

8 Helpful Ideas from All Those “Leading in a Crisis” Emails We Are Receiving

Curated by John Wertz, Jr.
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1. **“I believe that the global pandemic and widespread protests have accelerated, rather than caused, the trends that are transforming our society and our congregations”** – David Brubaker share three trends for churches that he feels have been accelerated in the last few months and three strategies to respond. <https://www.congregationalconsulting.org/pandemics-and-protests-as-accelerators-of-change/>
2. **“Most churches are now doing both in-person and online services as they reopen. The trap: what if you end up doing neither well? Regardless of your church size, that’s a very real trap for at least three reasons.”** Carey Nieuwhof discusses three considerations for a new reality where churches are offering ministry both online and in-person. <https://careynieuwhof.com/in-person-services-v-online-services-and-the-emerging-trap-of-doing-nothing-well/>
3. **“If the church can reimagine worship, fellowship, Bible study, giving, Holy Communion, baptism, funerals, and hospitality—the very things that defined us before—then I believe it can do the same with the insistent tentacles of systemic racism.”** – Rebekah Simon Peter talks about the parallels between the two pandemics currently facing the church. <https://rebekahsimonpeter.com/how-the-pandemic-prepared-churches-for-addressing-racism>
4. **“When change is as profound and disruptive as what we’re going through right now, this next season isn’t a finish line, it’s a start line.”** – Carey Nieuwhof offers eight mistakes you can avoid as you take the next steps in your ministry. <https://careynieuwhof.com/8-easy-ways-to-blow-it-in-this-next-season-of-ministry/>
5. **“Transparency is good, but flooding people with more data rarely solves the problem. True transparency requires a plan to give financial information to each of four distinct audiences.”** – Without in-person gatherings it is more important than ever to have a plan for transparency around finances. Dan Hotchkiss offers suggestions for effective transparency. <https://www.congregationalconsulting.org/how-to-be-transparent-about-money/>
6. **“My challenge to senior leaders today is to find time in the coming weeks to listen carefully to what your leaders are saying and even more carefully to what they’re not saying.”** – Rich Birch discusses some of the fears about returning to in-person worship that church leaders are coping with as we think about gathering again. <https://unseminary.com/5-fears-about-reopening-that-church-staff-arent-telling-their-leaders/>
7. **“One apparent advantage of an online worship format is that people seem to be more inclined to extend and respond to invitations to check out church online. Virtual evangelism is proving easier, less intimidating, and more spontaneous than face-to-face evangelism.”** – Doug Powe offers some suggestions on how to help support digital evangelism in your congregation. <https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/online-worship-makes-evangelism-less-intimidating-many/>
8. **“I have done multiple studies looking at different manifestations of church online. Over and over, I hear these same traits echoed in interviews of what people value most about the relationships and communities they are invested in, both online and offline.”** – Heidi Campbell discusses the six traits that she has found people value in digital worship communities. <https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/6-traits-people-value-in-online-faith-communities/>