



Grace Church, DeRidder Finds Fluidity & Security with FileCloud

case study

Need for a Fit-for-Purpose Content Collaboration Framework

Grace DeRidder is an interdenominational Christian evangelical church in the city of DeRidder, Louisiana. It is a part of multi-church group, the Ministries of Grace. The church opened its doors in 1990 and has since expanded to become an integral part of the DeRidder community. Its congregation consists of over 500 people who attend worship services in person, with more availing of its numerous community outreach programs.

Despite its vital role as a community hub, Grace Church had some operational inefficiencies arising from its IT setup. The entire infrastructure, including Windows file server, firewall, servers, and switches, is located at the church's main office. This office, with Wi-Fi connectivity, also contains workstations. To collaborate securely on files, the staff at Grace were required to travel to this office.

Outreach Ministries with Administrative Requirements

As a non-profit organization, Grace manages a church premises and administrative offices in DeRidder, with several other premises used to facilitate outreach ministries. It holds worship services on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Its many community outreach ministries include:

- Adult education life skills classes
- Benevolence programs for homebound senior citizens and the bereaved
- Ministry training and education
- Soul Soup, a community kitchen that provides dinner daily to those in need
- Separate ministries for children, teenagers, women, and men
- Ministry and outreach for active-duty military and military veterans
- Ministry for those dealing with addiction

A Requirement for Flexibility

Church employees and volunteers often need to collaborate on documents and files to facilitate the many ministry programs managed by the church, but these programs span over several premises across the city of DeRidder. Church workers were unable to access the file server in the main administrative office when they were working from these other sites.

Even for regular, established documents that needed to be created, such as the pamphlets for twice-weekly worship services, Grace was finding it difficult to ensure sufficiently speedy delivery without bottlenecks. Those collaborating and reviewing were sometimes unable to travel to the administrative office until the last minute, if at all. This same limitation also applied to financial, administrative, and other documents, such as spreadsheets, financial reports, and PowerPoint presentations.



Why FileCloud? A Content Collaboration Platform Combining Fluidity and Security

Due to its non-profit status, regulatory demands on Grace are limited compared to other types of entities. Despite this, the organization wanted to ensure that its data was safely stored and shared only with select individuals. The church wanted an IT framework with the fluidity to share documents with potential churchgoers and other trusted parties outside the premises securely.

Eric Tucker, the long-time IT Specialist subcontracted to Grace Church, has watched the expansion of the church and its community outreach activities over the last 13 years. He came to the realization that it was time to address the pain points the church was experiencing and started to do some online research on content collaboration solutions.

"FileCloud Checked all the Boxes"

Eric considered several options, including Dropbox, Microsoft OneDrive for Business, Google Workspace, and Citrix. No matter how many alternatives he explored on tech forums online, he kept returning to FileCloud. Not only did FileCloud fit the church's needs in terms of pricing and features, it had powerful, built-in security provisions. Eric concluded that FileCloud "seemed to be a good balance between the security built into the platform, and ease of accessibility for the users to navigate. Everything is very streamlined. It was incredibly easy to set up. It hit all the checkboxes for what Grace wanted, and in my opinion, what they needed, considering what they were coming from, which was just a standard Windows file server-based environment."

"Easy, Painless, Smooth" Migration to FileCloud

Eric cites the unusually long free trial period of 15 days for FileCloud Online as a key factor in giving him the confidence to go ahead with the purchase. He found the implementation of FileCloud Online after the trial very straightforward. The migration of data to FileCloud and the user setup with appropriate permissions went smoothly.

He provided some basic training to church personnel and directed them to the content on the FileCloud help site. Eric now acts as FileCloud administrator for the church, which involves tasks such as changing folder permissions and adding new users. Mostly, however, church employees and volunteers have been able to work with FileCloud independently.





The Outcome: "A Complete Game-Changer"

Eric says FileCloud has been "a complete game-changer" in facilitating remote collaboration without compromising data security. It has had a positive impact on Grace Church, resulting in:



Freedom to collaborate on files any time, from anywhere



Cost savings on travel to and from the main office



Ability to plan the expansion of the church's ministries



Overall increased operational efficiencies

Previous restrictions around collaboration are now eliminated. While those at Grace Church are currently using basic features, such as team folders, Eric envisages their use of FileCloud features broadening over time. He anticipates that FileCloud's simple, no-code Workflow Automation feature could become especially valuable to the church's operations.

Pamphlets for services were previously worked on sporadically when the individuals had the time to travel to the premises. It was often a struggle to get these pamphlets completed. This hurdle no longer exists, and the pamphlets are consistently polished and completed on time. Various other documents, such as financial reports, can be worked on remotely. The church is experiencing savings on gas, time, and money since FileCloud was implemented.



Conclusion: Freedom to Collaborate

Though Grace Church has a relatively small number of users, the scalability of FileCloud Online allows them to collaborate with more people. With outreach programs and other initiatives no longer impeded by previous bottlenecks, Grace can now plan for expansion and inclusivity, without the need to address concerns around technical logistics.

Thanks to FileCloud, church personnel have the option to be more inclusive in their digital operations and in their outreach activities as a whole. For example, FileCloud has recently played a role in the availability of streamed services on Facebook and YouTube, allowing Grace Church to reach a wider audience for their twice-weekly services. This is invaluable to an organization that has values such as inclusivity and service at the center of its ethos.

Try FileCloud Now

FileCloud's extensive functionality, ease of use, affordability, and world-class support make it the solution for file share, sync, and mobile access already adopted by enterprises and organizations around the world.

You too can benefit from FileCloud and its industry-leading quality and performance today!

Contact us at FileCloud now and take advantage of our [free 14-day trial](#) to see what FileCloud can do for your business.

REGISTER NOW

FOR A FREE 14-DAY TRIAL,
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GET A DEMO

COMPLETELY FREE,
NO STRINGS ATTACHED



Summary

To compete in today's fast-paced market, companies need to get business done without being slowed down by IT challenges. We understand this. FileCloud's software is a solution focused on enterprise file sharing that is just as helpful to business practices as it is to IT requirements.

- Integration with existing resources helps lower business operating costs
- Extensive feature-set and ease of use helps increase user productivity
- Support for an ever-increasing reliance on a mobile workforce keeps you competitive.

FileCloud offers an Enterprise File Sharing and Sync (EFSS) solution that enables you to realize the benefits of collaboration and productivity with the security you require to protect your Intellectual Property anywhere it goes in the course of doing business.



To read more about how FileCloud can secure your information and support collaboration, visit www.filecloud.com/enterprise-file-sharing

Easy, Painless Migration Experience

"My overall experience with FileCloud was fantastic, from the moment I reached out and got the ball rolling with this. All my questions were answered immediately. I've had a few other migrations like this with other platforms over the years, and this was definitely the smoothest I've dealt with."

-Eric Tucker, IT Specialist, Grace DeRidder, Louisiana.



About Us

A privately held software company, headquartered in Austin, Texas, USA, FileCloud is helping organizations thrive by providing hyper-secure content collaboration and processes solutions. FileCloud is used by millions of customers around the world, ranging from individuals to Global 1000 enterprises, educational institutions, government organizations, manufacturing companies, managed service providers and more.



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