

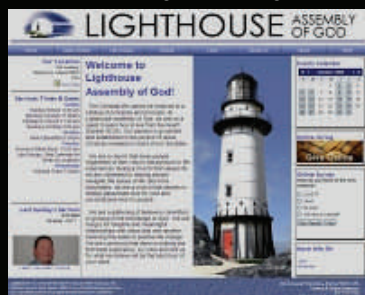
OCTOBER 2008

Churchonline.net launches new ministry—freechurchonline.net!

In keeping with our goal of getting every church on the web, churchonline.net has formed a new ministry arm that offers web pages free of charge to churches that simply can't afford anything at all. Using the same platform as churchonline.net but offering a much smaller subset of features, a church with no financial resources at all can now get a quality web page, free of banner ads or other undesirable considerations that come with most other free products. If you know anyone languishing in obscurity rather than shining their light on the web because they just can't afford a web page, point them to www.freechurchonline.net!

Spotlight Site

Lighthouse Assembly of God
www.petersburgassemblyofgod.com



Strengths: Clean, informative, good use of relevant graphics

Important Scheduler Changes

Due to lots of feedback and the need to continually improve our tools to make it easier for you to maintain your website, we have made some comprehensive changes to the Scheduler.

⇒ Faster: You'll find it's a lot faster, especially when you have a large number of events.

⇒ There is no separate Save/Publish function. We found that it really isn't necessary and just adds an extra, and sometimes confusing step to the process. Now when you save an event, it is automatically published to the locations you selected in the "Display on pages" box. You can then simply edit or delete the entry as needed.

⇒ Now you can make changes to a single date in a recurring event. Selecting an date with a recurring event will allow you to do one of three things to that event:

- Delete the instance. This will delete the event for that day only. If you have an event that occurs once a week but not on Christmas, simply delete the Dec. 25 instance from the series.
- Remove the instance from the series. This will remove that date from the recurrence and convert it to a one-time event. If there is something different about one particular date in a series, e.g. location, or time, you can convert that date to a one-time event and give it a different location, time, or whatever else. Subsequent changes made to the recurring event will no longer affect this date.
- Delete the entire series. This will delete the entire recurring event, *except for any instances that you converted to one-time events.*

As always, you can get help by clicking the "Help with this page" link in the upper right corner of the page.

New/Updated Features

- Scheduler—see article at right.
- New Themes—Classic Red, Rounded Green Marble, Rounded Wine Granite
- Forms Module—create custom forms that your visitors can fill out and have the results emailed directly to you.
- Added many new affiliates

Feature of the Month

Breaking News

Have you clicked the button at the top of your admin pages that says "Breaking News?" This is an easy way to make sure that something important gets noticed. Whether services are cancelled due to weather or the date of the Christmas pageant has changed, they'll be sure to notice it if you put it in your breaking news. **Caution:** If you use this for things that aren't urgent and it's always present, it won't stand up and make people take notice when there is something really important! Put your events on the calendar or events pages, and save the breaking news for emergencies!

Your Web Site can pay for itself! It could even pay for that new carpeting project in the sanctuary!

Make sure that you are using the Links Module! Configure it to use all the affiliates, unless there is a particular one that you are against for some reason. Then, not only should your staff make sure to use these links for any online shopping they do, but the whole church should be encouraged to use them. You will receive a check each month based on the amount purchased from these merchants using the link from your page. It doesn't take very many purchases at all before your site pays for itself, and what's more, can even start making your church money! Imagine—even your web site tithes!

REFERRAL BONUS—For every church that signs up with ChurchOnline.net and mentions that you referred them (even if you're not a customer), you will receive a check for three months worth of whatever package they choose, once they've paid for six months.