Zoom Webinar - Noninteractive Meeting & Events Communication

The Office of the Presiding Bishopric letter dated September 25, 2020 "Guidelines for Using Virtual Meeting Technologies" outlines principles and recommendations for using technology in Church meetings. The enclosure accompanying this letter provided recommended platforms generally available to local units for broadcasting noninteractive meetings such as sacrament meetings and included Meetinghouse Webcast, YouTube, and Facebook.
Since the distribution of that letter, Church-provided Zoom accounts with webinar licensing have been made available to local units worldwide. Zoom webinar is a one-way meeting solution that offers the ability to make remote participants interactive if desired. Since this solution is now available to all units, and is on a platform familiar to most members, it is the recommended noninteractive platform for all meetings requiring less than 500 concurrent connections. Units using other platforms, including Meetinghouse Webcast, should begin using Zoom webinar for sacrament and other similar meetings.

Today, Meetinghouse Webcast and YouTube Live are the primary platforms for larger events like stake or regional conferences. Zoom can stream to these platforms for events requiring over 500 connections.
Additional information regarding the use of Zoom Webinar can be found in the FAQ below.

FAQ:

What are the benefits of using Zoom webinar for sacrament and other similar meetings?
The benefits of using Church-provided Zoom webinar for sacrament and other similar meetings are:

- All meetings (interactive and noninteractive) will use a **single platform** that members are familiar with.
- Zoom webinar supports the ability to have remote view-only and **interactive participants**.
- There are **no additional costs** associated with the use of Zoom webinar. Reducing the use of the Meetinghouse Webcast system will result in significant cost savings to the Church.

Where do I find more information about Zoom webinar?
There are many resources online that explain what Zoom webinar is and how to use it. Click here to view Zoom's "Getting started with webinar" article for product details. Zoom webinar is a feature rich solution for web-based seminars and meetings, not all features will be used for church meetings.

How can I use Zoom webinar for large meetings such as stake conference?
Click here to learn how to use Zoom to stream to Meetinghouse Webcast and YouTube Live for meetings with over 500 expected connections. Do **not** stream from Zoom to Meeting Webcast for events under 500 connections, this adds complexity to the event and additional costs to the Church.

How can I transition to Zoom webinar without substantial cost or effort?
Units currently using hardware to broadcast meetings that supports Zoom such as **cell phones** (Larix Broadcaster) or **laptops** (OBS) should be able to transition to Zoom webinar quite easily. Simply make sure the Zoom app is installed on the device and select the correct audio and video source.

Other units that may be able to transition to Zoom webinar with minimal cost and effort include those with a dedicated encoder like the **Teradek** or **J-Tech**. These systems typically have an HDMI cable that delivers chapel audio and video to the encoder. To transition these systems to Zoom webinar local units will need an HDMI to USB video capture device and laptop as shown below.



HDMI to USB capture devices can be purchased for under $50.00. It is recommended local units use an existing laptop if available.
Units using the **Mevo** all-in-one camera or similar device may decide to continue using Meetinghouse Webcast or setup the device as a wired webcam.