

# ***Faith Formation 4.0 Engages All Communications Styles and Formats***

“Reaching toward the Dream of God looks different in each passing decade,” according to Author Julie Anne Lytle, who’s also been described as a digital evangelist. “There is no doubt that voice, video, and data are converging and access will increasingly be through mobile and other networked media; still, traditional media will be present—at least for a bit more time.”

Success then “depends not only upon knowing the Christian message of God’s enduring love, but also how to properly utilize the communications styles and platforms of yesterday and today to maximize evangelization and faith formation efforts.”

Lytle’s new book offers a road map to help church leaders do just that: to inform, form, and transform new members as well as long-time believers within the faith community:

***Faith Formation 4.0: Introducing an Ecology of Faith in a Digital Age***  
**Julie Lytle 9780819228314 \$20.00 Paper 6 x 9 176 pages Morehouse Publishing**  
***Review copies and excerpts available on request***

Framed by the Great Commission’s imperative to “make disciples,” *Faith Formation 4.0* shows how to reclaim the characteristics of the original oral tradition of the Early Church while using today’s tools of digital media for interactive faith formation and storytelling. It examines four distinct eras in faith formation and communications including **1.0** (Jesus telling stories and the oral tradition), **2.0** (Paul’s letters to build and guide the church), **3.0** (The Reformation, printing press, and rise of mass media) and **4.0** (reclaiming the oral tradition through digital media), providing an accessible guide for pastoral leaders as they navigate the digital landscape

The author is one of the presenters at an ecumenical conference on the future of faith formation titled ***e-Formation: Faith Formation for a Connected Digital World***, May 31 thru June 2, at the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria. The program is designed to help participants learn how to integrate digital approaches into faith formation with all ages and generations.

For more information and to register, please go to [www.eformationvts.org](http://www.eformationvts.org).

“What I provide is a way to think beyond the walls that box us in to explore the whole ecology operative as we proclaim the gospel and make disciples. My goal is to ground and integrate faith formation in the digital age (4.0) with sound practices from the past (1.0, 2.0, and 3.0). Along the way, I make explicit often hidden assumptions and show new ways to reach toward the Dream of God,” she said.

JULIE ANNE LYTLE, PhD, combines academic training in journalism/advertising, theology, and religious education with professional experience as a producer working with all forms of media, plus pastoral experience working in congregational, diocesan, and university settings. She holds an interdisciplinary doctorate in religion and education from Boston College and MDiv from the University of Notre Dame. Recently on the faculty at the Episcopal Divinity School, she serves as a theological education media consultant. Visit her website at <http://faithformation4-0.com>.