

Five Things To Do This Month

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Computers have become strategic ministry tools. Here are five things you can do this month that will help your computer system(s) serve your ministry well.

1 Check the version of your church management software and compare it with the version currently offered by your CMS provider to ensure it's current. CMS providers update their software often to correct bugs and to enhance it, making it better to use.

2 Sit in front of each computer to see if the monitor still presents an image that is crisp and sharp. Monitors degrade over time, and using one that's worn out can hurt users' eyes. Flat screen monitor prices have come down significantly, and may make it possible to recapture some desk pace!

3 While sitting in front of each of your computers, clean their mouse balls and rollers if they have them. Doing so will make your users happy and improve their computer-morale! And consider taking their keyboards outside and using an air compressor to clean their innards!

4 Some parts of our computer systems are intended to be consumable. That means they lose their effectiveness over time. Consider replacing backup tapes that are two years old and power strips that are three years old to better protect your computers and your data.

5 When was the last time you tested your backup system? Don't wait until you really need it... test your backup to ensure it is creating the system security you'll need if there is a disaster, theft, system crash, etc. Do this by restoring a complete folder structure from the backup media and checking the folders' contents for accuracy.