Formstack Submission For: [UTO Grant Mid-Year Report](#)
Submitted at 05/08/21 11:47 AM

Name of the Contact Person for the Grant Project:	Mary Hovden
Email:	maryhovden@gmail.com
Grant Number:	UTO 2021-02
Diocese:	Arizona
Amount of Your Grant Award:	$24,873
Amount Remaining to Spend at the Time of Submission:	$54.80

Do you anticipate being able to complete the project by the deadline?:	yes

Please tell us how the project is going. (500 words or less):

With the funds we received, we funded streaming hardware for 19 congregations throughout the state of Arizona. All equipment has been ordered, delivered and installed. Most congregations have started streaming their services with the equipment and a few are recording their services until they can get their WiFi issues resolved. But all congregations have started using their equipment for worship services (Sunday services, morning prayer, evening prayer, etc.); special events (weddings, funerals, virtual coffee hours, an ordination); and pastoral care (times when the rector is unable to be with the congregant in person).

The team of 19 UTO Grant user congregations meets via Zoom on a regular basis (every two weeks when the project began and every three weeks as of this report) to share best practices and discuss lessons learned (what's working, what's not working). Bishop Reddall even attended our last meeting to learn more about our progress! The St. James, Tempe project team also created a UTO Grant website where we share resources, photos, lessons learned, success stories, etc.

Bottom line, this project has surpassed our wildest expectations and goals (see goals below)! We are thrilled, humbled and eternally grateful for the UTO Grant funds and this opportunity to begin, develop and further our digital ministry with streaming capability in congregations throughout Arizona during these crazy and unpredictable COVID-19 times. We're still measuring our success and will have additional information when we submit our final report in December.

Project goals established during the grant application process:
1) Sustain parishes through COVID-19 and beyond, 2) Continue to provide weekly services and

more to a community that is unable to attend in-person gatherings and 3) Provide services online, even after churches reopen for in-person gatherings, for those who are not able to, or may not feel comfortable to attend, due to health considerations.

What is the biggest success story of the project so far? Or what are you most grateful to have done or learned?:	There are several things that we are grateful for and have learned throughout this entire UTO grant process, but the biggest success story so far is the love, friendship, support and collaboration that we've experienced as a UTO Grant User's Team. This started during the grant application process and continues today as we meet regularly. During our Zoom meetings we all get a chance to share what's working and what's not working in order to give each other ideas, get technical questions answered and garner support for our respective installations. There are also phone calls, in-person visits and Zoom meetings in between our regular meetings as we help get each congregation 'up and running/streaming'. There are a few of our more technical users who have even made it their mission to help the congregations in their geographical areas overcome any technical fears they might be experiencing and 'jump right into' the streaming world! We have learned throughout our collaboration that anything is possible and that together we can accomplish great things; even during the sometimes frightening, overwhelming and uncertain COVID-19 world. The friendships and partnerships that we have made as a user's group will continue long after the grant process is technically complete. Thank you to the UTO for this amazing opportunity! For the UTO Grant funds and for your love and support!

Upload Photos of Your Grant in Action:

Upload Photos of Your Grant in Action:

[Direct Link to Image](#)

Upload Photos or videos of Your Grant in Action:

[Direct Link to Image](#)

Checkbox: I Agree