

## A Report from the Presbytery's Resource Center

Thank you to all who attended the Resource Center Open House Tuesday at Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church. If you were not able to attend in person, we invite you to check out the video tour, which can be found [here](#).

We wanted to highlight some of the new resources that have recently been added to the collection. If you would like to check out any of the titles listed below or find out what other resources are available in our catalog, you can find us at [www.wvpresbytery.org/resource-center](http://www.wvpresbytery.org/resource-center).



### **Outspoken: Conversations on Church Communication** by Tim Schraeder

The church has the greatest story ever told: the message of the gospel. Unfortunately, most churches aren't doing a great job of communicating it. The way the world communicates has changed dramatically in recent years. With the rise of the web and social media, many churches are in the dark about where to go or what to do next.

Drawing on the wisdom and insight from over 60 leading experts in various fields of church communication, this book provides a comprehensive resource for church leaders sharing how the church can leverage new media to effectively connect people with the gospel. From branding and design to websites and social media, there are endless ways your church can cut through the static and help the message of the gospel be heard clearly. We've got a message worth sharing. It's time we learn how to communicate it and communicate it well. It's time to be outspoken!



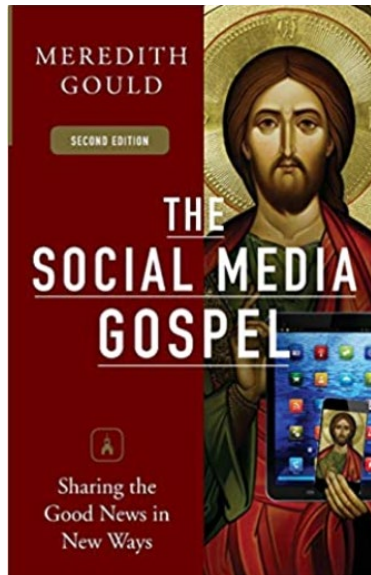
### **Part-Time is Plenty: Thriving without Full-Time Clergy**

by G. Jeffrey MacDonald

Churches experiencing numerical and financial decline may dread the day when they can no longer afford a full-time pastor. Freeing up funds that would go to a full-time salary sure would help the budget, maybe even enough to turn things around, but is it even possible to run effective ministries with just a half- or quarter-time professional? Journalist and part-time pastor G. Jeffrey MacDonald says yes, churches can grow more vibrant than ever, tapping into latent energy and undiscovered gifts, revitalizing worship, and engaging in more effective ministry with the community.

Readers get a much-needed playbook for helping congregations to thrive with a part-time ministry model. They

learn to see the model in a new light: to stop viewing part-time as a problem to be eradicated and to instead embrace it as a divine gift that facilitates a higher level of lay engagement, responsibility, playfulness, and creativity.



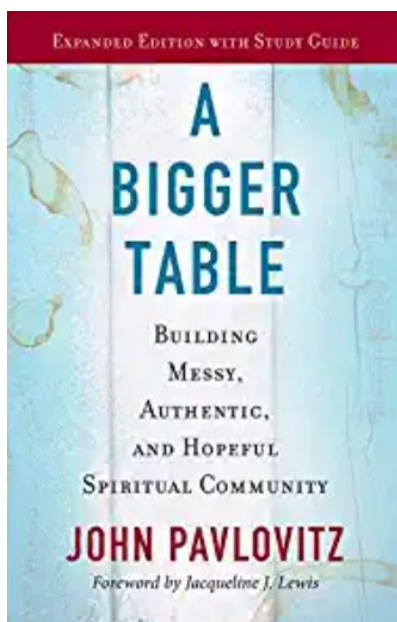
**The Social Media Gospel: Sharing the Good News in New Ways, Second Edition Paperback** by Meredith Gould

If you are responsible for managing digital communications in your parish, staying current with trends in the rapidly changing world of social media can seem like an overwhelming task. Which social medium platforms make sense for your church community? How can you make them an effective tool for ministry? As a veteran social media expert, author, and sociologist, Meredith Gould has helped answer these questions and more in her best-selling book, *The Social Media Gospel*.

In this second edition, Gould provides an easy-to-understand, step-by-step guide to digital ministry for those who wish to embrace new technologies to build community and deepen faith. In this expanded edition, Gould delivers new content with

humor, helpful tips, and counsel anchored in practical experience.

She focuses on key topics for effective church communication, including building and ministering to online communities, privacy and self-disclosure in the digital age, integrating communications across digital platforms, managing and monitoring social media, faith storytelling with visual social media, and hashtag development and live-tweeting.



**A Bigger Table, Expanded Edition with Study Guide: Building Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community** by John Pavlovitz

*A Bigger Table* invites readers to envision a church that is big enough for everyone, by holding up a mirror to the modern church and speaking clearly on issues at the heart of the Christian community: LGBT inclusion, gender equality, racial tensions, global concerns, and theological shifts. John Pavlovitz shares moving personal stories, his careful observations as a pastor, and his understanding of the ancient stories of Jesus to set the table for a new, positive, more loving conversation on these and other important matters of faith. Though there are many who would remove chairs and whittle down the guest list, we can build the bigger table Jesus imagined, practicing radical hospitality, total authenticity, messy diversity, and agenda-free community.

This new edition includes a small-group study guide complete with ideas for exploring *A Bigger Table* in a congregation-wide sermon series and program along with a new foreword by Jacqui Lewis and new afterword by the author to explore the challenges of living out the bigger table when voices of hate and exclusion seem stronger and louder than ever.