

# Snapshot of Success

*"It's a real workhorse...we can't imagine life without a RISO Digital Printing System."*

Barbara Grimm,  
Executive Secretary,  
Bethany Lutheran Church



## Bethany Lutheran Church

With over 3,000 parishioners, Bethany Lutheran Church in Overland Park, Kansas, depends upon a variety of publications to communicate weekly with its large congregation. All of the church's publications—from the monthly newsletter to the preschool brochures—must look neat, be accurate, and most of all, be ready on time.

Barbara Grimm, Bethany's Executive Secretary, recalls, "It was my turn to host the monthly Church Secretaries' lunch meeting."

"A young salesman came to the church to tell me about a new machine, a RISO [digital duplicator](#), that could make our work much easier and increase our productivity. We invited him to come to our monthly luncheon for a demonstration."

On the day of the meeting, the RISO [digital duplicator](#) was wheeled in. "It looked like a copier but what a difference! It

was extremely fast, printing at up to 130 pages per minute. I could already picture the time and frustration we would save printing the weekly bulletin," says Ms. Grimm.

"Best of all, it was so simple to operate," she adds. The sales representative offered to leave the system at Bethany for a test run over the holidays.

With no more training than the demonstration at the luncheon, Barbara and her staff put the RISO [digital duplicator](#) to the test.

How did it perform? "Heavens, it was so much faster!" exclaims Barbara. "Before we had the RISO digital duplicator, we could only run 200 copies at a time. We'd fill the trays, flip the copies over, and start again. It was such a chore."

She added that the copiers often overheated and shut down—something no one wants to

experience on a tight deadline.

The church quickly decided to purchase the system. "Not only could we do our work faster, we could actually save money on each copy and reduce our copier maintenance contract at the same time."

The church was also very impressed with the RISO digital duplicator's [environmentally friendly](#) features. The machine uses 98% less energy than a photocopier, with no ozone emissions and no toxic chemicals.

Thanks to the RISO [digital duplicator](#), the weekly job that used to take two full days now takes less than half the time. "And maintenance is not an issue; the system just doesn't break down. We frequently needed to call for maintenance on our old copier," says Barbara.

Barbara laughs when she remembers what happened

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when the young salesman came back after the trial period. “I remember exactly what we said when the sales representative walked in,” she said. “You are NOT taking our RISO [digital duplicator](#) away!”

Bethany’s RISO digital duplicator has produced 3.8 million pages. “It’s a real workhorse,” stated Barbara. “We can’t imagine life without a RISO digital duplicator.” The savings are as impressive as its dependability. Bethany’s cost per copy (cpc) with the system is estimated at less than 3/4¢ per page, compared to nearly two cents per page for the copier. When the savings per copy is

multiplied by the number of pages, the result is a significant savings of more than \$46,000.

RISO [digital duplicators](#) have come a long way since that original purchase. “We’re excited about acquiring one of the latest models,” said Barbara. “Of course, it all depends on the budget, but we’d love to add the envelope/card feeder and we’re also looking at a system controller. Eliminating the paper step and going from the computer screen directly to the printer would be great.”

No matter what configuration Bethany’s next system takes, Barbara is sure she will continue

to receive three key benefits from RISO—speed, versatility, and reliability.

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