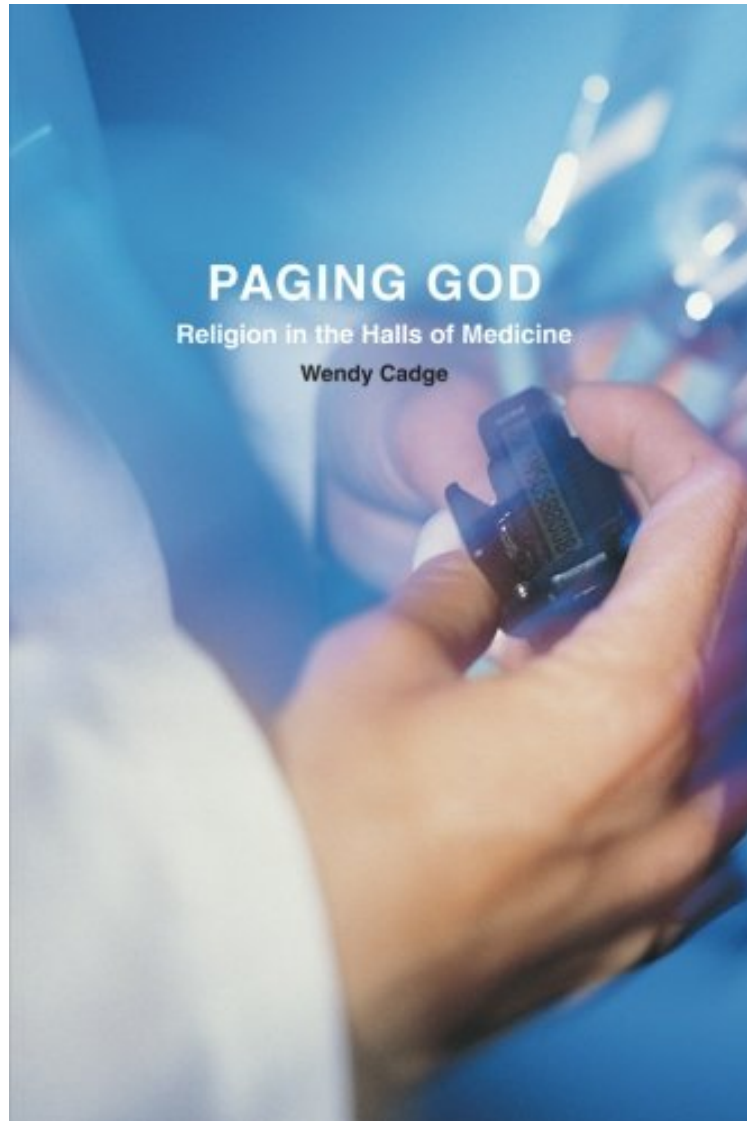


[Free and download] Paging God: Religion in the Halls of Medicine

Paging God: Religion in the Halls of Medicine

Wendy Cadge

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Wendy Cadge : Paging God: Religion in the Halls of Medicine before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Paging God: Religion in the Halls of Medicine:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A fairly accurate historyBy Harold S. MorseI lived through the history she describes: the professionalization of hospital Chaplaincy. She pretty much nailed it! I wish she could have gone deeper into issues of authority and identity and how they play out in service. A must read for every working chaplain today. And next time get out of New England. There are some regional/cultural differences. And nationally- the quantifiable professionalizinng of "the cure of souls" continues.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

An interesting read for anyone interested in or doing chaplaincy. By Jamie We are using chapters of this book at our monthly gathering of area chaplains. It has been a good springboard for discussion. 11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. insightful, well-researched, and relevant. By Greg Smith (aka somewhatfaith) Health-care is a near universal value in America with average per person spending climbing over \$8,000. While the percentage of Americans who are religiously non-affiliated has risen significantly in recent years, the vast majority of Americans are religious with nearly 75% of the population identifying with a Christian tradition (49.5% Protestant or non-denominational and 25.1% Catholic according to the 2008 American Religious Identification Survey). In light of these overlapping realities, academic interest in the relationship between religion and health has increased in recent years across many disciplines. Cadge moves beyond the most common research involving patient outcomes to explore "how religion and spirituality are actually present in the day-to-day workings of health-care organizations" (p.6). Her research includes an exploration of seventeen highly ranked academic hospitals that considers how religion and spirituality are addressed in these settings. Additionally, she spent a year learning more about the chaplaincy department of one hospital. Given the complexity of legal and other issues involved in seeking patient access, she focused on the experiences through the eyes of staff, especially chaplains. While the chaplaincy programs (a traditional name no longer in use at all of the facilities she visited) and the staff (a group that often includes both students and volunteers in addition to professional chaplains) that comprise them remains the most visible conduits of religion and spirituality their limited number ensures that a great deal of religious and spiritual experience happens outside of the presence of a chaplain. Through exchanges with physicians, nurses, chaplains and other medical staff; as a result of her own personal observations; and through a detailed analysis of both, Cadge provides a look into a previously unexplored world finding that religion and spirituality are alive and very active in large secular hospitals. While professional chaplains and those charged with providing religious and spiritual care to those in health-care settings are most likely to be attracted to *Paging God*, it is an insightful and important read for all who care about either healthcare or religion/spirituality.

While the modern science of medicine often seems nothing short of miraculous, religion still plays an important role in the past and present of many hospitals. When three-quarters of Americans believe that God can cure people who have been given little or no chance of survival by their doctors, how do today's technologically sophisticated health care organizations address spirituality and faith?

"From the opening narrative about a Buddhist monk near death to the concluding story about a parent seeking prayer, *Paging God* is rich with insights about the challenges facing health practitioners as America becomes more religiously and ethnically diverse. This is ethnographic research at its best. Wendy Cadge has written an impressive study that should be read by everyone interested in understanding how religious diversity is reshaping our society."