

# Graphic Design and Communications Resources

## Easy Free Design Platforms:

**Canva** Go for the **nonprofit license** and get Canva for Work **free** for 10 licenses!

**Crello**

## Best Design Platforms

Adobe Creative Cloud

Affinity photo/design

## Image and other resources

There are a lot of great free resources out there but you always have to be careful of copyright. Images found on google are almost always owned by someone and actually need to be purchased before you can use them, even if you can find a high res copy. Unless something is CC0 (Creative Commons Zero) or comes with a resale license, you are very limited to what you can do with it. Nearly Everything you download from the sites below can be freely used in local advertisements and or handouts that are not being sold. You just need to be careful with putting things online or selling them. Some do not allow any kind of online republishing and others just require attribution under CCA (Creative Commons Attribution). Just read the type of license these things come with before using the content. But if CC0 is listed your free to do absolutely anything with it.

- **Depositphotos** (Photos/Vectors/Video)
- **Storyblocks** (Photo/Vector/Video) (used to be called GraphicStock)
- **iStock** (Photos/Vectors/Video)
- **Shutterstock** (Photo/Vector)
- **Light Stock** (Photo/Vector/Video)
- **EnvatoMarket** (Photo/Video/AE Templates/Audio/Graphics/Code/3D Elements/WP Themes)
- **CMG** (Motion Graphics)

*Some of these sites give away Weekly/Monthly Free resources—if you sign up for their newsletters*

## CC0 Photos:

These sites offer quality CC0 (Creative Commons Zero licensed) Photos:

- **Unsplash**
- **Pexels**
- **Jay Mantri**
- **Gratisography**
- **New Old Stock**
- **Pixabay**
- **TheStocks.im**
- **Church Media Spot**
- **CuteStockFootage**
- **Lightstock**
- **PicJumbo**

## Video:

Unfortunately, when it comes to free video there isn't a lot of high quality options. And some require attribution. But here are some I have found that I will filter through:

- Rocketstock
- IRIS32
- MazWai
- Pexels
- Videvo
- OrangeHD
- Vidsplay
- Clip Canvas
- XStockVideo
- Free HD Footage
- Videezy
- MakerBook
- Pond5
- ChurchMediaSpot
- CuteStockFootage

## Motion Graphics:

Free Motion backgrounds and other Motion Graphics

- **BeepleCrap** makes amazing 3D and 2D Motion Graphics and Loops
- Ignite Motion
- Videezy
- Rocketstock

## Music:

Here are some of the best places to find free music. Some of them are CC Attribution and other can only be used for very specific things depending on the track, but you just need to check the license before using the track.

- **Incompetech** <http://incompetech.com/m/c/royalty-free/>
- **YouTube Library** this is YouTube creator studio assistant that gives awesome music track that can be used in video. Most are free to use but a handful are CCA.
- **Vimeo Music Store** not everything is free here but a lot is. The licensing on these can be tricky too so tread carefully.
- **FMA** the free music archive is a place where people post there music and all of it can be downloaded for free to listen to. But only a portion of it can be used in videos. Just check the license before using them.
- **Free Stock Music** most stuff here is totally safe to use but most of it is pretty poor quality music as well.
- **Bensound** makes great music but there aren't much choices and it's all CCA so you have to make attributions.
- **Seeds** This is free music from Church on the move.
- **MakerBook** <http://makerbook.net/audio/>
- **ChurchMediaSpot** <http://www.churchmediaspot.com/music/>
- **Free Music Archive** <http://freemusicarchive.org/music/>
- **Song Freedom** <https://www.songfreedom.com>
- **SmartSound**

## SFX:

For sound effects there are a couple good places

- Free Sound
- Sound Bible
- YouTube Library
- SmartSound <http://www.smartsound.com/>

## Vector Graphics:

Unless its CC0 you have to attribute or you can only use it in specific media examples that are not published online.

- **FreePik** is an amazing place to find anything from vector invite templates to race car vectors. Nearly everything from here is in vector but they do have a smaller psd and jpeg library.
- **Vecteezy** has a lot of icons and other vector type images but its all CCA so make sure your attributing when posting things online.

**Christ Centered Media:** this is Christian Sites for free & some paid media content

- **Openresources.org:** church graphics and designs
- **Creation Swap** they offer all forms of media from videos to Graphics.
- **Church Media Drop** this is churches helping churches. People can post work they have done and let other churches use it.
- **Scripture Art** a large library of free to use scripture art from Life Church
- **Graceway Media**

## Social Media Design Apps

- Sticky AI
- Plotagraph
- What the Font
- Canva
- Crello
- Mematic - The Meme Maker
- Ripl
- PhotoGrid
- Layout
- PS Express
- Splice
- ReType
- Typorama
- Wordswag

## Other

- [fontsqirrel.com](http://fontsqirrel.com)
- [Fontjoy](http://fontjoy.com)
- Eyedropper—for your toolbar
- Paletton—for colors
- IFTTT
- <http://www.churchmediaspot.com/>
- <http://churchmediadrop.com/>
- <http://makerbook.net/>
- <https://www.creationswap.com/gallery>
- <http://cvoutreach.com/social-partners/>
- <https://creativemarket.com/templates/social-media>
- CMG

**Fonts:** Not all these options are exactly free but some of them have free content and pay what you want content.

- FontFabric Premium paid and free fonts
- LostType Pay what you want Fonts
- FontSquirrel if there is a font your looking for Font Squirrel probably has it or at least a replica of it and they do the legal way.

**Other:**

- Textures sometimes you just need a pattern or texture. This is the best place to find nearly any kind of texture you can think of.

Don't forget UMC.org and **UMCOM** for united Methodist photos and resources!

<http://www.umcom.org/>

UMCom has a TON of resources and they are getting better all the time. Be sure to subscribe to their newsletter—they send their social media graphics packs and more right to you!

Remember—don't reinvent the wheel—if they are making social images for upcoming Methodist things... use them!!

**Church Resources:** There are a few churches out there that have felt called to share all their work with the public to use for free. This ranges from actual full sermons and children's curriculum, small group teachings, to video bumpers and Worship songs etc. Each Church has a plethora of stuff available to use for free.

- Life Church
- Elevation Church
- Church of the Move

When you can't find what you need on any of these sites (which is unlikely) you can always turn to Church Media Spot which is a site dedicated to sharing every good free and paid way to find anything for churches. There are even software and training recommendations there.