

SPECIAL SEMINAR

**Building Christian Community:
What the Internet can teach Offline Church**

**@ Bible College of NZ
70 Condell Avenue, Papanui, Christchurch**

Saturday 28 July 2007 - 9:30am to 1pm

Cost: \$20

Do you:

**Use, or want to use, web or cell phone in ministry?
Need to consider the influence of new technology for church and
faith?**

Join **Dr Heidi Campbell**, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, Texas A&M University, USA, author of ***Exploring Religious Community Online: We are one in the network***, that looks at how members of online religious communities connect their online and offline social-religious networks.

While many critics of doing church and religion on line have been highly suspect of the disembodied nature of online communication and community, Heidi's research argues that online religious networks often offer a more realistic picture of how people actually live in contemporary western society.

Drawing from ten years of research on how online Christian communities live out their religious lives online, demonstrates that people frequently conceive of, and define, Christian community in terms of social networks (over many common theological models such as Paul's image of the 'body of Christ'). Through exploring 6 general traits of online Christian community we are able to consider implications and possibilities of this emerging definition of community for discussions of Church and religion in a networked culture.

Check out Heidi's blog: religionmeetsnewmedia.blogspot.com

**To register phone Kathy or Sue on: 354 4270 or e-mail
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