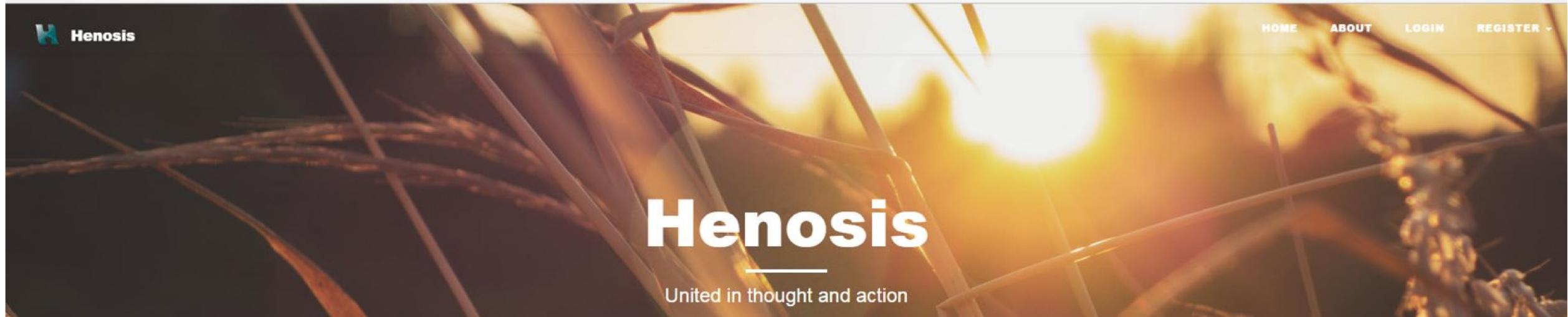


Facilitating Organizational Networking (Henosis): Mobile & Web App Development

By Joshua Conrady and Mark Musselman



Beginnings

Henosis began as a group of high schoolers with a vision to change the way churches communicate with other churches and organizations as well as their very own congregation.



Past

With the aid of the Messiah College Collaboratory, Henosis became an established project that has allowed its development, growth, and actualization.

Present

Currently, Henosis is developing its web platform for congregational management and organization interlinking. A mobile programming team is also working on an application to facilitate access through smart phone technology.

Future

We are preparing for another release of our web platform and are set for the alpha release of our mobile application for the spring of 2018. Our current work includes creating a REST API to connect our online database to our mobile application

Why Henosis?

At a time when only 1 in 20 Americans exposes their Christianity online [1], Henosis offers a way to share faith with other likeminded people and become more involved in a church congregation. Becoming involved in a church congregation has a positive influence on surrounding communities. As one study found, "Attenders who were more socially embedded in their congregations were more likely to provide loans, care for the sick, and help someone find a job." [2] This kind of community outreach can be enhanced by the functionality, accessibility, and convenience being designed into Henosis. Some church-goers have decreased their worship service attendance over recent years, and others have stopped attending entirely [3]. Henosis seeks to advertise, foster, and enrich congregational involvement, using new communication technology largely untapped by Christians for this purpose. Smaller house churches lack the resources required to run social media campaigns. Henosis seeks to change all of this by providing churches with the resources they need to survive and even thrive in this changing social environment.

[1] C. Lisee, "Most Americans keep their faith private while online", The Christian Century, vol. 129, no. 18, p. 16, 2012.

[2] J. McClure, "Sources of Social Support: Examining Congregational Involvement, Private Devotional Activities, and Congregational Context", Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, vol. 52, no. 4, pp. 698-712, 2013.

[3] T. Shapiro, "A method of helping congregations", Congregations, vol. 39, no. 4, p. 27, 2012.



Further Information

More information is available on our Facebook page. In addition, you can contact our team members by email.

Andrew Cameron – ac1377@messiah.edu

Huey Hum – hh1212@messiah.edu

Authors: Joshua Conrady – jc1483@messiah.edu

Mark Musselman – mm1491@messiah.edu

Clients and Project Goals

Our current clients include Eastside Church of Christ in Colorado Springs, CO and Ashburn Presbyterian Church in Ashburn, VA.

Eventually, Henosis seeks to be an efficient, reasonably priced congregational management software tool for any and all churches in need.

A Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for Henosis is to have 12 different churches using Henosis: four in Pennsylvania, four in Virginia, and four in Colorado. This goal covers our main outreach locations, but also includes room for expansion and development.

