

# Calhoun First United Methodist Church

New wireless APs revived faith by changing a mishmash network into reliable connectivity for a community.

“Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise delivered the wireless performance we needed. The quality and reviews of the equipment sold the product.”

Ed Archer, Pastor, IT Director

Calhoun First UMC, serving a community north of Atlanta, Georgia, since 1852, was struggling with wireless connectivity for staff, preschool teachers and parishioners when Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise Stellar Wireless LAN Access Points were introduced.

The new network delivers high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity between the two main buildings of the church, separated by a city street. The new wireless network creates cost savings as it removes the need for extra network maintenance, accommodates video streaming to the overflow area for large events on site, and connects employees and teachers better across the campus.

## CHALLENGES

The two main buildings of Calhoun First UMC are classically older and made of concrete and steel. This created connectivity issues for the existing wireless network. Running wires was deemed too expensive and impractical. It was when the church hosted a funeral for a prominent member of the community that streaming video over Wi-Fi to the overflow area failed and pushed the church to seek better technology.

## ACTION

Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise and business partner Logical System completed a site survey to address the church’s needs. Stellar APs offered Calhoun First UMC the best networking quality for their situation.

## PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS

[Alcatel-Lucent OmniAccess® Stellar Wireless Access Points](#)  
[Alcatel-Lucent OmniSwitch® 6450-24/48](#)

## RESULTS

### Technical Benefits

- Stellar APs deliver strong signals through concrete and steel for complete coverage
- Increased bandwidth throughout the church grounds
- Exposed Service Provider bandwidth issues

### Financial Benefits

- New reliable wireless network keeps the network up, removes need for extra network maintenance cost with a secondary service provider
- Cost of APs met budget

### User Experience Benefits

- Parishioners no longer complain about poor connectivity
- Staff finding better coverage and bandwidth
- Wi-Fi to enable on-site donation kiosks and video surveillance for site security
- Enabled the use of educational videos in pre-school classes

WANT TO TALK WITH SOMEBODY?

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## Customer Story

MARKET: RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION  
DEAL IMPLEMENTED: JUNE 2019

COUNTRY: USA  
NUMBER OF USERS: 1100

COMPANY:  
CALHOUN FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

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