

Here's what you should know about licensing and the limited use of music and videos in your church and ministries:



Each year your church will receive renewal notices and invoices for payment directly from **Christian Video Licensing International (CVLI)** and **Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI)**. These licenses allow your church and ministries certain limited use of music, songs, lyrics, movies, DVDs and videos. Your license is for a period of one year. We encourage you to maintain your license and to follow the copyright laws as specified in the licensing agreements.

MUSIC, SONG and LYRICS:

Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI)

Licensing is offered to your church by Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI). Questions arise most often about the use of music and song lyrics in our churches and ministries. Licensing is a frequent area of confusion and misuse. The licensing is for song lyrics and includes over 200,000 songs. The license *does not* cover the copying of musical arrangements (i.e., sheet music). The license allows you to reproduce and distribute lyrics in a church bulletin or on a screen, create songbooks, and record original performances of the music by the licensee's (i.e. your church) musicians. Playing copyrighted religious music in worship services is covered without a license. U.S. Copyright Law Section 110 [c] provides an exemption for performance and display of "a work, in the course of services at a place of worship or other religious assembly;..." I encourage you to visit CCLI's website if you want more information and for terms of the agreement: <http://www.ccli.com/>.

CCLI's website outlines what you can and cannot do:

Here's what you can do:

- Print songs, hymns and lyrics in bulletins, programs, liturgies and song sheets 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. Accompaniment tracks cannot be reproduced. You may charge up to \$4 each for audiocassette tapes and CDs, and \$12 each for videotapes and DVDs.

Here's what you can't do:

- Photocopy or duplicate octavos, cantatas, musicals, handbell music, keyboard arrangements, vocal scores, orchestrations or other instrumental works.
- Translate songs into another language. This can only be done with the approval of the respective publisher.
- Rent, sell or lend copies made under the license to groups outside the church or to other churches. (It is OK to distribute recordings to shut-ins, missionaries or others outside the church.)
- Assign or transfer the license to another church or group without CCLI's approval.

MOVIES, VIDEOS and DVDs:

Christian Video Licensing International (CVLI)

Christian Video Licensing International (CVLI) offers licensing to churches to cover the showing of videocassettes, DVDs and video clips inside facilities owned by the licensee (i.e. churches, child care centers and schools). This license does *not* cover any kind of reproduction or distribution (such as copies of worship services, streaming video on the web, and television broadcast).

The licensee – your church - may buy, rent, or borrow an original copy of the video clip for legal use. CVLI enables legal access to clips from thousands of movies. If you are not currently covered, you may obtain a license directly from CVLI. The fee is determined by church membership size. Churches currently covered by the agreement negotiated in 1998 between CVLI and the Florida Conference receive a discount. For more information and for terms of the licensing agreement, I encourage you to go to CVLI's website at: <http://www.cvli.com/>. In brief, CVLI's website outlines what you can and cannot do:

Here's what you can do:

- Pastors can 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.
- Churches can host special event movie nights.
- Show DVDs and videocassettes of motion pictures. Coverage includes playing just a clip up to showing the full-length movie.

Here's 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.
- This license covers manufactured DVD's, video cassettes and video discs purchased, rented or borrowed.