October 2, 2025

Greetings friends,

It's really *not* that weird.
What's not that weird?
Being a church with a **Missional Business.** 

Yes, you read that right. This is the conversation running through my head and shaping my work constantly. My original question was: How can our churches be salt and light both within their membership and in the broader community, while also having the *resources* to make a real **impact**?

Now, my question has evolved: Why not just try it? What's holding us back? And where can we begin?

**October 18th** is your invitation to join a meaningful conversation and a time of collaborative learning as we explore how churches can begin taking *first steps* toward building a **missional business.** This is not about simply making money to "save the church" or becoming a business instead of being a church. This is about **serving out of abundance**—and being the church.

If your church has ever taken part in the **Church Assessment Tool (CAT)**, then you're familiar with these top priorities that emerge again and again:

- Making necessary changes to attract families with children and youth
- Developing and implementing a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and integrate them into church life
- Creating more opportunities for meaningful relationships

Siblings in Christ, these shared hopes are not out of reach. But they do require us to ask some courageous questions: What's holding us back? What are we willing to try? What do you need to try?

Our time together on October 18th will include: listening, learning, and dreaming collaboratively. Practical tools and best practices for shifting resources and energy toward missional business initiatives. Real data about what supports congregational vitality and what hinders it. Discernment exercises to help you take actionable next steps.

We hope you'll join us on **Thursday, October 18, from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM** at **Ridgetop Coffee and Tea** (Riverside Presbyterian Church). Register <u>HERE</u>.

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe