CASE STUDY

Gateway Church Relies on CatDV to Manage Nearly One Petabyte of Content

Gateway Church records and shares a tremendous amount of video content, ranging from weekend services to classes and cultural events. To manage all of that content, the church's IT and post-production team uses CatDV asset management. With CatDV, the IT and post-production team can easily import new files, rapidly find content, and simplify otherwise complicated workflows.

Gateway CHURCH

FEATURED PRODUCTS

CatDV

> We've been using the CatDV asset management system for several years now, and its rock-solid performance and rapid response time have proven invaluable in handling a library as large as ours.

Matt Wilson
Director of IT User Experience, Gateway Church

Gateway CHURCH

SOLUTION OVERVIEW

- CatDV asset management system

KEY BENEFITS

- **Gained a highly scalable asset management system** that will support nearly a petabyte of content.
- **Enabled volunteers to find stored content easily,** freeing up paid staff for more technical work.
- **Streamlined complicated post-production workflows,** from producing classes to creating promotional ads.
- **Made the church's entire video catalog readily accessible,** with several years' worth of content at their fingertips.

Based in the Dallas/Fort Worth area of Texas, Gateway Church has a vision to see people saved, healed, set free, discipled, equipped, empowered, and serving. That vision is tightly integrated into its weekend services. The church holds up to five services in a weekend per location. Services originate from the main Southlake, Texas, location and are broadcast to other campuses.

But the church's vision extends beyond what happens each Saturday and Sunday. "We believe church is about more than just a weekend service, especially in a church of our size," explain Matt Wilson, director of IT user experience, and JD Spivey, creative director of postproduction, in a jointly composed article. "It's about meeting people where they are and giving them opportunities to connect with the church in their own communities. To that end, we're also a church of small groups."

Those small groups—called Gateway Groups—comprise women, men, young adults, students, single parents, and others. Some

groups study the Bible, others offer help with finances. Hundreds of Gateway Groups meet in communities throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth area. In addition, the church holds classes, cultural events, and multiday, multi-speaker conferences.

All of that activity generates a lot of content. For example, there are 63 different ministries, each with its own content to record. "All told, we've added several terabytes of content to storage every month for 15 years," says Wilson. "That translates to about 300–400 terabytes of storage for our weekend sermons alone!"

MANAGING A LARGE AND GROWING ASSET LIBRARY WITH CATDV

To manage that enormous volume of video content, the church adopted CatDV. "We've been using the CatDV asset management system for several years now, and its rock-solid performance and rapid response time have proven invaluable in handling a library as large as ours," says Spivey.

"From the beginning, CatDV made sense for us. Not only was it the most affordable and easiest to use of all the [asset management systems] we explored, but unlike many other asset management platforms, CatDV lives on top of the existing file system," says Spivey. "That meant we could import all of our files without changing the folder structure. Given the amount of time we had spent organizing our files, it was a huge relief to know we wouldn't have to change anything."

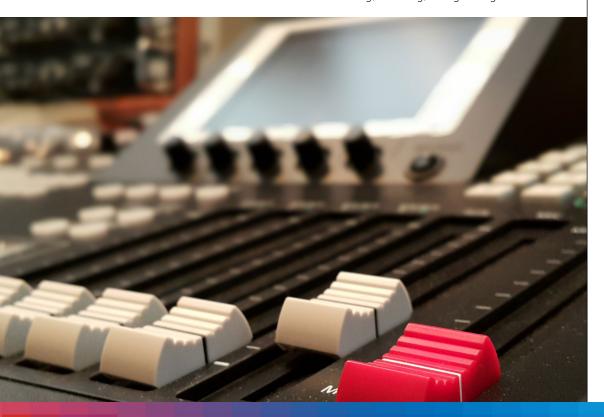### MAKING IT EASY TO FIND CONTENT WITH AN INTUITIVE INTERFACE

The Gateway Church team finds CatDV intuitive to use. "Once you get going, it's fairly easy to figure out how to do whatever you need to do, and if you have questions, the help guide is useful," says Wilson. "Another system we tried required extensive knowledge in order to find or manage content, which meant we couldn't rely on volunteers to help out. CatDV solved that problem. Now, because of the user-friendly interface, volunteers can easily find content for us, which frees our technical staff to do what they were hired to do."

Because the asset management library contains every sermon, CatDV is the first place team members turn when they receive a request for information. "If a pastor asks us to recall a specific sermon from six years ago, we can find it—and everything else related to that topic if necessary," says Wilson. "We also share video of services and material with other churches in our area, so if we get a request for all of our calls to worship, for example, we can easily find the file and send it off."

STREAMLINING A BUSY PRODUCTION OPERATION

CatDV has helped the church simplify multi-faceted workflows. "We're not only responsible for all live productions, but once they are recorded, we package and repackage the content for a number of uses—whether it's creating a lesson or other material for an upcoming class, editing a sermon for on-demand streaming, or promoting one of our conferences or Gateway Groups," Wilson explains. With a church as large and diverse as Gateway, promoting conferences and other advertising is essential for making members aware of all the opportunities there are for connecting, learning, and growing.

"[W]e'll have Gateway's entire video history at our fingertips, making it easy to access and use any clip, whether we need it the next day or years down the road."

Matt Wilson,
Director of IT User Experience, Gateway Church

EXPANDING THE USE OF CATDV FOR ADDITIONAL ASSETS

Until recently, the church used CatDV to manage only the archive of sermons, but now the Gateway IT and post-production team has begun importing additional content into the system. "When all of the assets are ingested, CatDV will manage nearly one petabyte of content—and counting," says Spivey. "That means we'll have Gateway's entire video history at our fingertips, making it easy to access and use any clip, whether we need it the next day or years down the road."

ABOUT GATEWAY CHURCH

Gateway Church is a Bible-based, evangelistic, spirit-empowered church founded in 2000 by Pastor Robert Morris. The organization meets as one church, with many locations in Texas and one in Wyoming. More than 100,000 people attend services each weekend.