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There’s also a practical side for congregations, since photocopying can cost as much or more than buying the product outright. Remember that every copy costs the church money in toner, paper, and maintenance.

Q: We regularly record parts or all of our worship services so we can share them with our own members, post them on our church website, or even on YouTube. That’s okay, right?

A: Think carefully about what you’re recording. It’s fine for congregations to record their sermons, for instance, but you may want to be cautious about recording a sharing time that could reveal personal information. Please be aware that it’s illegal for you to record copyrighted music without obtaining proper permission. Note that many musical works posted on YouTube are done so illegally.

Q: What about projecting music, lyrics, or other materials on a screen during worship?

A: To do this legally, you still need permission from the copyright holder.

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A: To request permission for works copyrighted by any of MennoMedia’s imprints—Third Way Media, Faith & Life Resources, or Herald Press—or for help with any permissions questions, please contact Meghan Florian, 540-574-4874; MeghanF@MennoMedia.org.

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