

Books, Sermons, Articles, Webinars, and Podcasts on Digital Ministry

Links are in blue. Publisher and author summaries are in quotations. See my bibliography for more!

[YouTube Series - "How To Digital Ministry"](#)

If you're going to check out one resource in this list, this is where I'd begin! Jim Keats, Digital Minister at Riverside Church in NYC, created a 30+ part series on YouTube about everything from "How to Build Community Online" to "Why Your Church Needs Discord (the Social Media Platform)." "Digital ministry was not a bandaid for the pandemic but a new muscle we must continue to cultivate and flex. Hosted by Rev. Jim Keat, this podcast helps your ministry love in the present and lean into the future, offering weekly tips, tricks, and best practices from leading digital ministry experts and practitioners."

[Webinar Series by Convergence Collaboration Digital Media](#)

Convergence does "professional development and online learning at the crossroads of leadership and faith." Their online learning platform includes a wide variety of webinars, and they have an entire section on digital ministry, including how to do hybrid church, how to do children's and youth ministry online, and how to do digital ministry in general. I'm included in the "[What is Digital Ministry](#)" video.

[Webinar: Frontline Faith: "How do we effectively use social media to message progressive Christianity?" with Rev. Sarah Tevis Townes](#)

This video is part of a larger series called "Playspace with the President" featuring innovative ministries across the UCC. Go to <https://frontlinefaith.org/courses/playspace-with-the-president/lectures/46128299> to register for the free course, receive additional resources, and see more videos in this series.

[Book - Virtual Reality Church: Pitfalls and Possibilities \(Or How to Think Biblically About Church in Your Pajamas, VR Baptisms, Jesus Avatars, and Whatever Else Is Coming Next\)](#) by Darrell Bock, Jonathan Armstrong, et al.

My project did not dive into the possibilities of doing ministry in Virtual Reality, but several folks are exploring what this might look like! In this book, "theologians Darrell Bock and Jonathan Armstrong present a systematic reflection on how to faithfully apply virtual reality for ministry purposes. They examine the risks (like compromising the meaning of tangible worship) and opportunities (like safely reaching persecuted churches) of integrating revolutionary technologies into the Christian life."

[Webinar: "Faith in the World: Online Engagement"](#)

TikTok Pastors Rev. Timoth Sylvia and Rev. Sarah TevisTownes lead congregations and have millions of engagements online. Join the United Church of Christ for a conversation about TikTok, how ministry is happening creatively, and a celebration of the ways our faith moves outside of the buildings and traditional expectations upon it. The YouTube link includes several additional resources in the description.

[Article - "TikTok is the future of education. Here's how it's already being used for learning"](#)

by Stan Chen

Fast Company, 11 Feb. 2021.

An article about the ways TikTok can be used as an educational platform.

[Webinar - "Social Media with Pastor Sarah"](#)

In this webinar, I sit down with the Rev. Derek Terry of the Open and Affirming Coalition to discuss creative ways to use social media in ministry.

[Book - *The Fly in the Ointment: Why Denominations Aren't Helping Their Congregations...and How They Can*](#)

by Russell J. Crabtree

Church Publishing Incorporated, 2008.

This is a more general book on organizational change, but it may be valuable for congregations looking to adopt more digital ministry tools. "This is an important resource for churches and church leaders as they explore how to transform themselves into vital, flourishing organizations. That transformation requires deep, systemic change on the part of regional associations, such as dioceses, presbyteries, synods, and conferences—the bodies that are meant to help congregations live their mission in the world. This book addresses the challenging issues of coping with changes and conflict in congregations and denominations in the face of cultural changes."

[Book - *From Social Media to Social Ministry: A Guide to Digital Discipleship*](#)

by Nora Jones

Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2020.

"This book outlines digital discipleship principles for building an online community and provides practical instruction for how to do it no matter how big or small a local church may be. Although social technology has been around for more than two decades, church leaders have long bristled at the idea of church online, ranking it as the last concern on their minds in Barna's 2020 State of the church report published February 3, 2020. And then, three weeks later, COVID-19 closed the doors of every church on earth and suddenly forced them entirely online. Nona Jones, a globally acclaimed thought leader on leveraging technology for ministry, had been leading a movement and sounding the alarm for several years to make digital discipleship a central part of every church's ministry approach. She outlines her digital discipleship principles and provides practical instruction for how to do it no matter how big or small a local church may be. There are plenty of books to help churches build a social media strategy, but this is the first book of its kind that goes beyond digital marketing to digital ministry."

[Book - *Digital Ministry and Leadership in Today's Church*](#)

by John Roberto

Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2022.

Digital Ministry and Leadership in Today's Church is designed for pastors and parish leaders who wish to initiate or enhance their use of digital tools and methods to further their mission and ministries. No matter your level of confidence, comfort, and competency in digital ministry, you will find ideas, strategies, and next steps for you and your church

community. It concrete ways to create and foster digitally integrated ministry and faith formation, extending the ministry of the local church into online spaces and communities where more and more people gather to nurture, explore, and share their faith today. It was created by a team of experienced leaders who bring years of experience in utilizing digital tools, methods, and media in church life and especially faith formation.

Podcast - [“A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats”](#) (from [“Jesus has Left the Building”](#))

Marta and Mandy talk to Mitch Randall and Autumn Lockett of Good Faith Media. They explore the ways that social media ministry can expand the work of the institutional church, and how when one organization thrives, we all thrive.

Podcast - [“Feeding the Five Thousand”](#) (from [“Jesus has Left the Building”](#))

Marta and Mandy are joined by Rev. Lawrence T. Richardson, a pastor, prophet, digital evangelist, and author. Lawrence shares his wealth of knowledge of and experience in social ministry. He gives us some simple tools to use to be successful in this new digital world.

Don't forget to click on the “Create” tab at the top of your page or [click here](#) to visit my YouTube series on how to make short-form videos (for beginners)!