copyright law is to promote the use of copyrights and at the same time protect the rights of the copyright owner.

A copyright is an exclusive right given to an author of an original created work. It is an asset, a legal interest, protected by law. Included in the exclusive rights given to the copyright owner is the right to copy the work into any form, including in print, on screen, or in recorded form.

The copyright law is very clear on copying music. If you do not have express permission from the rightful owner of the song, you can't make a copy. (It is advisable to have that permission in writing in case of need for legal reference.) There have been a number of copyright disputes, although most have been settled privately.

### Why do I have to get permission?

Because it's the only legal way to use copyrighted materials. Respecting the copyright law is a way of protecting yourself and your church or institution from lawsuit. Having permission in writing establishes a paper trail for your protection.

## MUSIC COPYRIGHT LICENSING COMPANIES

### The OneLicense

OneLicense.net

7343 S. Mason Ave.

Chicago, IL 60638

<http://www.onelicense.net/>

OneLicense.net license gives your organization permission to reprint any of the hymnody(text and/or music) and most of the liturgical music copyrighted by all of the publishers listed below.

Abingdon Press  
Augsburg Fortress  
Beckenhorst Press  
CantaNova  
Carl Fischer Music  
Celebration  
Choristers Guild  
**\*\*Church Publishing**  
CRC Publications  
Concordia Publishing  
ECS Publishing  
Ekklesia Music, Inc.  
Fred Bock Music  
GBGMusik/UMC  
GIA Publications  
Good for the Soul Music  
Hinshaw Music, Inc.

Hope Publishing  
J. Manley Publishing  
Jan-Lee Music  
Jay Beech - Baytone Music  
Kevin Mayhew  
Neil A. Kjos Music Company  
Lillenas Publishing  
Litmus Productions  
Liturgical Press  
LNWHymns  
Lorenz Publishing  
Manna Music  
Morningstar  
Northwestern Publishing House  
Oxford University Press  
Paraclete Press  
Pavane Publishing

Presbyterian Publishing Corporation  
Selah Publishing  
Servants of the Word  
Shawnee Press  
Songs In His Presence  
SoundForth Publications  
Pilgrim Press  
Troubadour for the Lord  
United Church Press  
Veritas Publications  
Wayne Leupold Editions  
Willow Publishing  
Worldmaking.net  
Zimbel Press

\*\*Church Publishing is an Episcopal Resource

OneLicense.net includes many significant publishers of hymn texts, hymn tunes, and songs for worship that are not currently represented by any other joint licensing entity. Through OneLicense.net, churches and religious institutions are able to reproduce words

and/or music for the congregation from the catalogs of all of the partnering publishing houses, for one annual fee. Similarly, organizations who have daily devotions or worship as part of their annual conventions or conferences, can clear all the copyrights they need with a single event license.

The cost of a OneLicense is equitably and fairly based upon the average weekly attendance of your congregation. The yearly cost ranges from \$45.00 per year for average weekly attendance of 25 members to \$700.00 annually for average weekly attendance of 20,000 members or more. Single use licenses range from \$20 to \$55, and event licenses begin at \$25 and extend up to \$250 for a really large convention.

## **Church Publishing**

Church Publishing Incorporated  
445 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10016  
800-223-6602 (Toll Free)

<http://www.churchpublishing.org/>

[http://www.churchpublishing.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=copyrights\\_faqs#3](http://www.churchpublishing.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=copyrights_faqs#3)

### **What do I need to do?**

Decide whether you want to print this music in a worship leaflet which will be destroyed (one-time, not-for-profit): **OR:** Print it in a resource for ongoing use or in a publication to be sold for profit.

### **We'll only use this once.**

Because we know that most permissions are requested for one-time, not-for-profit use in a leaflet for worship, whether on Sunday, at a retreat, wedding, or diocesan convention, we negotiated an agreement with most of the copyright owners in The Hymnal 1982 and The Hymnal 1940 to allow such use for free.

The following copyright holders have not accepted this agreement and you must contact them directly for permission. Their contact information is on the Church Publishing website.

- Celebration
- GIA Publications (Represents: Margaret Mealy, Richard Proulx, David Hurd (hymn tunes))
- Hope Publishing (Represents: Hymns Ancient & Modern, Hymn Society of America, Carl P. Daw, Jr.)
- The Copyright Company (Represents: The Word of God)
- David Hurd

Place appropriate permission notice on your copied material

### **We'd like to use it more than once.**

If you are producing a resource for ongoing use or in a publication to be sold for profit, then the following fees/conditions apply:

**If CPI owns it:** \$25.00 per selection for the lifetime of the project and a copy of the product for our files.

**If CPI owns only part of it:** such as a descant or harmonization? \$10.00 per selection and a copy of the product.

**If CPI doesn't own it:** contact the proper copyright holder; Church Publishing can provide you with the address

### **When you write to CPI...**

Please include the following information:

- Your name, title, church, address, phone and FAX
- Title of the hymnal and the number of the selection you wish to copy
- What you want to copy (tune and text, full harmony, descant only, etc.)
- Date of the event and type (Sunday worship, diocesan liturgy, etc.)
- Number of copies to be made

**\*\*\*CPI is a part of OneLicense.net**

### **Christian Copyright Licensing, Inc. (CCLI)**

CCLI

17201 NE Sacramento Street

Portland, OR 97230

(503) 257-2230

<http://www.ccli.com/>

Churches often face copyright issues in two vital areas: music used for congregational singing and videos shown in a church setting. CCLI provides practical licensing solutions for both, and also supports each license with valuable services and resources like the SongSelect online subscription service, featuring lyrics, samples and transposable lead sheets, chord sheets and hymn/vocal sheets, and the ScreenVue online subscription service, helping you find the perfect movie scene for your next sermon or teaching illustration

The Church Copyright License is a contractual agreement with songwriters and publishers from around the world. For an annual license fee, a church receives legal authorization to copy from over 150,000 songs for congregational use. Here is a simplified version of the Church Copyright License:

#### **What You Can Do**

- Print songs, hymns and lyrics in bulletins, programs, liturgies and songsheets for use in congregational singing.
- Create your own customized songbooks or hymnals for use in congregational singing.
- Create overhead transparencies, slides or use any other format whereby song lyrics are visually projected (such as computer graphics and projection) for use in congregational singing.
- Arrange, print and copy your own arrangements (vocal and instrumental) of songs used for congregational singing, where no published version is available.
- Record your worship services (audio or video) provided you only record live music.

A Seven day license available for single events such as conferences, special meetings, city-wide meetings, crusades, or camp meetings. Because the Event License is for a shorter period of time, the License Fee is discounted from the Church Copyright License Annual Fee.

The Publisher list is too extensive to publish in this document

For a CCLI Publisher List, go to:

<http://www.ccli.com/US/WhatWeOffer/ChurchCopyrightLicenses/CCLI%20Publishers.aspx>

#### **For more information about Music copyright laws:**

[http://www.secretplaceministries.org/pages/articles/music\\_copyright\\_laws.html](http://www.secretplaceministries.org/pages/articles/music_copyright_laws.html)

\*\*resource information taken in part from Church Publishing and CCLI's materials.

## Church Video License

Church Video License  
888-771-2854  
[www.cvli.org](http://www.cvli.org)

For a Producer list:  
<http://www.cvli.org/CVLI/ProducerList.cfm?Country=US>

It's becoming more common. Priests, Youth Ministers and Pastors use portions of movies to enhance sermon points. Sunday school teachers and childcare workers play a full-length feature. Youth leaders show the latest videos. Educators use movies to train and inspire. For all these activities, the Church Video License provides legal coverage for your church.

Most of us fast-forward right through that FBI warning at the beginning of videos and DVDs. Ever wonder what it actually says? The Federal Copyright Act of 1976 stipulates that pre-recorded videos are authorized for personal home use only. Special permission must be granted for any public performance...and that includes churches. Violations can result in substantial fines, up to \$30,000 per infringement.

Viewing outside the home requires a license granting specific authorization. This is the case for each organization that uses videos—even for *nonprofit groups, even if admission is not being charged, and even though the video has been purchased*. Without permission, *you may be in violation of the Copyright Act and subject to substantial penalties*.

CCLI has joined with Motion Picture Licensing Corporation (MPLC) to form Christian Video Licensing International (CVLI), providing the Church Video License for churches and other ministry organizations who show videos and DVDs in a public setting. The Family Values Producer Package covers videos and movies focused on religious and family-based themes. The Total Producer Package also covers many big-name studios like Universal Pictures, Warner Brothers, Walt Disney Pictures, Touchstone, Paramount, and Fox.

Churches and other ministry organizations can show videos and be in accordance with the U.S. Copyright Act by using one of the following methods:

1. Showing videos which have "Public Performance Rights,"
2. Receiving written permission prior to using the video, or
3. Obtaining coverage with the Church Video License

### **What you can do with this license:**

- Use selected movies to illustrate sermon points.
- Sunday schools and Youth Groups can view the latest videos.
- Educational classes can use videos for teaching and training.

Other ministry organizations (schools, childcare, conferences, camps) can also be licensed to include videos in their programs.

### **What you can't do**

This license does not cover materials that have been copied from another source or recorded from television. It also does not cover charging an admission fee for video showings or where specific titles have been advertised or publicized.