

Interim Ministry Resources

Chapter 15 Mission

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Resources

1) Strategic Principles

[Our Mission and Vision | Beaver-Butler Presbytery](#)

[Strategic Principles](#)

- The individual congregation, through its members, is the fundamental missionary unit of the Church.
- The role of Presbytery is to serve the churches in their mission; to organize for collaborative ministries; and to carry out the mandates of our constitution.
- The Presbytery should do no mission that individual churches can do for themselves.
- Fruitfulness is as important as Faithfulness.
- What we count we value.
- Accountability is a basic requirement for change and growth.
- Not all growing churches are healthy but all healthy churches are growing

<http://testsite.beaverbutler.org/our-mission-and-vision/>

[Images for Our Mission and Vision | Beaver-Butler Presbytery](#)

[Images for Congregation Mission and Vision Strategic Principles](#)

[\[PDF\] Reclaiming the 'L' Word - Kellie A Fryer - Lutheran Church of Australia – Queensland District Department of Ministry and Mission](#)

Kelly Fryer gives five **principles** for renewing the church from its Lutheran core. She has a wonderful, engaging, grace-filled way of writing which invites you to celebrate and reclaim the church's Lutheran core. The principles are these:

www.qld.lca.org.au/.../doc...394-reclaiming-the--l-word-kellie-fryer-review-2.html

[Images for principles for renewing the church](#)

2) Theology

[A 7-Point Biblical Theology of Mission - Westminster Theological Seminary](#)

Dr. Jonathan Gibson gives us seven tips to understanding the biblical theology of church mission and explains how mission relates to worship.

<https://faculty.wts.edu/posts/a-biblical-theology-of-mission/>

<https://students.wts.edu/resources/wtsresources.html>

[Images for Biblical Theology of Mission - Westminster Theological Seminary](#)

[Ministry Resource Guides Index - LifeandLeadership.com](#)

[Theology of Mission and Ministry](#)

[Theology of Mission and Ministry, Index](#)

[Theology of Church Administration](#)

[Theology of Church Architecture](#)

[Theology of Church, Ecclesiology](#)

[Theology, Church Leadership Philosophies](#)

[Theology of Church Finances](#)

[Theology of Church Governance](#)

[Theology of Evangelism](#)

[Theology of Giving and Financial Stewardship](#)

[Theology of Leadership](#)

[Theology of Ministry Call](#)

[Theology of Ministry Teams \(Staff, Leader\)](#)

[Theology of Ministry Teams \(Congregational\)](#)

[Theology of Mission](#)

[Theology, Pastoral](#)

[Theology of Pastoral Care](#)

[Theology of Pastoral Counseling](#)

[Theology of Self -Care](#)

[Theology of Social Ministry](#)

[Theology of Spiritual Gifts](#)

[Theology of Spiritual Revival](#)

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resource-guide-index/>

[Images for Ministry Resource Guides Index - LifeandLeadership.com](#)

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resources/ministry-resource-guides-quick-list.html>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/>

Mission Theology statement of General Board of Global Ministries – General Board of Global Ministries

Theology of Mission

The Mission Theology statement guides Global Ministries' participation in the *Missio Dei*. It frames Global Ministries' role within the denominational mission to *make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*. The transforming power belongs to God, and Global Ministries is in mission to witness to what God has done and is doing, and to learn from what God is doing in every land where disciples gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

<http://www.umcmission.org/Learn-About-Us/About-Global-Ministries/Theology-of-Mission>
[Images for Mission Theology statement of General Board of Global Ministries](#)

The Origin of Theology in God's Mission - Global Ministries

Missio Dei and the Reorganizing of the Human Family

https://www.globalministries.org/resources_mission_study_college_of_mission_the_origin_of_theology_in_god
[Images for The Origin of Theology in God's Mission - Global Ministries](#)

Theology and Practice of Mission: God, the Church, and the Nations by Bruce Riley Ashford (Editor)

Theology disconnected from mission is not Christian theology at all. The pastors, professors, and missionaries writing *Theology and Practice of Mission* provide a clear biblical-theological framework for understanding the church's mission to the nations. Toward that goal, the book holds three major sections: God's mission, the church's mission, and the church's mission to the nations.

Part one explores the canon of Christian Scripture from narrative and systematic angles, explaining how the mission of God-to redeem a people who will be a kingdom of priests to the praise of his glory, bear witness to his gospel, advance his church, and dwell with him forever on a new heaven and earth-is communicated in the Bible's four movements: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.

Part two sees the mission of God's people in the light of God's mission, emphasizing not only preaching and church planting but also gospel witness in every dimension of human culture-glorifying God in family, church, work, community, through the arts, sciences, education, business, and the public square. The writers encourage us to live missionally, leaving all of our resources at God's disposal for the sake of his kingdom.

Finally, part three contends that the North American church must come to terms with its missional calling-just as international missionaries do-and gives a starting point and parameters for conceiving the church's mission to all people groups and cultural contexts. Chapters here include ones on unreached people groups, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, and Post-moderns.

<https://www.amazon.com/Theology-Practice-Mission-Church-Nations/dp/0805464123>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/12620664-theology-and-practice-of-mission>
<https://www.christianbook.com/theology-practice-mission-the-church-nations/bruce-ashford/9780805464122/pd/464122>
<http://www.bhpublishinggroup.com/products/theology-and-practice-of-mission>
<https://www.lifeway.com/en/product/theology-and-practice-of-mission-P005229445>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Theology_and_Practice_of_Mission.html?id=gNuh1UbrPEIC
<http://themelios.thegospelcoalition.org/review/theology-and-practice-of-mission-god-the-church-and-the-nations>
<http://betweentheimes.com/index.php/tag/the-churchs-mission/>
<https://missionexus.org/theology-and-practice-of-mission-god-the-church-and-the-nations/>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5204958.Bruce_Ashford
[Images for Bruce Riley Ashford \(Editor\)](#)
[Images for Theology and Practice of Mission: God, the Church, and the Nations by Bruce Riley Ashford \(Editor\)](#)

Theology of Mission: A Believers Church Perspective by John Howard Yoder (Author), Gayle Gerber Koontz (Editor), Andy Alexis-Baker (Editor)

John Howard Yoder, author of *The Politics of Jesus* (1972), was best known for his writing and teaching on Christian pacifism. The material in *Theology of Mission* shows he was a profound missiologist as well. Working from a believers or free church perspective, Yoder effortlessly weaves together biblical, theological, practical and interreligious reflections to think about mission beyond Christendom.

Along the way he traces the developments in the theology of mission and argues for an understanding of the church that is not merely a corrective but a genuine alternative. The church is missionary by nature, called to bear witness to the coming kingdom, because it serves the missionary God of the Bible "who comes, who takes the initiative, who reaches across whatever it is that separates us."

Decades later, these lectures read just as fresh and relevant as if they were written today. As the editors state in their preface, "those who have followed Yoder's work over the years will find this book to be some of his most striking unpublished material since *The Politics of Jesus*." Not just a volume for Yoder enthusiasts, *Theology of Mission* is for anyone who cares about the mission of the church today. It only reinforces Yoder's status as one of the most important and prophetic theologians of the last century.

<https://www.amazon.com/Theology-Mission-Believers-Church-Perspective/dp/0830840338>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/17861713-theology-of-mission>
<https://www.ivpress.com/theology-of-mission>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/theology-of-mission-john-howard-yoder/1115203681?type=eBook>
<https://www.christianbook.com/theology-mission-believers-church-perspective-ebook/john-yoder/9780830871933/pd/51088EB>
<https://www.waterstones.com/book/theology-of-mission/john-howard-yoder/gayle-gerber-koontz/9780830840335>
<https://www.scribd.com/book/377940883/Theology-of-Mission-A-Believers-Church-Perspective>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Theology_of_Mission.html?id=-7ycAgAAQBAJ
<http://themelios.thegospelcoalition.org/review/theology-of-mission-a-believers-church-perspective>
<https://www.goshen.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/75/2016/06/Jan15BookReviews.pdf>
<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/239693930603000103?journalCode=ibmc>
<http://www.directionjournal.org/44/1/theology-of-mission-believers-church.html>
<http://scottboren.blogspot.com/2014/07/theology-of-mission-by-john-howard.html>
http://www.anabaptistwitness.org/journal_entry/john-howard-yoder-%EF%BB%BFtheology-of-mission-a-believers-church-perspective/
<https://www.amazon.com/John-Howard-Yoder/e/B001HD3LBE>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/11507.John_Howard_Yoder
 Images for john howard yoder
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3953356.Gayle_Gerber_Koontz
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4685299.Andy_Alexis_Baker
 Images for Theology of Mission: A Believers Church Perspective by John Howard Yoder (Author), Gayle Gerber Koontz (Editor), Andy Alexis-Baker (Editor)

3) Transfer

A Short Guide to the Challenges of Church Transfer Growth – Carey Nieuwhof

Here are 5 challenges most leaders face with transfer growth.

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2013/11/a-short-guide-to-the-challenges-of-church-transfer-growth/>

Images for A Short Guide to the Challenges of Church Transfer Growth – Carey Nieuwhof

<http://careynieuwhof.com/tag/transfer-growth/>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-key-differences-church-shoppers-unchurched/>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/7-signs-your-church-is-making-inroads-with-unchurched-people/>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-key-differences-church-shoppers-unchurched/>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-ways-for-a-church-member-to-leave-a-church-well/>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/11-signs-your-church-is-going-extinct/>

#10

<https://careynieuwhof.com/21-signs-your-church-needs-to-change/>

#4

<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-tell-tale-signs-your-congregation-is-insider-focused/>

#4

<http://www.jeremywallace.net/6-reasons-churches-fail-to-grow/>

#2

<https://www.amazon.com/Carey-Nieuwhof/e/B003GJCLCM>

https://twitter.com/cnieuwhof?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor

<http://churchleaders.com/author/careynieuwhof>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/about-me/>

Images for carey nieuwhof (author)

Eleven Observations about Transfer Growth – ThomRainer.com

Is church transfer growth good, bad, or neutral? Let's look at some different perspectives.

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/08/eleven-observations-church-transfer-growth/>

Images for Eleven Observations about Transfer Growth – ThomRainer.com

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/09/five-reasons-churches-dying-declining-faster-today/>

#4

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/09/five-reasons-churches-dying-declining-faster-today/>

#4

<http://thomrainer.com/2017/08/five-evangelism-realities-must-face-rainer-leadership-358/>

#1

<http://thomrainer.com/2017/12/ten-critical-trends-churches-2018/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2017/06/dispelling-80-percent-myth-declining-churches/>

http://thomrainer.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Six_Metrics_for_Reaching_People.pdf

<http://chucklawless.com/2018/03/7-ways-churches-limit-transfer-growth-into-their-congregation/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thom_S._Rainer

<https://www.amazon.com/Thom-S.-Rainer/e/B001IGLMVG>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27470.Thom_S_Rainer

<https://www.facebook.com/Thom.S.Rainer/>

Images for thom rainer (author)

Stealing Sheep: The Church's Hidden Problems of Transfer Growth by William Chadwick (Author)

When people join one church after leaving another, experts call it transfer growth. People in the pew call it church hopping. William Chadwick calls it one of the most dangerous trends to face the body of Christ in decades. He calls it sheep stealing. All around us churches are seeking better and more creative ways to attract people - more dynamic preaching, better worship, more of the Spirit, better drama. While the intent is often to bring in those who are not Christians, this increasingly common strategy has, Chadwick contends, largely resulted in Christians merely shifting congregations. While many churches don't deliberately plan to steal sheep, that is often just what happens. And those churches never question their growth. How widespread is this trend? Can the causes be pinpointed? How has the prevalence of sheep stealing actually hurt the growth of churches overall? What are the ethical issues that pastors need to face head on? Are there any practical ways that church transfers can be discouraged and a focus on true evangelism increased? Can a better understanding of what the church is really about help us move forward biblically? These are just a few of the many challenging questions that are boldly considered in this book that is must reading for every church that wants to grow.

<https://www.amazon.com/Stealing-Sheep-Churchs-Problems-Transfer/dp/0830822798>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/534742.Stealing_Sheep
<http://www.challies.com/book-reviews/book-review-stealing-sheep>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Stealing_Sheep.html?id=SJniNwAACAAJ
<https://billmuehlenberg.com/2001/12/12/a-review-of-stealing-sheep-the-church%E2%80%99s-hidden-problems-with-transfer-growth-by-william-chadwick/>
<https://www.9marks.org/review/stealing-sheep-william-chadwick/>
https://rts.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Carnes-Sheep_Without_A_Shepherd.pdf
<http://goba.org/church-revitalization-bibliography>
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/william-chadwick/411742/>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/202429.William_Chadwick
Images for William Chadwick (Author) stealing sheep
Images for Stealing Sheep: The Church's Hidden Problems of Transfer Growth by William Chadwick (Author)

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Types of Church Growth

A second type of church growth is **transfer** growth.

<http://www.reformed-church.com/Pioneer/nov-83c.htm>

Images for church growth transfer growth

<https://churchleaderinsights.com/3-kinds-of-church-growth/> 3 Kinds of Church Growth | Church Leader Insights – Transfer Growth

<https://churchleaderinsights.com/tag/types-of-church-growth/>

<http://blog.keelancook.com/2016/11/there-are-only-three-kinds-of-church-growth.html> Transfer Growth

<https://lanecorley.com/tag/transfer-growth/>

<https://churchhealthwiki.wordpress.com/2015/12/06/growth-is-transfer-growth-correlated-to-slowng-church-growth/>

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/july/two-statistics-every-church-planter-needs-to-know.html>

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2013/february/debunking-megachurch-myths-especially-one-about-sheep.html> #6

<http://josephmattera.org/the-wise-way-to-handle-transfer-growth-from-another-local-church/>

Images for transfer-growth-from-another-local-church

4) Transform

A Passionate Life [Mike Breen, Walt Kallestad]

Designed to **transform** the life of every believer through Biblical principles presented in the form of eight simple and memorable shapes. *A Passionate Life* is an easy to read guidebook (236 pages) that takes the reader through eight shapes providing memory models for key areas of discipleship. The book reads like an amalgam of a management handbook and a revision guide. This does make the teaching highly memorable.

<http://www.amazon.com/A-Passionate-Life-Mike-Breen/dp/1589269500>

<https://books.google.com/books?id=eC9WfHawTCYC>

<https://www.freshexpressions.org.uk/guide/discipleship/resources/passionatelife>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/326175.Mike_Breen

Images for mike breen author a passionate life

<http://www.michaeljamesbreen.com/>

<https://www.rightnow.org/Content/Speaker/1000406>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2008/fall/13.39.html> "Showtime!" No More | CT Pastors - Christianity Today

<https://www.rightnow.org/Content/Speaker/1000406>

<http://www.simonandschuster.com/authors/Walt-Kallestad/45728072>

https://www.amazon.com/s?ie=UTF8&page=1&rh=n%3A283155%2Cp_27%3AWalt%20Kallestad

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/272259.Walt_Kallestad

Images for Walt Kallestad, author

Images for Passionate Life [Mike Breen, Walt Kallestad]

A Place that Offers Life - Alban Institute

A congregation that is truly being *church* brings people into a loving, life-giving relationship with God and others that is **transformational**. This is the nature of the *kin-dom* of God, where covenant relationships model the best aspects of family. People find hope. They experience belonging; they extend and receive forgiveness. They discover a sense of purpose and direction. They learn to live with appreciation and joy no matter what the circumstances. Although a pastor can preach and teach this message, the message has power only to the extent that the people in the congregation live it and practice it with one another. Practicing loving, life-giving relationships transforms congregation members. Witnessing such benefits draws others who want something similar for themselves and their families.

Alban at Duke Divinity School » A Place that Offers Life - Alban Institute

<https://alban.org/archive/a-place-that-offers-life/>

Images for life-giving relationship with God and others that is transformational

<https://alban.org/category/renewal-vitality/>

<https://alban.org/category/missions-evangelism/>

<https://alban.org/about-alban/alban-weekly/>

<https://alban.org/books/>

<https://alban.org/author/nekduke-edu/>
<https://www.facebook.com/albaninstitute/>
<http://www.elizabethpresbytery.org/Resource%20Center%20ON%20THE%20WEB/Alban%20Institute%20Resources%202012.pdf>
<https://alban.org/about-alban/congregations-magazine/>

A Process for Transformational Ministry - Transforming Church

It is crucial that a congregation think about renewal as a process that outlines a way of life. It is not a project for the short term in which everyone pitches in for a while and then can settle back into a new comfort zone of effectiveness. This new way of life means that the congregation internalizes change as a part of what it means to be normal in a new way.

http://www.transformingchurch.com/resourcetoolbox/2006/12/a_process_for_t.php
[Images for Process for Transformational Ministry - Transforming Church](#)

Agents of Transformation: A Guide for Effective Cross-Cultural Ministry [Sherwood G. Lingenfelter]

Church planters and cross-cultural workers learn how to cut across cultural biases with the gospel, transforming without "Westernizing."



<http://www.amazon.com/Agents-Transformation-Effective-Cross-Cultural-Ministry/dp/0801020689>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1501718.Agents_of_Transformation
<http://fuller.edu/faculty/slingenfelter.aspx>
<https://www.amazon.com/Sherwood-G.-Lingenfelter/e/B001JOAPE2>
<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/authors/sherwood-g-lingenfelter/44>
<http://open.biola.edu/authors/sherwood-lingenfelter>
<http://wipfandstock.com/author/view/detail/id/13974/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Sherwood-G.-Lingenfelter/e/B001JOAPE2>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/58921.Sherwood_G_Lingenfelter
[Images for Sherwood G. Lingenfelter, author](#)
[Images for Agents of Transformation \[Sherwood G. Lingenfelter\]](#)

Behold, I Do a New Thing: Transforming Communities of Faith by C. Kirk Hadaway

Recent talk and thinking about congregations concentrate on the fact that church attendance is on the decline. Book after book discusses methods of getting more people to attend worship services. But author Kirk Hadaway thinks an important part of the conversation is missing -- how can churches, in spite of the decline, remain engaged in the mission of transforming lives? *Behold, I Do a New Thing* does not offer easy solutions but encourages readers to rethink the elements of church communities, including worship and leader models. Looking at churches in new ways and holding new expectations will allow church leadership to guide congregations in the journey where transformation and renewal is constant and embraced.

<http://www.amazon.com/Behold-New-Thing-Transforming-Communities/dp/0829814302>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/194793.Behold_I_Do_a_New_Thing
https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/behold-i-do-a-new-thing-transforming-communities-of-faith_c-kirk-hadaway/364441/#isbn=0829814302&idig=3288053
<https://www.uccresources.com/products/behold-i-do-a-new-thing-transforming-communities-of-faith-hadaway>
<https://www.thepilgrimpress.com/products/behold-i-do-a-new-thing-transforming-communities-of-faith-hadaway>
<https://episcopalchurch.org/library/article/kirk-hadaway-episcopal-church-officer-congregational-research-retire>
<https://faithcommunitiestoday.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Facts-on-Growth-2005.pdf>
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/c-kirk-hadaway/285566/>
<https://www.amazon.com/C.-Kirk-Hadaway/e/B001HCS13I>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/113593.C_Kirk_Hadaway
[Images for c. kirk hadaway, author](#)
[Images for Behold, I Do a New Thing: Transforming Communities of Faith by C. Kirk Hadaway](#)

Can These Bones Live? Bringing New Life to a Dying Church by Kevass J. Harding (Author)

Using the powerful imagery from Ezekiel 37, the valley of the dry bones, Kevass Harding tells how God used a faithful few to breathe new life into a dying church and **transform** a congregation and a community, growing from 25 members to more than 600 members in just six years.

Kevass Harding refuses to accept "But we're just a small church" as an excuse for not doing effective ministry. Within four months of his 1998 arrival at Dellrose United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kansas, all but 25 of the original 131 members had left in protest over the new pastor's call for the congregation to better reach its community.

Not only has the church growing numerically, but it has also grown spiritually and financially. Harding attributes the growth of the church to dynamic teaching, fellowship, praise and worship, and to the fact that Dellrose is a place where everyone will feel the love of God, find the joy of Christ, and experience the power of the Holy Spirit. From a door to door canvass of the neighborhood, asking what the changing community needed from a church, Dellrose has been able to develop relevant and meaningful ministries:

a youth center that includes a tutoring and mentoring program; a counseling center; and sermons and studies that address the needs of a multi-ethnic, blue-collar working community. As a result of this intentional witness, members have been added almost every Sunday since January 1999.

<http://www.amazon.com/Can-These-Bones-Live-Bringing/dp/0687335574>

<http://www.christianbook.com/these-bones-bringing-life-dying-church/kevass-harding/9780687335572/pd/335574>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/can-these-bones-live-kevass-j-harding/1111785572>

<https://www.abingdonpress.com/product/9780687335572/>

<https://dellrose.org/pastors-corner/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rev-dr-kevass-j-harding-bb26348>

http://www.abingdonpress.com/kevass_j_harding

<https://www.amazon.com/Kevass-J.-Harding/e/B001XM8V2>

[Images for Kevass J. Harding \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Can These Bones Live? Bringing New Life to a Dying Church by Kevass J. Harding \(Author\)](#)

Community Transformation (Vineyard): Personal involvement with others to facilitate positive change where you live and beyond (Vineyard Dimensions of Discipleship) (Volume 8) Robert E Logan, Charles R Ridley, David J DeVries

Community Transformation is one of eight discipleship guides for the Dimensions of Discipleship series. Community transformation means that we, as followers of Jesus, are actively contributing to positive change in the broader community—not just within the church—in cooperation with God’s work and presence there. God is at work in the world. The question is how we as his Body can cooperate and participate in what he is doing. This study will lead you through five essential expressions of community transformation:

<https://www.amazon.com/Community-Transformation-Vineyard-involvement-Discipleship/dp/1939921376>

<https://www.vineyardresources.com/equip/content/community-transformation-book>

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/robert-e-logan/2640722/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-E.-Logan/e/B001KHGUPQ>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/15546013.Robert_E_Logan

[Images for Robert E Logan, author](#)

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/316054.Charles_R_Ridley

<https://www.amazon.com/Charles-R.-Ridley/e/B001IQZPO6>

[Images for Charles R Ridley, author](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Mark-DeVries/e/B001IGJMD6>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/14021986.David_J_DeVries

[Images for David J DeVries, author community transformation](#)

[Images for Community Transformation \(Vineyard\): Personal involvement with others to facilitate positive change where you live and beyond \(Vineyard Dimensions of Discipleship\) \(Volume 8\) Robert E Logan, Charles R Ridley, David J DeVries](#)

<https://www.vineyardresources.com/equip/category/resource-type/vineyard-dimensions-discipleship>

<http://www.vineyardresources.com/equip/books>

[Images for Vineyard Dimensions of Discipleship](#)

Conflict Resolution or Conflict Transformation: Why Conflict Transformation is Superior to Conflict Resolution

In contrast to this, Conflict Transformation does not place the highest priority on “getting rid of” the expression of disagreement.

Instead, Conflict Transformation seeks to transform our experience of conflict from the inside out.

<http://02e1cd2.netsolhost.com/wordpressDE/2010/12/03/conflict-resolution-or-conflict-transformation/>

[Images for Conflict Transformation is Superior to Conflict Resolution](#)

Did You Know?

The vocabulary of the church is in the process of some change, with new words being used to describe the different approaches and styles of doing mission in the 21st century. Definitions of three of these terms follow.

While they aren’t exact, and would be challenged by some, they are used today by many leaders in the church, including myself.

- Postmodern: The perspectives, values and culture of people born since 1964—GenX and Millennials. They are significantly different from those of previous generations in North America.
- **Transformational**: The process of leading existing congregations with set and increasingly ineffective styles and patterns of worship and community life into new models for Great Commission ministry in their changing local settings. See the **Transforming Church Web site**.
- Emergent: The ministry of congregations and leaders committed to engaging people with the gospel in the terms, images and perspectives of postmodern generations—including a radical blend of ancient church practices with future technology and culture. See the **Emerging Leaders Network Web site**.

Tom Lyberg

Lutheranism 101: Culture or confession? - The Lutheran Magazine

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Faith quest: A journey toward congregational transformation: Bible study [Dan R Dick]

FaithQuest is a new way of thinking in the church. It is not a program or a single resource.

FaithQuest is a journey for leaders in local congregations. The Bible study -- FaithQuest: A Journey Toward Congregational Transformation -- is the first step on that journey. FaithQuest: A Journey Toward Congregational Transformation is a seventeen-week Bible study for congregational leaders. It introduces a variety of concepts that help us think about God, the church, the world, and our Christian life. It challenges participants to explore the ways they lead and live within the Christian community. FaithQuest uses Scripture as a lens for viewing the twenty-first-century understanding and experience of the world. It explores the Scriptures and the teachings of John Wesley in a deep and meaningful way. Participants in this study will gain a better understanding of the Word of God and of their role as leaders in the church. Each session includes prayer, questions for reflection, and background information.

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[Images for Dan R Dick, author](#)

[Images for Faith quest: A journey toward congregational transformation: Bible study \[Dan R Dick\]](#)

How Lives Are Transformed (Maximum Faith) – YouTube

Is this all there is?

Did Jesus die for this mundane and unfulfilling life I am leading?

Have I become the person that God made me to be?

You may be one of the millions of Christians who ask themselves these questions. That's why renowned researcher George Barna spent six years studying how Americans become Christians and how their lives are transformed by God. His studies revealed that the road to transformation is a ten-stop journey.

<http://www.maximumfaith.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycAXf0gNp0A> George Barna - How Lives Are Transformed (Maximum Faith) Part 1 – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDEqJ9kvZ0> George Barna - How Lives Are Transformed (Maximum Faith) Part 2 – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTJtABHuWil> George Barna - How Lives Are Transformed (Maximum Faith) Part 3 – YouTube

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[Images for Maximum Faith: Live Like Jesus](#)

Think Like Jesus: Make the Right Decision Every Time by George Barna (Author)

According to researcher George Barna, most born-again Christians live indistinctly from non-believers because they do not think any differently - which is a result of not understanding the basic truths of the Christian faith. In this book, Barna identifies seven core questions that Christians must be able to answer biblically in order to live a **transformed** life.

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[Images for George Barna \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Think Like Jesus: Make the Right Decision Every Time by George Barna \(Author\)](#)

How Long Will It Take for My Church to Really, Actually Change? – Carey Nieuwhof

So exactly *when* does **transformation** happen?

I believe transformation happens somewhere between Year 5 and Year 7.

Once you've made the change, have demonstrated that you're not turning back, and you've begun to see some of the benefits of change (you're healthier and likely growing), then the shift in values and culture happens —almost silently.

You know it's a new day when people can't imagine going back to the way they once were.

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2015/08/how-long-take-church-really-actually-change/>

[Images for How Long Will It Take for My Church to Really, Actually Change? – Carey Nieuwhof So exactly when does transformation happen?](#)

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<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode13/> CNLP 013: THE EMPTINESS OF SUCCESS, THE PROMISE OF EVANGELISM AND THE MULTI-ETHNIC CHURCH—AN INTERVIEW WITH DERWIN GRAY [Derwin Gray](#) at [Transformation Church](#)

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<http://churchleaders.com/author/careynieuwhof>

[Images for carey nieuwhof \(author\)](#)

Interim Minister: Agent of Missional Transformation

Rev. Gary Martin

Jesus sent the seventy out in vulnerability because incarnational ministry is inherently vulnerable: it requires that we sit at the table of the other. Consultants are angels who drop in with prophetic words and disappear. Interim pastors incarnate healthy pastoral practice as they dwell among the parish and parishioners. This workshop presents a biblical framework for incorporating missional theory and practice in each of the IMN congregational focus points and interim minister tasks. Participants will learn how to use the interim pastor role to incarnate mutual ministry, the key to missional transformation. Input will be illustrated with parables, stories, metaphors, music, movies and books. Guided conversation in triads will allow participants to reflect on presented concepts and resource each other.



[\[PDF\] 2014 IMN Conference program.pub](#)

<http://imnedu.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/2014-IMN-Conference-program.pdf> Page 4

[Images for Interim Minister: Agent of Missional Transformation](#)

<http://firstuustlouis.org/worshiping/meet-our-transitioninterim-minister-rev-gary-james>

McIntosh Church Growth Network » Transforming Culture

He (Paul) crafted his presentation, lifestyle, and methods to a particular people and cultural ability to comprehend the Gospel. In what way is your church adapting appropriately to the culture of the people you are trying to win to Christ? What might be some cultural barriers that are keeping people away from Christ? What can you do about it?

<http://churchgrowthnetwork.com/blog/2011/01/29/post-2/>

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[Images for McIntosh Church Growth Network » Transforming Culture](#)

Personal Transformation (Vineyard): Changing your behaviors and attitudes because of your relationships with God and others

(Dimensions of Discipleship) (Volume 6) by Robert E Logan, Charles R Ridley, David J DeVries

Personal Transformation is one of eight discipleship guides for the Dimensions of Discipleship series. Personal Transformation means changing your attitudes and behaviors in positive ways as a result of your relationships with God and others. Inward change and outward change take place in tandem, each affecting the other. This study will lead you through five essential expressions of personal transformation:

<https://www.amazon.com/Personal-Transformation-Vineyard-Experiencing-relationship/dp/193992135X>

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[Images for Personal Transformation \(Vineyard\): Changing your behaviors and attitudes because of your relationships with God and others \(Dimensions of Discipleship\) \(Volume 6\) by Robert E Logan, Charles R Ridley, David J DeVries](#)

[Images for Dimensions of Discipleship](#)

Sacred Acts, Holy Change: Faithful Diversity and Practical Transformation [Rev. Eric Law]

Eric Law draws on his years of experience with congregations of all denominations to spell out processes for achieving genuine transformation in a congregation attempting to be multi-culturally inclusive.

<http://www.amazon.com/Sacred-Acts-Holy-Change-Transformation/dp/082723452X>

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<https://chalicepress.com/products/sacred-acts-holy-change>

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<http://www.kscopeinstitute.org/>

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https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4157460.Eric_Law

[Images for Rev. Eric Law, author](#)

[Images for Sacred Acts, Holy Change: Faithful Diversity and Practical Transformation \[Rev. Eric Law\]](#)

The Local Church, Agent of Transformation: An Ecclesiology for Integral Mission [Rene Padilla]

A collection of excellent essays on the nature and practice of the local church. These Latin American theologians and church leaders share how their churches have been equipped to do integral mission in the 21st century.



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[Images for Rene Padilla, author](#)

[Images for The Local Church, Agent of Transformation: An Ecclesiology for Integral Mission \[Rene Padilla\]](#)

The Transformative Church: New Ecclesial Models and the Theology of Jurgen Moltmann (Emerging Scholars) by Patrick Oden (Author)

Throughout the course of his theological career, Jürgen Moltmann has been interested in the ecclesial and societal consequences of systematic theology. From his first major work, *Theology of Hope*, to his book *Experiences in Theology*, he has devoted substantive space to what each particular doctrine means for our life in this world, as individuals and as a community. *The Transformative Church* explores these concerns more deeply, looking at each of his major texts and highlighting themes relevant for a transformative ecclesiology. These themes are augmented by adding the perspectives of a contemporary church movement that reflects, in its practices, many of the same concerns. With these conversation partners, Patrick Oden constructs a more substantive transformative ecclesiology, one that is embedded in this world: we are to become in the church who we are to be in this world, becoming whole in Christ to be a messianic people in any context.

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<https://muse.jhu.edu/book/36688> Project MUSE - The Transformative Church
<http://fortresspress.com/projects/emerging-scholars>
<https://www.facebook.com/patrick.oden>
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[Images for Patrick Oden \(Author\)](#)
[Images for The Transformative Church: New Ecclesial Models and the Theology of Jurgen Moltmann \(Emerging Scholars\) by Patrick Oden \(Author\)](#)

To Transform a City: Whole Church, Whole Gospel, Whole City by Eric Swanson (Author), Sam Williams (Author)

To Transform a City is a timely, compelling book that helps readers understand how to think about cities, their own city, and the broad strategies needed for kingdom impact. The book begins with an overview of the importance of cities in the new day in which we live. The authors address the process of transformation along with examples of where and how communities have been transformed throughout history. After writing a persuasive chapter on kingdom thinking the authors unfold the meaning of the whole church, the whole gospel, and the whole city. The book ends with the need for people of good faith to work together in the city with people of good will for the welfare of the city.

Understand the paradigmatic shift that is happening in city ministry around the world---the shift from internal church concern to external community focus---and learn how to live out and lead others in this missional approach.

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<https://michigandistrict.org/compassion/shiplee-learns-compassion/> For further reflection and study:
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resources/social-ministry-among-urban-poor-urban-ministry.html>
<https://loganleadership.com/transform-city/>

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Transforming Churches | Episcopal Church
“Transforming Churches” Case Studies

“Transforming Churches” is a series of case studies, prepared by the Episcopal Church’s Office of Research, that offers in-depth analyses of Episcopal parishes in many different contexts and geographical locations that were able to either reverse decline or continue substantial growth and find ways to thrive in the 21st century.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/library/topics/transforming-churches>

[Images for Transforming Churches | Episcopal Church](#)

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/transforming-churches-series>

[Images for “Transforming Churches” Case Studies](#)

Transforming Congregational Culture [Anthony B. Robinson]

Writing from twenty-five years of experience in four congregations of differing size, location, and ethnic makeup, Robinson here describes concrete changes in the practice of ministry that have been tried, tested, and lived out to great success.

At the heart of Robinson's framework for church renewal is what he calls “cultural change.” According to Robinson, technical or programmatic change is not sufficient to address the needs of the day. He argues for changing the very “culture of mainline congregations, which involves recognizing and fostering their particular gifts and genius rather than trying to remake them into something they are not. Some of the shifts in congregational culture explored here include “From Civic Faith to Human Transformation,” “From Assuming the Goods to Delivering the Goods,” “From Givers to Receivers Who Give,” “From Christian Education to Christian Formation,” and more.

The first part of the book describes the larger context of church life and identifies specific challenges that mainline churches now face. Robinson then traces a series of consequential shifts in church life that have emerged during his own ministry and that must inform the present effort for renewal. He concludes the book with a chapter on leadership, showing why it matters so much today and outlining strategies for promoting fruitful change in the current culture of congregations.

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<http://www.anthonyrobinson.com/>

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[Images for Anthony B. Robinson, author](#)

[Images for Transforming Congregational Culture \[Anthony B. Robinson\]](#)

Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission (American Society of Missiology) [David J. Bosch]

David Bosch’s *Transforming Mission*, now available in over a dozen languages, is widely recognized as an historic and magisterial contribution to the study of mission. Examining the entire sweep of Christian tradition, he shows how five paradigms have historically encapsulated the Christian understanding of mission and then outlines the characteristics of an emerging postmodern paradigm dialectically linking the transcendent and imminent dimensions of salvation. In this new anniversary edition, Darrel Guder and Martin Reppenhen explore the impact of Bosch’s work and the unfolding application of his seminal vision.

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Images for American Society of Missiology books

Wake Up, Church!: Opening Your Eyes To Transformational Ministry by Ed Kruse, Bill Steadman

Wake Up, Church! is a timely response to the life-threatening confluence of mistrust, economic crisis, and failure to adjust to clear warnings of impending collapse that congregations face today. Debt and budget shortfalls combine with flat statistics and dismal projections, while apathetic constituents yawn and frightened followers prepare to exit. In all the muck, there remains a gospel that has carried the risen body of Christ without fail for centuries through personal spiritual growth. These followers who remain will become transformational leaders in a movement that will change the world by renewing local congregations with global impact through the Holy Spirit. Never in history have congregations been so infinitely powerful to carry out the unfinished task as they are today.

<http://www.ucrdstore.ca/church-and-ministry/congregational-ministry/wake-up-church-opening-your-eyes-to-transformational-ministry.html>

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5) Transition

Congregations in Transition: A Guide for Analyzing, Assessing, and Adapting in Changing Communities 1st Edition by Carl S. Dudley (Author), Nancy T. Ammerman (Author)

This hands-on guide helps congregations meet the reality and challenges of today's constantly changing urban and suburban church communities. *Congregations in Transition*, written in an easy-to-follow workbook format, is designed to help communities of faith focus on the changing needs of their members and explore the opportunities and options open to them.

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[Images for Congregations in Transition: A Guide for Analyzing, Assessing, and Adapting in Changing Communities 1st Edition by Carl S. Dudley \(Author\), Nancy T. Ammerman \(Author\)](#)

How to Successfully Transition Your Church through New Leadership – Crosswalk.com

Only by handling well these transitional changes can a church reach the next generation.

<http://www.crosswalk.com/church/pastors-or-leadership/ask-roger/how-to-successfully-transition-your-church-through-new-leadership.html>

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<https://www.crosswalk.com/church/>

Jud Wilhite with Practical Help on Transitioning a Church – Carey Nieuwhof

The vast majority of churches in Western culture are not church plants, they're churches that need to be transitioned.

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2015/09/episode54/>

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<http://careynieuwhof.com/different-take-reaching-millennials/> A Different Take on Reaching Millennials - Carey Nieuwhof

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Images for carey nieuwhof (author)

Leading a Church through Transition | Pastor Paul Chappell

A growing church is always in transition. From building programs to classroom changes to staff adjustments to schedule flexes to responsibility changes to added ministries, a growing church must constantly prepare for the transitions that come with growth.



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Images for Leading a Church through Transition | Pastor Paul Chappell

Leading in Times of Transition - Global Christian Center

Transition involves a journey from one identity to the other (for major changes), and that takes time. There are some things in life you just can't rush. It takes nine months to have a baby no matter how many people you put on the job!

Think about the wilderness experience with Moses and the children of Israel. That took 40 years, not because they were lost, but because the generation that had known Egypt had to die off before they entered the Promised Land.

It won't take 40 years for any change your church needs to make - we hope! But people's outlooks, attitudes, values, self-images, and motives don't change overnight.

Moses caused the ending when he led his people out of Egypt, but it took 40 years of transition to get Egypt out of the people. The transition time is not a meaningless waste of time; it is where the battle of change is fought and either won or lost.

<http://globalchristiancenter.com/administrative-leadership/church-leadership/24859-leading-in-times-of-transition>

Images for Leading in Times of Transition - Global Christian Center

<http://globalchristiancenter.com/ministry-resources>

Making transitions | Faith & Leadership

While every congregation should engage in periodic self-examination, the gap between the departure of the old pastor and the arrival of the new one offers an ideal opportunity for such work, said Lambert, of the UMC's Intentional Growth Center.

Congregations have become so dependent upon pastors for leadership that the interval between pastors offers a rare chance to take a broader look at ministry, said Marcia Meyers, director of the Office of Vocation for the PC(USA). "It is a moment when the congregation can discern where God is calling them next and what their mission is now," she said. "It may have been one thing when the church was founded, but maybe that's not the mission anymore."

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Steering through Chaos: Mapping a Clear Direction for Your Church in the Midst of Transition and Change [Scott Wilson, Leonard Sweet]

In *Steering through Chaos*, Pastor Scott Wilson helps you, whether you are a fellow pastor or part of a church staff or leadership team, plan for change and develop a communication strategy that enlists support and builds momentum to lead individuals or entire congregations through the transition. Scott provides you as a leader the insight, inspiration, and courage you need to make the difficult choices that will keep your church moving forward. The challenges of leadership often multiply during times of transition. Blending perceptive, visionary principles with a passion to please God, Scott Wilson examines how to effectively lead your church through the process of change. Transitions addressed include the building of new facilities, the changing of staff structure, the addition of new services, and the transition to becoming a multisite ministry, among others. Each chapter includes discussion questions, making this an ideal resource for you, your staff, and your leadership team to read together. During the struggles of transition, doubts and fears will inevitably arise. At those moments, leaders need assurance that they have a real and authentic vision from God. Scott encourages you to follow the call and to lead with confidence, courage, and an unwavering commitment to push through the challenges that come with change.

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[Images for Steering through Chaos: Mapping a Clear Direction for Your Church in the Midst of Transition and Change \[Scott Wilson, Leonard Sweet\]](#)

The Church in Transition: Journey of Existing Churches into the Emerging Culture by Tim Conder (Author), Dan Allender (Foreword)

In our fast-growing post-Christian, postmodern culture, the church often finds itself marginalized and ineffective in mission. The new emerging church is both hopeful and frightening compared to more traditional forms of Christianity. However, these "two churches" need each other. *The Church in Transition* presents honest stories of the failures and successes of a variety of transitioning fellowships.

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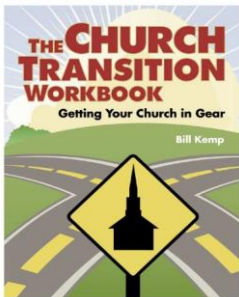
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Images for Dan Allender, author the church in transition

Images for *The Church in Transition: Journey of Existing Churches into the Emerging Culture* by Tim Conder (Author), Dan Allender (Foreword)

The Church Transition Workbook: Getting Your Church in Gear [Bill Kemp]

In *The Church Transition Workbook* Bill Kemp offers a step-by-step process for guiding churches who have experienced trauma through an official transition time that will enable them to be in meaningful ministry in the future. Kemp provides a basic understanding of change and successful transition in congregations, along with stories, practical tools, and activities to help the congregation's leaders assess the realities and the possibilities for ministry. Kemp's work is a vital tool in the work of congregational revitalization and leader development.



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Images for bill kemp, author church transition

Images for *The Church Transition Workbook: Getting Your Church in Gear* [Bill Kemp]

The Transition Movement for Churches: A prophetic imperative for today [Timothy Gorringer, Rosie Beckham]

The Transition Town Movement is a fast growing social movement with hundreds of local groups which aims to prepare communities for the impact of peak oil and climate change. Many Christians are involved already, but this is the first book to equip local churches to engage with the movement towards greater simplicity.

It provides:

- the main tenets of Transition
- a theological vision of the Church as a Transition movement by showing the commonalities that already exist
- signs that the movement is grounded in the visionary and prophetic
- examples of green Church initiatives and Transition projects
- suggestions of how to incorporate Transition ideas into worship and pastoral practice and policy
- ways to build bridges and partnerships between church communities and Transition communities

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[Images for Rosie Beckham, author transition movement](#)

[Images for The Transition Movement for Churches: A prophetic imperative for today \[Timothy Gorringer, Rosie Beckham\]](#)

Transitioning: Leading Your Church through Change [Dan Southerland]

A biblical look at how to steer a congregation in a new and exciting direction aligned with God's unique purpose for them. Transitioning is written to help church leaders and their congregations successfully navigate change and discover that the rewards far exceed the risk. Drawing principles from the book of Nehemiah, Southerland maps out an eight-step strategy for moving from being a traditional, ministry-driven church to a purpose-driven church. Transitioning illustrates practical, field-tested concepts with examples from the Bible and Southerland's own experience. A detailed workbook section with fill-in-the-blanks, scripture passages, and action steps helps pastors and their leadership teams convert knowledge into reality.

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[Images for Dan Southerland, author transitioning](#)

[Images for Transitioning: Leading Your Church through Change \[Dan Southerland\]](#)

Transitions: Leading Churches through Change [David N. Mosser, Robert Schnase]

Preacher and teacher David Mosser offers practical and spiritual guidance for pastors struggling to manage and respond to changes in the economy, changes in their neighborhoods, changes in their denominations, changes in the congregation, changes in culture, and the life changes present in every parishioner's life. Wise words from authors such as Alyce McKenzie, David Buttrick, Joanna Adams, and Thomas Long all contribute to this most timely and helpful book.

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What is Church? A Story of Transition [Mike Bishop, Todd Hunter]

What is Church? Shouldn't we know the answer to that question? Yet there are people all around the world who are wondering if church should be something more than what we have experienced. Perhaps Jesus had something different in mind from our typical

answers to the question, “What is church?” There are many books being written about why the church should be different or how it should be changed, but where are the voices who have lived this transition? For the past seven years, Mike Bishop and his friends have been living change among small communities of faith. Their story is not about the next great North American church movement, but rather the simple-and revolutionary-discovery of God’s Kingdom in a changing world.

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[Images for \[Mike Bishop, Todd Hunter\]](#)

[Images for What is Church? A Story of Transition \[Mike Bishop, Todd Hunter\]](#)

6) Trends

About | Facts & Trends

Facts & Trends is designed to help pastors and other Christian leaders navigate the issues and trends impacting the church by providing information, insights, and resources for effective ministry. We see the church as God’s missionary agent. Through the ministry of the church, the mission of Jesus is extended, for it is His body—called to make disciples of all nations.

<https://factsandtrends.net/about/>

[Images for Facts & Trends](#)

Mission Trends: 4 Trends for Churches to Consider | The Exchange

Despite what many think, the church in America is not dying (and no serious researcher thinks that). However, there are some challenges and changes to be considered.

When we consider missiology, part of the discipline includes considering how churches relate to their culture. Since we live in changing times, it’s worth thinking through what current cultural changes mean for future church engagement of that culture.

Here are four trends that are already evident, but will become even more important in days to come.

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<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/browse/>

Seven Trends That Affect Your Church - WMU

In my quest to understand culture, I look at the trends and changes that influence the church—for better or worse. Here are seven things I believe we need understand if our churches are to grow and influence their communities with the Gospel.

<http://www.wmu.com/?q=article/church/wmu-blog/seven-trends-affect-your-church>

[Images for Trends That Affect The Church](#)

<https://www.wmystore.com/shop-missions-resources>

6 Disruptive Church Trends That Will Rule 2020 - CareyNieuwhof.com

So, what are the 2020 church trends you should watch in what is shaping up to be a very pivotal year?

<https://careynieuwhof.com/6-disruptive-church-trends-that-will-rule-2020/>

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[Images for carey nieuwhof \(author\)](#)

7) Turnaround Congregation

Catching the Next Wave: Leadership Strategies for Turnaround Congregations by Steven Goodwin (Author)

Contains the material your congregation's planning team needs to lead a congregational turn-around. The workbook includes inventories for evaluating congregational health, assessing conflict levels, casting a vision, moving from maintenance to mission, making disciples. The practical, reproducible worksheets and Bible studies for group reflection in this workbook will support your team every step of the way.

Is your congregation's membership sinking or swimming? You can lead your congregation back to church health. This book identifies characteristics of healthy, growing congregations and the warning signs of congregational ill health, giving leaders strategies for revitalizing a congregation in need of direction. Visionary leadership, listening to the people, dealing with conflict, and developing a process for change are the key points outlined.

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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/drstevegoodwin>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1065548.Steven_J_Goodwin

[Images for Catching the Next Wave: Leadership Strategies for Turnaround Congregations by Steven Goodwin \(Author\)](#)

How to do a Church Turnaround: MACUCC

Many churches talk about turning around after a long period of decline, but there is much confusion about what it really takes to do this. Below are some of the essentials to actually do a church turnaround.

MACUCC: How to do a Church Turnaround

<http://www.macucc.org/turnaround>

[Images for How to do a Church Turnaround: MACUCC](#)

<https://www.macucc.org/resources>

If It Could Happen Here: Turning the Small-Membership Church Around by Jeffrey H Patton (Author)

Are small membership churches - as the conventional wisdom says - simply places where pastors bide their time while they wait for something better to come along? Are they places where long-standing family relationships are maintained, but little else? Are they places where attendance is dropping, the building is out of date, the programs are boring, and people don't want to change? If you believe this conventional wisdom, then this book is not for you. But if you see small-membership churches, especially those in rural areas, as opportunities for the radical message of Jesus to transform lives and communities, then this is a book you want to read.

Jeff Patton knows from firsthand experience as pastor of a small-membership congregation whose life turned around under his leadership that small, rural churches can become explosive centers of witness and mission. In this informative book, he describes 6 "levers" for transforming a small membership church: prayer, discerning a clear vision, indigenous worship, growth groups, membership recruitment, and lay pastoring.

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[If It Could Happen Here: Turning the Small-Membership Church Around](#)

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[Images for Jeffrey H Patton \(Author\)](#)

[Images for If It Could Happen Here: Turning the Small-Membership Church Around by Jeffrey H Patton \(Author\)](#)

Leading Turnaround Churches [Gene Wood, Kimberly Miller, Julie Becker]

Leading turnaround churches is one of the most pressing challenges facing every denomination in America. We know that plateaued ministries soon become dying institutions if they are not guided by turnaround leaders. Where will these leaders come from? How will we recognize them? What steps must they take to change the downward spiral? The author offers hope for a turnaround situation and explores topics such as: How to assess if you're a turnaround leader, Scenarios that contribute to plateau and decline, Obstacles to initiating change, and How to develop a compelling vision for the church.

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[Images for Gene Wood, author leading turnaround churches](#)
[Images for Kimberly Miller, author leading turnaround churches](#)
[Images for Julie Becker, author leading turnaround churches](#)
[Images for Leading Turnaround Churches \[Gene Wood, Kimberly Miller, Julie Becker\]](#)

Pastor Unique: Becoming a Turnaround Leader by Lavern E. Brown (Author), Gordon E. Penfold (Author), Gary J. Westra (Author)

Are you still searching for that killer church health conference, that "rock star pastor" to imitate, or the perfect formula that will tell you how lead your church to effective service in Jesus' mission? Pastors who chase dreams of high powered ministry by looking for answers outside of themselves are inevitably discouraged when they learn that what works for others won't work for them. If that's your story, *Pastor Unique* is what you've been looking for. Inside you will learn how to use all the tools the Head of the Church has already given you - your identity, your personality, and your life experience - to become a turnaround leader in your church.

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[Images for Pastor Unique: Becoming a Turnaround Leader by Lavern E. Brown \(Author\), Gordon E. Penfold \(Author\), Gary J. Westra \(Author\)](#)

Reconstructing Church: Tools for Turning Your Congregation Around by Todd Grant, Ph.D Yonkman (Author)

The general decline of American mainline Protestant churches today is well documented. Church redevelopment—imagining and actualizing new life for dying churches—is a productive and vital response to congregational decline, but it can be daunting. Here is guidebook for church leaders, to help them reinvigorate their churches with both practical advice and tested theory. A comprehensive case study of Beneficent Congregational Church, which successfully turned the tide and quadrupled its worship attendance, provides inspiration as well as concrete strategies for church redevelopment. The study indicates that successful and faithful church redevelopment involves a shift from a modern-patronage ministry model to a postmodern-plural ministry model. Building on current church redevelopment literature by bringing selected Biblical and theological texts into conversation with leadership concepts, systems theory, social sciences, and congregational studies, this book creates a multidisciplinary transformative conversation. The result is both strategic proposals for growing your church and a model for doing practical theology in your own ministry context. Dedicated, trained leadership in cooperation with the power of the Spirit can create the possibility of new life in dying congregations.

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[Images for Todd Grant, Ph.D Yonkman \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Reconstructing Church: Tools for Turning Your Congregation Around by Todd Grant, Ph.D Yonkman \(Author\)](#)

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The Turnaround Church: Inspiration and Tools for Life-Sustaining Change [Mary Louise Gifford]

The Turnaround Church is the story of Wollaston Congregational Church United Church of Christ, a 130-year-old congregation that once was thriving in ministry, membership, mission, music, and money. For half a century, however, the church had slowly declined and was considering closing its doors. The two dozen remaining members knew they had to change but did not know how. They had very little money left, but they were willing to risk it all.

With few resources, members hired Mary Louise Gifford, a new seminary graduate, to be their full-time minister. Wollaston is now a vibrant, Spirit-filled faith community--a turnaround church. Changes in worship, stewardship, and priorities, combined with the congregation's resilience and Gifford's optimistic leadership, have transformed this church. Gifford tells us how. Addressing a wide audience, Gifford shows church leaders they have options and reason for hope. People in dying churches will find assurance that they are still a part of the body of Christ. Clergy serving these struggling churches will discover tools and resources to help them guide change. Judicatory leaders will appreciate an inspiring story they can tell about a church that turned around in spite of the odds. *The Turnaround Church*, while not a prescription for all churches, is a call to make long-lasting, life-sustaining changes.



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 Images for The Turnaround Church: Inspiration and Tools for Life-Sustaining Change [Mary Louise Gifford]

Turnaround Churches: How to Overcome Barriers to Growth and Bring New Life to an Established Church [George Barna]

It can happen in any church. Success in ministry can lead to a condition of paralysis. Churches begin to rely on the “tried and true” practices of the past and become unable - or unwilling - to risk making the changes required by present-day challenges. It’s a dangerous scenario that can lead a church into decline. The good news is that “growth paralysis” can be cured-if church leaders learn to recognize it and take swift, decisive and prayerful action. Turnaround Churches looks at real-life examples of churches that have made a comeback after a period of decline. You’ll learn to recognize the cycles of growth and decline that face any ministry. You’ll also learn the danger signs that indicate when a church is about to experience a decline. Inside Turnaround Churches you’ll find: Eight obstacles that lead to collapse Eleven principles of reviving a declining church Wisdom and encouragement from leaders who have brought their churches back to life The essential elements of spiritual focus Twenty suggestions to help your church avoid decline and begin the path to new growth the key to continuous spiritual renewal for you and your church.

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 Images for George Barna, author
 Images for Turnaround Churches: How to Overcome Barriers to Growth and Bring New Life to an Established Church [George Barna]

Turnaround Pastor: Pathways to Save, Revive and Build Your Church by Donald Ross

Is your church a shadow of its former self, once vibrant with life but now all but dead? Your Sunday morning attendance is a fraction of what it once was, finances are getting desperate, and your sense of mission seems non-existent. That's where Don Ross was. Most onlookers saw no future in his church. But Jesus saw a place for them, and He molded Don into a *Turnaround Pastor*, a leader to revive God's people to do His work.

Turnaround Pastor is both a riveting story and a practical guide complete with actionable steps to save, revive, and build your community of faith. Learn from Dr. Ross' personal experience and coaching expertise how to communicate effectively with your congregation, make courageous decisions to move your church forward, lead through major changes, cast meaningful vision, advance Christ's kingdom in your community, and become a *Turnaround Pastor*.

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 Images for Turnaround Pastor: Pathways to Save, Revive and Build Your Church by Donald Ross

Turnaround Quotes - BrainyQuote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/turnaround>
 Images for Turnaround Quotes

Turnaround Strategies for the Small Church: Ron Crandall, Herb Miller

This book shows what kind of leadership, evangelism, and outreach will bring about a desirable turnaround. It provides specific actions that will develop the skills of those who minister in the life of a small church, thereby enhancing their daily practice of ministry. It suggests twelve key factors for turning around a congregation, lists obstacles to turn-arounds, and includes an appendix of turn-around churches.

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[Images for Turnaround Strategies for Small-Membership Congregations](https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2017.pdf)
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2017.pdf> [PDF]Herb Miller's Nuggets: Volume 17 - The Parish Paper

Turnaround and Beyond: A Hopeful Future for the Small Membership Church by Ronald K Crandall (Author)

Since its publication in 1995, Ron Crandall's Turnaround Strategies for the Small Church has become required reading for anyone striving to revitalize the ministry of a small membership congregation. That book was built on extensive interviews and studies conducted in dozens of small membership churches, across several denominations that had experienced significant turnaround. In a new study Crandall has now returned to those congregations to see what it takes to make the turnaround work over a period of years. He has also interviewed leaders from several new congregations to enrich the book's view of what makes for a successful turnaround in the small membership congregation. Learning much from both churches who maintained significant growth in numbers and ministry, and those that failed to do so, he offers even more helpful insight to any congregational leader seeking to take a small membership church into a new phase of witness and mission.



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Turning a Financially Troubled Church Around - Crown

Even though there are more churches than ever before in the history of America facing financial problems, there is no simple, quick-fix formula that has proved always to work to reverse financial difficulties. The most obvious thing that pastors, staff, leaders, and congregations should do first is to pray for God's wisdom and direction. Along with prayer, there are a few principles that, when followed resolutely, have proved to be effective in turning around financially troubled churches and ministries. Some of these principles may seem drastic in today's credit society, but if they are followed without compromise, financial turnaround has proved to be the ultimate result.

<http://www.crown.org/Articles/tabid/107/entryid/87/Default.aspx>
[Images for Turning a Financially Troubled Church Around - Crown](https://www.crown.org/resources/)
<https://www.crown.org/resources/>

Turning around a Declining Church without Blowing It Apart – An Interview with Dom Ruso – Carey Nieuwhof

Dom Ruso talks about how he leveraged the past to help bring a church into a new future, more than doubling in size in just two years.

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[Images for carey nieuwhof \(author\)](#)

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II. How Can Small Churches Move Toward Their Full Potential?	Page 3
III. Leading a Small Church Is More Complex than Leading a Large One	Page 3
IV. Small Churches Have a Unique Leadership Structure	Page 4
V. Small Churches Exhibit Unique Behavior Patterns	Page 9
VI. Small Churches Serve under Unique Sociological Pressures	Page 13
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8) Unchurched

Attracting and Assimilating the Unchurched in the 21 Century. Author: David Duane Durey

The purpose of this study was to identify transferable principles drawn from investigating several churches that have been successful in attracting and assimilating unchurched people through outreach, evangelism, newcomer welcome, visitor follow-up, new Christian follow-up, discipleship, and mobilizing and equipping for lay ministry. Five research questions were created to help identify the principles and practices used by churches to attract and assimilate unchurched people: (1) What principles and practices used by these churches have been most successful in attracting and evangelizing unchurched people? (2) How do these churches welcome and follow up unchurched visitors and new converts? (3) How do these churches provide an opportunity for new people to gain a sense of belonging? (4) How do these churches see that people are discipled into fully-devoted followers of Christ? (5) How do these churches help people take up the responsibility to serve in personal ministry?

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[Images for Attracting and Assimilating the Unchurched in the 21st Century.](#) Author: David Duane Durey

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[Images for Assimilating New People into the Church By David D. Durey](#)

<https://place.asburyseminary.edu/ecommonsatsdissertations/532/> "Attracting and assimilating the unchurched in the 21st century"

[Images for Attracting and Assimilating the Unchurched in the 21 Century](#)

Charting the unchurched in America - USATODAY.com

People with no religion now account for 14% of the nation, up from 8% when The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, authors of the ARIS, conducted its first survey of religion in 1990. Today the range stretches from 3% with no religion in North Dakota to 25% in Washington state.

<http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/life/2002/2002-03-07-no-religion.htm>

[Images for Charting the unchurched in America](#)

<http://www.godlessgeeks.com/LINKS/Unchurched.htm> Charting the unchurched in America - Atheists of Silicon Valley

[Images for Charting the unchurched in America - Atheists of Silicon Valley](#)

Church for the Unchurched: George G. Hunter III

Hunter discusses the rebirth of the apostolic congregation, Christianity's vision of what people can become, how small groups shape an apostolic people, how lay ministry advances the Christian movement, and how apostolic churches reach secular people.

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 Images for George G. Hunter III, author
 Images for Leading and Managing a Growing Church [George G. III Hunter]

Churchless: Understanding Today's Unchurched and How to Connect with Them [George Barna, David Kinnaman]

Churchless people are all around us: among our closest loved ones, at our workplaces, in our neighborhoods. And more and more, they are becoming the norm: The number of churchless adults in the US has grown by nearly one-third in the past decade. Yet the startling truth is that many of these people claim they are *looking* for a genuine, powerful encounter with God—but they just don't find it *in church*. What are they (or we) missing? How can we better reach out to them? What can we say or do, that would inspire them to want to join a community of faith? Containing groundbreaking new research from the Barna Group and edited by bestselling authors George Barna (*Revolution*) and David Kinnaman (*You Lost Me*), *Churchless* reveals the results of a five-year study based on interviews with thousands of churchless men and women. Looking past the surface of church attendance to deeper spiritual realities, *Churchless* will help us understand those who choose not to be part of a church, build trust-based relationships with them, and be empowered to successfully invite them to engage.

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[Churchless: Understanding Today's Unchurched and how to connect with them - Pinterest](#)
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<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode24/> Churchless: Why and How America is Learning to Live without the Church – an Interview with David Kinnaman
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FOOTNOTES 4.

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Images for David Kinnaman, author churchless
Images for Churchless: Understanding Today's Unchurched and How to Connect with Them [George Barna, David Kinnaman]

Grow Your Church from the Outside In: Understanding the Unchurched and How to Reach Them [George Barna]

According to the author, America has more unchurched people than the entire populations of all but 11 of the world's 194 nations! Based on research among several thousand unchurched people, the book discusses their values, attitudes, beliefs, religious practices, demographics, life goals, and spiritual expectations. Using additional research conducted among churches that have had great success in attracting and retaining unchurched people, the author also outlines perspectives and effective strategies for churches that wish to reach those who avoid churches. Understanding what makes the unchurched tick will give you a better chance of relating to them in meaningful ways.

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Images for Grow Your Church from the Outside In: Understanding the Unchurched and How to Reach Them [George Barna]

Grow Your Church from the Outside In: Understanding the Unchurched and How to Reach Them [George Barna]

According to the author, America has more unchurched people than the entire populations of all but 11 of the world's 194 nations! Based on research among several thousand unchurched people, the book discusses their values, attitudes, beliefs, religious practices, demographics, life goals, and spiritual expectations. Using additional research conducted among churches that have had great success in attracting and retaining unchurched people, the author also outlines perspectives and effective strategies for churches that wish to reach those who avoid churches. Understanding what makes the unchurched tick will give you a better chance of relating to them in meaningful ways.

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Images for George Barna, author

Images for Grow Your Church from the Outside In: Understanding the Unchurched and How to Reach Them [George Barna]

Deep & Wide: Creating Churches Unchurched People Love to Attend [Andy Stanley]

With surprising candor and transparency, Pastor Andy Stanley explains how one of America's largest churches began with a high-profile divorce and a church split. But that's just the beginning ... *Deep & Wide* provides church leaders with an in-depth look into North Point Community Church and its strategy for creating churches unchurched people absolutely love to attend. Andy writes, "Our goal is to create weekend experiences so compelling and helpful that even the most skeptical individuals in our community would walk away with every intention of returning the following week ... with a friend!" Later he says, "I want people to fall in love with the author of Scripture. And while we can't make anyone fall in love, we can certainly arrange a date." For the first time, Andy explains his strategy for preaching and programming to "dual audiences": mature believers and cynical unbelievers. He argues that preaching to dual audiences doesn't require communicators to "dumb down" the content. According to Stanley, it's all in the approach. You'll be introduced to North Point's spiritual formation model: The Five Faith Catalysts. Leaders responsible for ministry programming and production will no doubt love Andy's discussion of the three essential ingredients for creating irresistible environments. For pastors willing to tackle the challenge of transitioning a local congregation, Andy includes a section entitled: Becoming Deep & Wide. If your team is more concerned with who you are reaching than who you are keeping, *Deep & Wide* will be more than an audiobook you listen to; it will be a resource you come back to over and over!

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Images for Andy Stanley, author
Images for Deep & Wide: Creating Churches Unchurched People Love to Attend [Andy Stanley]

In Search of the Unchurched: Why People Don't Join Your Congregation (Once and Future Church Series) by Alan C. Klaas (Author)

What's working and not working in your congregation? You'll explore the factors that inspired and motivated changes to reverse decline as other congregations wrestled with the same issues you're facing: ministry to current members, ministry to the unchurched, worship, changing neighborhoods, and more.

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Images for Alan C. Klaas (Author) in search of the unchurched

Images for In Search of the Unchurched: Why People Don't Join Your Congregation (Once and Future Church Series) by Alan C. Klaas

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Images for Once and Future Church Series

Inside the Mind of Unchurched Harry and Mary [Lee Strobel, Bill Hybels]

Who Are Unchurched Harry and Mary? He or she could be the neighbor who is perfectly happy without God. Or the coworker who scoffs at Christianity. Or the supervisor who uses Jesus' name only as profanity. Or the family member who can't understand why religion is so important. *Inside the Mind of Unchurched Harry and Mary* isn't a book of theory. It's an action plan to help you relate the message of Christ to the people you work around, live with, and call your friends. Using personal experiences, humor, compelling stories, biblical illustrations, and the latest research, Lee Strobel helps you understand non-Christians and what motivates them. The book includes: * 15 key insights into why people steer clear of God and the church * A look at Christianity and its message through the eyes of a former atheist * Practical, inspirational strategies for building relationships with non-Christians * Firsthand advice on surviving marriage to an unbelieving spouse.

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Images for Inside the Mind of Unchurched Harry and Mary [Lee Strobel, Bill Hybels]

Leading Beyond the Walls: Developing Congregations with a Heart for the Unchurched by Adam Hamilton (Author)

Good pastoral leadership is not a "by the numbers" proposition. It is a matter of heart and soul, of devoting the whole self to the vision God gives for the congregation in which one serves. Yet neither is it purely intuitive; it requires hard, careful thinking about the directions and details of the path down which God calls. When Adam Hamilton became pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, its membership consisted of himself and his family. Ten years later the church averages between five and six thousand worshippers per weekend. Throughout this remarkable period, Hamilton learned many serious lessons about both the broad visions and the specific details of pastoral leadership.

Bringing a depth of analytical skills often lacking in visionary leaders, in this book he goes beyond simply telling the story of Church of the Resurrection. He shares the questions that he learned to ask about the largely unchurched population to which Church of the Resurrection has reached out. Further, he demonstrates what he learned by listening to the answers to these questions, and how doing so has made possible a number of strategically crucial decisions the church has made. One of those crucial decisions was to make more traditional forms of worship and praise the center of the congregation's life. The result is that the example of Church of the Resurrection offers pastors and church leaders (especially those in mainline denominations) the realization that they need not completely change their liturgical and theological identity in order to reach out to the unchurched.

Drawing on his own experience, as well as the detailed research on the characteristics of highly successful congregations he undertook during a sabbatical leave, Hamilton offers pastors and other church leaders solid, substantive thinking on steps that congregations can take to become centers of vibrant outreach and mission.

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Images for Leading Beyond the Walls: Developing Congregations with a Heart for the Unchurched by Adam Hamilton (Author)

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Lost and Found: The Younger Unchurched and the Churches and the Churches that Reach Them [Ed Stetzer, Richie Stanley, Jason Hayes]

Who are the young unchurched, and how can they be reached with the good news of Jesus Christ?

In a poll result highlighted by CNN Headline News and USA Today, nearly half of non-churchgoers between the ages of twenty and twenty-nine agreed with the statement, "Christians get on my nerves." Now, researchers behind the larger study present *Lost and Found*, a blend of dynamic hard data and modern day parable that tells the real story of an unchurched generation that is actually quite spiritual and yet circumspect, open to Jesus but not the church.

As such, *Lost and Found* is written to the church, using often-surprising results from the copious research here to strike another nerve and break some long established assumptions about how to effectively engage the lost. Leading missiologist Ed Stetzer and his associates first offer a detailed investigation of the four younger unchurched types. With a better understanding of their unique experiences, they next clarify the importance each type places on community, depth of content, social responsibility, and making cross-generational connections in relation to spiritual matters.

Most valuably, *Lost and Found* finds the churches that have learned to reach unchurched young adults by paying close attention to those key markers vetted by the research. Their exciting stories will make it clear how your church can bring searching souls from this culture to authentic faith in Christ.

Those who are lost can indeed be found. Come take a closer look.

<http://www.amazon.com/Lost-Found-Younger-Unchurched-Churches/dp/0805448780>

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9 Signs Your Church Is Ready to Reach Unchurched People – Carey Nieuwhof

So how do you know that your church is actually ready to reach unchurched people?

Here are 9 signs your church is ready to embrace unchurched people:

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<http://connexuschurch.com/> Connexus Church – A church that unchurched people love to attend

[Images for carey nieuwhof \(author\)](#)

Radically Unchurched: Who They Are & How to Reach Them by Alvin L. Reid (Author)

This book is an alarming look at today's church and how it must reverse its failure to reach an unchurched culture. Alvin L. Reid examines the causes behind the change from America's Christian identity and the resulting failure of the American church to understand and utilize the New Testament pattern of penetrating an indifferent culture with the gospel.

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Reaching the unchurched - Ministry Magazine

Reaching the unchurched has implications for all of us:

- Don't ignore the local church.
- Encourage and support innovative methods at local-church level.
- Expect each local church to be different—sometimes radically so.
- View evangelistic small groups as essential to the life of each Adventist.
- Cultivate a culture of church planting.
- Expect all churches (and pastors) to support church planting.
- Reach the unchurched by friends, not by program or technology.
- Remember personal work is absolutely vital.
- Emphasize the power of prayer and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for a revival of the biblical “every believer a minister” concept.
- Use user-friendly buildings (warehouses, offices, and homes) as worship/outreach centers, rather than church-type buildings.
- Build a model church that is both biblical ([Acts 2:42-47](#)) and culturally relevant to the unchurched.
- Speak to the questions of the unchurched.

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Reaching the unchurched | The Lutheran

Last fall I knocked on more than 2,000 doors in an effort to form a congregation. I met lots of unchurched people and listened to their stories. The bad news is that most aren't looking to the church to meet their needs. We may have what they need, but they don't know it. The good news is that if you work hard befriending and especially inviting them, eventually some will come. If they do, here's what will bring them back.

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Recommendations of a consultant

[A congregation retained the Church Doctor as a consultant to make recommendations on the various areas of life and mission of the congregation before I came. These recommendations informed my interim ministry in that congregation. Following are recommendations for outreach and in-reach:]

I recommend you change the mentality of this congregation to focus on bringing the kingdom to the community.

I recommend you focus on an outreach, *go* mentality rather than only a *y'all come* mentality.

I recommend you redevelop the evangelism strategy to use a DVD using selected people of the congregation and send that to new residents.

I recommend the leaders, the Evangelism Committee, staff, and the leadership of the childcare and preschool read, study and discuss the book

The Jesus Enterprise: Engaging Culture to Reach the Unchurched [Kent R. Hunter]

Those Christians who work in missionary settings among non-Christian groups learned an important lesson long ago about communicating the gospel. You can build the church, ring the bell, and hope that folks will find their way to your

doorstep. Or, you can immerse yourself in the culture, build relationships, and minister to people where they are. Needless to say, it is the latter route that bears the greatest fruit--and the greatest similarity to Jesus' own practice of proclaiming the gospel.

As churches in North America seek to grow and minister more effectively, they would do well to remember that they, too, live in an increasingly non-Christian culture. The churches that will succeed in reaching out to the unchurched in this society are those who have learned how to encounter such people on their own territory. Hence, one congregation brings visitors into their building, not through something foreign-sounding like a "narthex," but through a coffee and espresso bar. In this and dozens of other ways, innovative congregations are reaching out to the unchurched. Kent Hunter names such forms of ministry the Jesus Enterprise. In this helpful book he tells the stories of churches where this kind of outreach has become the norm. More important, he also provides other churches the tools they need to identify the particular opportunities their context presents and ways to take advantage of those opportunities to present the gospel to those most in need of it.

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[Images for Kent R. Hunter \(author\) reach the unchurched](#)

[Images for The Jesus Enterprise: Engaging Culture to Reach the Unchurched \[Kent R. Hunter\]](#)

I recommend the congregation sponsor an outreach clinic with this consultant for those who are on the childcare and preschool staff, church leaders, the Evangelism Committee, the church staff, and others interested in outreach.

I recommend you increase the friendliness of the congregation.

I recommend you add a welcome center so that people who are first time visitors can be directed to that welcome center.

I recommend the welcome be staffed by trained and carefully selected volunteers.

I recommend they be people who have the dominant gift of hospitality.

I recommend you change the "welcome" that is provided at the end of the service to be at the beginning of the service.

I recommend all greeters be trained utilizing the audio resource:

I recommend you focus especially on developing a team of *undercover* greeters.

I recommend you start a summer worship service on Thursday nights and that it become a "cabin worship."

I recommend this be targeted to those who go to their cabins on weekends.

I recommend it be a "come as you are" contemporary worship service.

I recommend this not just be for people in the congregation, but that you advertise it heavily in the community and see it as a growth engine/entry to the church.

I recommend you advertise to your community the Saturday evening worship service as a "relaxed service."

I recommend you provide more follow-up to Vacation Bible School for those who are not members of churches.

I recommend you provide more follow-up to the parents of those children who are in the child care and preschool ministries.

I recommend you develop an assimilation team to work on helping connect people to the body of Christ before they fall away and become inactive.

I recommend you commission a research study to identify why it is that you have so many inactive members.

I recommend these inactive members be sampled through phone interviews to identify a demographic profile of inactive members and why they became inactive, with an opportunity to identify key results toward action that will help assimilate new members and those who have begun a "dropout" plan toward inactivity.

I recommend you change your description of active and inactive members. At this point the descriptions are as follows: Active members are those members who worship, commune, and contribute. Inactive members are those who do not worship, commune, or contribute.

I recommend you add a timeframe: "for what period that inactive members do not participate in these activities?" – so that there is a benchmark and trigger mechanism for ministry follow-up responsibilities.

I recommend the assimilation team also work toward this effort.

I recommend the church clean its rolls in a loving but consistent manner and restore membership integrity as well as honesty in reporting.

I recommend the assimilation team be split into two parts, one that follows up on these inactive members and one that assimilates new members.

I recommend both parts of the assimilation team utilize the book.

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

Sharing Christ's Love is the second edition of the Blueprint for Change manual written in 2007. This manual expands on material included in the Blueprint manual and includes charts, highlighters and graphics to make the manual more user-friendly. There are questions at the end of each chapter for discussion purposes. It includes many new programs, suggestions and cautions to use in carrying out ministry.

The first three chapters update and expand on information presented in the first edition. Areas are the theological basis for the congregation, the role of the Pastor and the role of the church council.

The remaining seven chapters include programs that have proven effective in major areas of congregational life. These programs

have proven effective in congregations throughout this country and Canada. Program areas include youth activities, worship, adult education, spiritual gifts, impacting in the community and finance. It also has a focus on reaching the **unchurched**. Who is this person; what might cause that person to visit a congregation; what must be in place when that person arrives and what will cause them to return. This manual was written from the perspective of one who has spent that last 28 years working directly with pastors and congregations.

Writings - nealboese

<http://www.nealboese.com/Writings.html>

[Images for SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE focus on reaching the unchurched](#)

Sharing Your Faith... With the Unchurched | Grace Communion

God gives us faith to share. Let's remember these basics:

- Be Christ like. Be the kind of person people can respect and confide in. Agree with people as much as possible. Be known for going the extra mile at work and elsewhere (Matthew 5:41). Christ living in you, day by day, will help you accomplish this. You don't have to be perfect, but you do have to be consistently open, honest and concerned.
- Be bold. Don't be afraid to tell people: "I'll be praying for you" or "I have a booklet that's helped me. I'll bring it tomorrow if you want." Offer to pray with them right then and there.
- Follow up. This shows you really are interested. A card or a gift is a concrete way of letting people know you care. Our world is starving for spiritual connection. With God's help we can be ambassadors of healing. God wants us to share our faith with others.

<http://www.gci.org/gospel/sharing/unchurched>

[Images for Sharing Your Faith... With the Unchurched | Grace Communion](#)

62 Ways to Connect with the Unchurched » Transforming Churches Network

In order to connect with the unchurched, you have to have three ingredients: a knowledge of God's word; a good relationship with unchurched people; and an ability to make the leap from a world of organized faith to a world of searching faith.

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Surprising Insights from the Unchurched and Proven Ways to Reach Them [Thom S. Rainer]

We've read all the hot books on evangelism, we've attended scores of seminars---and still we're not reaching the unchurched. Eighty to ninety percent of churchless Americans will never enter our culturally relevant, seeker-sensitive doors. What are we missing? Maybe we've been asking the wrong people. Instead of consulting the unchurched masses, it's time we heard what the small but important minority who have recently begun attending a church have to say. What made the difference for them? What critical factors helped spark their faith in Jesus and drew them into the community of believers? Thom Rainer shares results and conclusions of this groundbreaking survey of the formerly unchurched. At last, here are proven insights into what evangelistically effective churches are doing right. Filled with charts, graphs, and other visual aids, plus an abundance of true-life accounts, this book explodes myths about the unchurched. You will discover: * Why pastors and doctrinal preaching are critical * The enormous influence of family and relationships * Which things matter more than we thought, and which matter less * The traits of unchurched-reaching leaders * How to become a church for the unchurched.

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Images for Thom S. Rainer, author
Images for Surprising Insights from the Unchurched and Proven Ways to Reach Them [Thom S. Rainer]

The Unchurched Next Door: Understanding Faith Stages as Keys to Sharing Your Faith [Thom S. Rainer]

In a national survey conducted by author Thom Rainer and his staff, eight out of ten unchurched men and women said they would come to church - if only someone would invite them. When and how is the next big question. Rainer helps you figure out where your neighbors, friends, and coworkers are in their spiritual quest, and how you can know who among the unchurched people in your life are receptive to Christ.

In this fascinating book, Rainer identifies five 'faith stages' that represent your running buddy, your sister-in-law, or your hairdresser. 'A discovery we made is that reaching lost and unchurched people is not always best accomplished with some cookie-cutter strategy,' Rainer writes. 'The unchurched are different in how they respond to the gospel.' How different? You will be amazed at the variables that exist when it comes to how open people are to the Christian message. Open this book, and open your mind and heart to the powerful new possibilities of reaching *The Unchurched Next Door*.

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[Images for The Unchurched Next Door: Understanding Faith Stages as Keys to Sharing Your Faith \[Thom S. Rainer\]](#)

The Jesus Enterprise: Engaging Culture to Reach the Unchurched by Kent R. Hunter

Those Christians who work in missionary settings among non-Christian groups learned an important lesson long ago about communicating the gospel. You can build the church, ring the bell, and hope that folks will find their way to your doorstep. Or, you can immerse yourself in the culture, build relationships, and minister to people where they are. Needless to say, it is the latter route that bears the greatest fruit--and the greatest similarity to Jesus' own practice of proclaiming the gospel.

As churches in North America seek to grow and minister more effectively, they would do well to remember that they, too, live in an increasingly non-Christian culture. The churches that will succeed in reaching out to the unchurched in this society are those who have learned how to encounter such people on their own territory. Hence, one congregation brings visitors into their building, not through something foreign-sounding like a "narthex," but through a coffee and espresso bar.

In this and dozens of other ways, innovative congregations are reaching out to the unchurched. Kent Hunter names such forms of ministry the Jesus Enterprise. In this helpful book, he tells the stories of churches where this kind of outreach has become the norm. More important, he also provides other churches the tools they need to identify the particular opportunities their context presents and ways to take advantage of those opportunities to present the gospel to those most in need of it.



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[Images for Kent R. Hunter, author](#)
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The Unchurched: Who They Are and Why They Stay Away [James Russell Hale]

The author interviews some of the forty percent of Americans who do not attend any church, analyzes their reasonings, and classifies them under such categories as "hedonists," "nomads," and "true unbelievers."

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[Images for James Russell Hale, author the unchurched](#)
[Images for The Unchurched: Who They Are and Why They Stay Away \[James Russell Hale\]](#)

Unchurched - Wikipedia

"Unchurched" (alternatively, "The Unchurched" or "unchurched people") means, in the broad sense, people who are Christians but not connected with a church.^[1] In research on religious participation, it refers more specifically to people who do not attend worship services.^[2] In this sense it differs slightly from the term 'nones' which denotes an absence of affiliation with a religions and not an absence of attendance at religious services. The Barna Group defines the term to mean "an adult (18 or older) who has not attended a Christian church service within the past six months" excluding special services such

as Easter, Christmas, weddings or funerals.^[3] Barna reports that there were 75 million "unchurched people" in the United States as of 2004. Throughout history the word "unchurched" was a derogatory reference to people lacking access to culture or education or referred to inappropriate, improper or impolite behavior. It is no longer used this way.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unchurched>
[Images for Unchurched](#)

Walking Together

A Congregational Resource Event

A Pink Mohawk and the Mission of Jesus

How brothers in Christ used a haircut to share the love of Jesus with a church full of the **unchurched**

Rev. Ned Lenhart, mission developer, Living Water Lutheran Church, Cameron

For the past four years, the NW Synod of Wisconsin's newest mission start has been creating and implementing new ways to discover and share the love of Jesus with the 50% of Barron County that is currently not connected to a community of faith. This past year two disciples at Living Water in Cameron collaborated on a unique idea, one that was featured in the February issue of *The Lutheran Magazine*. http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=11236

Peter Johnson and Pastor Ned Lenhart will share more about the, "Pink Mohawk" event and how churches can leverage ordinary, everyday events into opportunities for pushing the boundaries of God's kingdom. Page 10

We've Got a Mission Plan. Now What?

Rev. Kathy Pennington and ministers of East Immanuel Lutheran Church, Amery

Hear the story of how a rural congregation is living out its mission plan. The pastor and tools titled, *Walking through the Neighborhood and Moving Beyond our Doors*. Page 7

Download this free mission planning resource:

http://www.nswwi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/beyond_our_doors_rev.pdf

http://www.nswwi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/program_book_3.16.13.pdf

info@nswwi.org

<http://livingwater-cameron.org/staff>

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[Images for share the love of Jesus with a church full of the unchurched](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/Living-Water-Lutheran-Church-249377908442648/>

<http://www.eastimmanuel-lutheran.org/About-Us.html>

<http://www.eastimmanuel-lutheran.org/>

What do statistics tell us about the unchurched? - The Aquila Report

In a world where there is abounding advice on using mercy ministries for evangelism, training in how to reach various religious groups, and untold World and Life seminars to teach apologetics to average church members – could it be a main target group out there is 'fallen-away born-again's'?

<http://theaquilareport.com/what-do-statistics-tell-us-about-the-unchurched/>

[Images for What do statistics tell us about the unchurched? - The Aquila Report](#)

<https://www.theaquilareport.com/category/churches-and-ministries/>

Where Are the Unchurched? – Parish Paper

Each congregation's ministry occupies a niche within a specific religious landscape. Every church location holds the potential to be "a holy place because the reign of God can come anywhere. For Jesus the holiness of the place is dependent ... on whether the signs of the kingdom are there."⁶ Is your congregation called to be a local expression of the kingdom of God? What is God's intention for your congregation in this place?

6. Robert M. Hamma, *Landscapes of the Soul: A Spirituality of Place* (Notre Dame, IN: Ave Maria Press, 1999), 84.

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<http://www.gadisciples.org/clergy/ParishPaper/September%202012.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources>

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[Images for Where Are the Unchurched? – Parish Paper](#)

Who Are the Unchurched? New Research Reveals the Answer | Facts and Trends

For this survey, "unchurched" means those who have not attended a worship service in the last six months, outside of a holiday or special occasion like a wedding.

<https://factsandtrends.net/2016/06/28/who-are-the-unchurched-new-research-reveals-the-answer/>

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<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/geneveith/2011/08/who-the-unchurched-actually-are/>

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<http://missionaljourney.blogspot.com/2009/02/just-who-are-unchurched.html>

http://www.foursquare.org/news/print/who_are_the_unchurched

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<http://www.christianpost.com/news/study-who-really-are-the-unchurched-33313/>

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<http://pastors.com/the-top-10-characteristics-of-the-average-unchurched-family/>

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Images for better-understand-your-unchurched-community

9) Visitor

Beyond the First Visit: The Complete Guide to Connecting Guests to Your Church [Gary L. McIntosh]

All churches like to think that theirs is the friendliest in town. But do visitors see it that way? Church consultant Gary McIntosh invites readers to take a look at their church through the eyes of visitors and potential visitors. His starting point, grounded in an understanding of God as a "welcomer," is that churches should see those who enter their doors as not merely visitors, but as guests, and themselves as gracious hosts. This practical book offers sound advice on assessing and improving the ways in which churches attract people, welcome them, do follow-up, and bring them into the church family. It also offers suggestions for making a welcoming attitude part of the very fabric of the local church.

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<https://www.christianbook.com/beyond-complete-guide-connecting-guests-church/gary-mcintosh/9780801091841/pd/091845>

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Beyond the First Visit: The Complete Guide to Connecting Guests to Your Church

Beyond The First Visit: The Complete Guide To Connecting Guests to Your Church - Pinterest

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http://www.talbot.edu/faculty/profile/gary_mcintosh/

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http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/58621.Gary_L_McIntosh

Images for Gary L. McIntosh, author

Images for Beyond the First Visit: The Complete Guide to Connecting Guests to Your Church [Gary L. McIntosh]

Calvary Church - First Time Visitors

If you've ever driven by Calvary and wondered, "What kind of church is that?" - here is your answer. Senior Pastor John Munro shares the message, vision, and purpose of Calvary Church in this short video. We invite you to join us this Sunday at 9:45 AM for worship. There's more helpful info below for newcomers...

http://www.calvarychurch.com/site/18_228_106.cfm

Images for Calvary Church - First Time Visitors

8 Bible Verses About Visitors - QuotesCosmos

<https://www.quotescosmos.com/bible/bible-verses/Visitors.html>

Images for Bible and Visitors

https://www.openbible.info/topics/visitors_in_your_home

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Visiting>

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18 best Church Visitor Ideas images on Pinterest

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Images for welcoming-church-visitors

<https://www.pinterest.com/PocketFolders/church-visitor-packets/>

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5 types of church visitors - United Methodist Communications

Different guests

Identifying different types of visitors can help you to understand what each seeks.

<http://www.umcom.org/learn/5-types-of-church-visitors-are-you-ready-for-them>
[Images for types of church visitors - United Methodist Communications](#)
<http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/united-methodist-communications>
<https://www.greatplainsumc.org/communicationresources>

5 Ways To Keep Visitors From Coming Back To Your Church | ELEXIO

Your church would never post a sign telling people they aren't welcome, but could you unknowingly be giving visitors the same impression by the way you're treating them?

Here are five things NOT to do if you want to see visitors return to your church:

<http://www.elexio.com/Blog/5-ways-to-keep-visitors-from-coming-back-to-your-church/>
[Images for Keep Visitors Coming Back to Your Church](#)
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How to Transform Worship Visitors into Regular Attendees - The Parish Paper

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III. Offer a Magnetic Menu	Page 3
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[PDF]Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 1--How to Transform Worship Visitors into Regular Attendees - The Parish Paper

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<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

How to Welcome a Church Visitor (with Pictures) - wikiHow

Churches should be welcoming places where new visitors feel free to explore and meet new friends. Because it's been a while since many of us have been first-timers, some congregations have forgotten some basic ways of putting yourself into the shoes of visitors, and how to make them feel welcome. By learning to welcome new members and introduce them to your church, you can make the experience memorable and avoid some common mistakes that turn off prospective members.

<http://www.wikihow.com/Welcome-a-Church-Visitor>

[Images for Welcome a Church Visitor](#)

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/gifted-for-leadership/2015/march/teach-your-entire-church-to-welcome-visitors.html>

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Nice is not enough - The Lutheran Magazine

When someone who hasn't participated in church life comes into a congregation, they usually are not looking to see if the people there would make good friends. Their underlying question isn't "Are the people here nice?" but rather "Is God clearly a part of this place?" If the answer they perceive is "yes," they then ask the next question: "Do the people seem to notice God's presence here?" **Visitors** want to know if this is a place where people have a vibrant and growing faith life. If so, they find hope that they, too, might find a vibrant and growing faith.

Once the God questions and the vibrant faith questions are answered, then people ask: "Are these people I would want to hang around with?" Here, being nice is helpful.

People want to journey with people who know God and are growing in faith, but who are also caring and loving in authentic ways. Relationships do matter. But nice is the third thing on the list — not the first.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12651

[Images for Nice is not enough - The Lutheran Magazine](#)

[Images for vibrant and growing faith life](#)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

Reaching and Keeping Visitors Checklist | FellowshipOne

Dynamic Churches are not only intentional about reaching new people, but also about connecting them to the life of the Church and a personal relationship with Christ. Many Dynamic Churches use this documented process to make sure everyone feels welcome and no one is overlooked.

<http://www.fellowshipone.com/resources/dynamic-leadership/reaching-and-keeping-visitors-checklist>

[Images for Reaching and Keeping Visitors Checklist | FellowshipOne](#)

6 Ways to Follow Up on First Time Church Visitors - EvangelismCoach

One reason to [improve your church hospitality](#) is to increase the number of first time visitors who decide to return to your congregation after the first visit.

Once your first time visitor comes and fills out a [church visitor information card](#), what are some next steps you might take?

<http://www.evangelismcoach.org/2013/6-ways-to-follow-up-on-first-time-church-visitors/>

[Images for 6 Ways to Follow Up on First Time Church Visitors - EvangelismCoach](#)

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<https://www.evangelismcoach.org/church-hospitality-resources/>

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<https://openblog.life.church/church-visitor-follow-strategy/>

<https://hillsong.com/collected/blog/2014/09/7-keys-to-effective-follow-up/#.Wv8UM0gvyUk>

<https://www.fishhook.us/blog/thanks-for-visiting> Thanks for visiting! - How to follow-up with First-time visitors - Fishhook

<https://smartchurchmanagement.com/5-tips-to-follow-up-with-church-visitors/>

<https://prochurchtools.com/follow-up-email-scripts-churches/>

<https://adamclaughlin.net/our-first-time-visitor-follow-up-process/>

[Images for first-time-visitor-follow-up-process](#)

10 foolproof ways to alienate visitors to your church | Christian News

Through careful observation, I've discovered a number of methods which, if implemented correctly, could quickly reverse this growth trend. The following is a list of strategies which are sure to switch off, alienate, and eventually evacuate your newcomers. Just work your way through them, and soon plenty of legroom - and that all important shorter communion queue - will be yours once more.

<http://www.christiantoday.com/article/10.foolproof.ways.to.alienate.visitors.to.your.church/49285.htm>

[Images for 10 foolproof ways to alienate visitors to your church | Christian News](#)

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/browse/>

10 Things First-Time Church Visitors Don't Want to Hear – The Christian Post

A pastor in charge of community building and small groups feels it's so important for churches to make a good impression on first-time church visitors from the moment they walk onto a church campus that he's come up with a list of 10 statements that just might do the opposite and turn churchgoers away.

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/10-things-first-time-church-visitors-dont-want-to-hear-83345/>

[Images for 10 Things First-Time Church Visitors Don't Want to Hear – The Christian Post](#)

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<https://churchleaders.com/pastors/pastor-how-to/163361-ben-reed-10-things-church-visitors-never-hear.html>

2 important statistics about first-time visitors to church – Church Community Builder

A few days ago, I ran across this blog post from ChurchMag on tips for bringing your branding full circle to engage first-time visitors to church. There was a lot of great information, and the one thing that stood out most were two statistics about first-time visitors: *Almost 90% of guests will return to visit a second time if someone follows up with them on the same day of that first visit.* Lifeway Research reports that *10% of first-time visitors become regular attendees.* While most of us would find the first statistic to be encouraging, I couldn't help but be a little disappointed in the second. For me this is indicative of the fact that many churches don't do the follow-up thing well. I'm guessing that, as a reader of this blog, you either do this well or desire to. So, what can we learn from these statistics, and how can we improve the return rate of first-time visitors?

<http://www.churchcommunitybuilder.com/blog/2-critical-stats-about-first-time-visitors/>
[Images for first-time visitors to church – Church Community Builder](#)
<https://www.churchcommunitybuilder.com/resources>

10) Vitality

Blessed Connections: Relationships that Sustain Vital Ministry [Judith Schwanz]

No pastor sets out to fail, but statistics say 15 to 20 percent of pastors leave pastoral ministry within the first five years. One seminary administrator said that every person he had heard of leaving the ministry had done so because of a relationship failure. We cannot escape relationships in ministry, yet few seminaries offer courses in how to build healthy relationships. The assumption is that the type of person who is called to ministry will have all the "people skills" they need, which sadly is not always true. In *Blessed Connections*, seminary professor Judith Schwanz focuses on the person of the minister and the relational system of the minister's life. She spotlights three areas of connection--relationship with self, relationships with other people, and relationship with God. Attending to these three primary connections will strengthen the pastor and cushion her or him against the pressures and stresses of daily ministry. *Blessed Connections* is ideal for seminary students and new pastors and includes "Assessment Journal" questions at the end of each chapter for personal application.

<http://www.amazon.com/Blessed-Connections-Relationships-Sustain-Ministry/dp/1566993563>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/4800246-blessed-connections>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566993562>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566994772>

[Blessed Connections: Relationships that Sustain Vital Ministry](#)

[Blessed Connections \(eBook\) | Ebooks, Relationship, Blessed - Pinterest](#)

<http://www.nts.edu/faculty/dr-judith-schwanz.html>

<http://elizabethpresbytery.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Professional-Ministry.pdf>

<http://sites.baylor.edu/preachersbookshelf/2015/04/26/blessed-connections-relationships-that-sustain-vital-ministry/>

<https://alban.org/archive/pastoral-sabbath-keeping/>

[Images for Judith Schwanz, author blessed connections](#)

[Images for Blessed Connections: Relationships that Sustain Vital Ministry \[Judith Schwanz\]](#)

Church Vitality - Center for Congregational Leadership

ARTICLES

SAMPLE CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES

WEB RESOURCES

BOOKSHELF

<http://www.centerforcongregationalleadership.org/church-vitality.html>

<http://www.centerforcongregationalleadership.org/resources-for-churches--leaders.html> Church Vitality

[Images for Church Vitality - Center for Congregational Leadership](#)

Congregational Vitality | Episcopal Church

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/library/topics/congregational-vitality>

[Images for Congregational Vitality | Episcopal Church](#)

<http://www.thediocese.net/resources/ministries/ministry-tools/congregational-vitality/>

<https://www.epicenter.org/congregational-life/congregational-vitality/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/posts/research/study-your-congregation-and-community>

[PDF] CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY PROJECT

Congregational leaders want to learn about their vitality for a wide variety of reasons. Whether you imagine this as the first step of a longer process or you are simply curious about how you compare to other congregations, your motivations for assessing vitality help determine how you will use the information you receive.

<http://congregationalvitalitysurvey.com/Resources/Discussion%20guide.pdf>

<http://www.congregationalvitalitysurvey.com/About.html>

[Images for CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY PROJECT](#)

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Growing_congregational_vitality.pdf

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Parochial_report_discussion_guide.pdf

[Images for parochial report discussion guide congregation vitality](#)

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Congregational_Vitality_Background.pdf

<https://surveys.elca.org/scripts/rws5.pl?FORM=cvtlogin> Congregational Vitality Index: Online Questionnaire

<http://congregationalvitalitysurvey.com/Resources.html>

<http://slideplayer.com/slide/12345337/> Congregational Vitality in the ELCA Presented to: Religious Research Association – 2016 Atlanta DEM Gathering – 2016 in Chicago

[Images for CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY PROJECT](#)

<http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/6960> ELCA Deeply Committed to Revitalizing Congregations - ELCA

[Images for revitalizing congregations](#)

Defining Church Vitality: Let Me Count the Ways – The Parish Paper

Healthy, effective churches accurately answer the classic theological question, “What is the mission of the Church and how do we accomplish it?” They build on the biblical macro mission, apply it contextually with micro mission activities, and exhibit multiple method mission strengths.

MACUCC: Defining Church Vitality - Let Me Count the Ways

<https://www.macucc.org/parishpaper> 2019 Defining Church Vitality (January)

<https://www.macucc.org/blogdetail/defining-church-vitality-12527871>

https://www.macucc.org/files/files/parish_paper/2019/pp+---+1+---+2019+---+defining+church+vitality.pdf

[Images for Defining Church Vitality](#)

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources>

<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>

<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/> Defining Church Vitality: Let Me Count the Ways – Jan 2019

<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations by David Poling-Goldenne (Author), L. Shannon Jung (Author)

God's Spirit is breathing new vitality into rural congregations! Hear what 26 effective rural congregations have to say about God's activity in and through them. In these stories, you can explore the best practices for vital ministry and identify action steps for your own setting. Use *Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations* on your own, in a group, or at learning events involving many congregations.

Discovering Hope is a process that helps rural and small town congregations rediscover their purpose and sense of mission. This evangelism tool is based on the book *Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations* written by David Poling-Goldenne and L. Shannon Jung. This resource celebrates the best practices of 26 rural and small town congregations highlighting their effective work in the areas of prayer, worship, discipleship, evangelism, congregational care and leadership.

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/6363/Discovering-Hope-Building-Vitality-in-Rural-Congregations>

<https://www.amazon.com/Discovering-Hope-Building-Vitality-Congregations/dp/0806641479>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3435052-discovering-hope>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/discovering-hope-david-poling-goldenne/1112651732>

http://www.nswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/discovering_hope-building_vitality_in_rural_congregations.pdf

<http://www.pnwumc.org/event/discovering-hope-building-vitality-in-your-congregation/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/149041799143529/>

<http://www.christianbookpreviews.com/christian-book-author.php?isbn=0800636422>

<http://frenchcreeklutheran.org/tag/vital-rural-congregations/>

<http://lutheranmission.blogspot.com/2008/10/discovering-hope-resource-for-rural-and.html>

http://www.circle-m.ca/resource-centre/book_reviews_pdfs/discovering_hope.pdf

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/jung-and-poling-goldenne-discovering-hope.html>

https://www.amazon.com/s?ie=UTF8&page=1&rh=n%3A283155%2Cp_27%3ADavid%20Poling-Goldenne

[Images for David Poling-Goldenne \(Author\)](#)

<http://fortresspress.com/author/l-shannon-jung>

<https://www.amazon.com/L.-Shannon-Jung/e/B001H9Q2A0>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/387731.L_Shannon_Jung

[Images for L. Shannon Jung \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations by David Poling-Goldenne \(Author\), L. Shannon Jung \(Author\)](#)

Measuring Church Vitality: Beyond the Attendance Dance

If relying on membership and attendance numbers alone is not enough, where do we look to gather information? Consider gaining perspective in these two ways:

<https://www.buildfaith.org/beyond-attendance-church-vitality/>

[Images for Measuring Church Vitality: Beyond the Attendance Dance](#)

Reframing Hope: Vital Ministry in a New Generation by Carol Howard Merritt (Author)

Much has been written about the changing landscape the church finds itself in, and even more about the church's waning influence in our culture. From her vantage point as an under-40 pastor, Carol Howard Merritt, author of *Tribal Church*, moves away from the handwringing toward a discovery of what ministry in, with, and by a new generation might look like. What does the substance of hope look like right now? What does hope look like when it is framed in a new generation? Motivated by these questions, Merritt writes *Reframing Hope* with the understanding that we are not creating from nothing the vital ministry of the next generation.

Instead, we are working through what we have, sorting out the best parts, acknowledging and healing from the worst, and reframing it all.

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566993944>

<http://www.amazon.com/Reframing-Hope-Vital-Ministry-Generation/dp/1566993946>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/8673548-reframing-hope>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Reframing_Hope.html?id=wvxYAWAAQBAJ

[Reframing Hope: Vital Ministry in a New Generation](#)

http://www.churchleadership.com/leadingideas/leaddocs/2010/101201_article2.html

<https://imnedu.org/imn-library/reframing-hope-vital-ministry-in-a-new-generation/>

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/review-of-carol-howard-merritts-reframing-hope-vital-ministry-in-a-new-generation>

<http://www.faithinbooks.com/faith-a-practice/books-ministry/item/563-reframing-hope-vital-ministry-in-a-new-generation>

<http://www.expatminister.org/reframing-hope-a-review/>

<https://revgalblogpals.org/2010/08/23/revgalbookpals-reframing-hope-offers-from-alban/>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996198>

<http://collegevilleinstitute.org/blog/reframing-hope-vital-ministry-in-a-new-generation/>

<https://progressivespirit.net/2013/01/08/carol-howard-merritt-reframing-hope-january-10-16/>

<https://twitter.com/carolhoward>

<http://www.carolhowardmerritt.org/about.html>

<http://day1.org/2367-the-rev-carol-howard-merritt>

<https://www.christiancentury.org/About%20Carol%20Howard%20Merritt>

<http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/1040/review-reframing-hope>

<https://www.faithandleadership.com/carol-howard-merritt>

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/carol-howard-merritt>

<https://www.amazon.com/Carol-Howard-Merritt/e/B001JRXF9Q>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/948561.Carol_Howard_Merritt

[Images for Carol Howard Merritt \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Reframing Hope: Vital Ministry in a New Generation by Carol Howard Merritt \(Author\)](#)

Scattering Seeds: Cultivating Church Vitality by Stephen Chapin Garner (Author), Jerry Thornell (Contributor)

In *Scattering Seeds: Cultivating Church Vitality*, Stephen Chapin Garner and Jerry Thornell share the story of their home congregation, the United Church of Christ in Norwell, MA. This average congregation has approached congregational life in a not-so-average way. Each congregant is seen as a minister, bringing the good news of Christ to the community; the church has moved away from boards and committees, instead utilizing the people to form ministry teams; and they have revitalized the way they approach and practice worship and education. Garner and Thornell don't claim to have the secret to church growth and vitality, but in sharing the story of their simple church in New England, they give hope and innovative ideas to congregations in regions all over the country.

<http://www.amazon.com/Scattering-Seeds-Cultivating-Church-Vitality/dp/1566994225>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/14949436-scattering-seeds>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566996259/Scattering-Seeds-Cultivating-Church-Vitality>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/scattering-seeds-stephen-chapin-garner/1111604884>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996252>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Scattering_Seeds.html?id=Vv1YAWAAQBAJ

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/the-parable-of-the-sower-and-the-experience-of-church-growth/>

<http://pres-outlook.org/2012/08/scattering-seeds-cultivating-church-vitality/>

<https://alban.org/archive/a-question-of-growth/>

<https://alban.org/archive/weighing-the-giant-fly/>

<http://southcongregationalchurch-centerville.org/sermons/scattering-seeds-faith-on-the-move/>

<http://resources.mennonitechurch.ca/ResourceView/16/14230>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/garner-and-thornell-scattering-seeds-congregational-vitality.html>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/tag/church-health>

<https://www.bu.edu/sth/profile/chapin-garner-2/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/stephen-chapin-garner-aa557b73>

<http://www.newcanaannews.com/news/article/Congregational-Church-of-New-Canaan-names-new-6219695.php>

<https://www.amazon.com/Stephen-Chapin-Garner/e/B001JP30NE>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1329696.Stephen_Chapin_Garner

[Images for Stephen Chapin Garner \(Author\) scattering seeds](#)

[Images for Scattering Seeds: Cultivating Church Vitality by Stephen Chapin Garner \(Author\), Jerry Thornell \(Contributor\)](#)

70 Bible verses about Spiritual Vitality - Knowing Jesus

<http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Spiritual-Vitality>

[Images for Bible and Spiritual Vitality](#)

<https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/dictionary-of-bible-themes/8162-spiritual-vitality>

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Spiritual-Vitality>

<https://www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Topical.show/RTD/cgg/ID/8480/Spiritual-Vitality.htm>

<http://biblehub.com/topical/dbt/8162.htm> Dictionary of Bible Themes: 8162 spiritual vitality - Bible Hub

<https://sermons.faithlife.com/sermons/6040-the-formula-for-spiritual-vitality>
https://journals.lww.com/journalofchristiannursing/Citation/2006/08000/What_Is_Spiritual_Vitality_.17.aspx
<http://unlockingthebible.org/sermon/the-urgency-of-spiritual-vitality/>
<https://www.oneplace.com/ministries/unlocking-the-bible/listen/the-urgency-of-spiritual-vitality-part-1-575943.html>
<http://cdn.acts29.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/1.-Spiritual-Vitality-1.pdf>

Sharing Secrets of Vital Churches - CTUCC

"We are re-imagining the church; this is not just for new-church leaders," says Trimble, who has led the event the past three years. She defines the core competencies – the "Seven Secrets" – required for successful church development as:

- Assets – beginning where you are
- Vision – seeing where you're going
- Mission – turning church inside out
- Communication – from identity formation to market saturation
- Connection – creating transformational community
- Administration – managing for mission
- Transformational worship – the heartbeat of vibrant and vital church

http://www.ctucc.org/news/20100609_sharedsecrets.html
[Images for Sharing Secrets of Vital Churches - CTUCC](https://www.ctucc.org/resources)
<https://www.ctucc.org/resources>

The Postindustrial Promise: Vital Religious Community in the 21st Century [Anthony Healy]

Tales of demise and decline have come to characterize news on the state of religion and congregations in America. In *The Postindustrial Promise*, author Anthony Healy finds that the changes in religious life and among congregations are being misunderstood. Instead of seeing the changes as the result of the presumed aspects of postmodern life—individualism, the collapse of social groups, and the scrapping of tradition—Healy sees what has occurred as a postindustrial transformation, in which an economy based on manufacturing has been replaced by one based on corporate and consumer services. This transformation has changed what we value and how we live, as well as how we work. It has also changed congregations and religious life, but not necessarily in the way that many people think. Contrary to the stories of decline, Healy finds that in this time of postindustrial dislocation people are again putting down religious roots. Congregations are making it possible for people to reconnect with the stories and traditions of previous generations and have become the places in society where the re-embodiment of religious and cultural narratives is taking place. Different from the postmodern script, this postindustrial explanation leads us to fresh insights into the change that has occurred among religious bodies, their congregants, and their communities. This book provides pastors, lay leaders, teachers, scholars, and seminarians with a solid grounding in the basic aspects of the postindustrial transformation and offers direction to help religious leaders develop responsive and viable places of ministry, mission, and program in this time of change.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Postindustrial-Promise-Religious-Community/dp/1566992877>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2414543.The_Postindustrial_Promise
<https://www.pilgrimreaderbooks.com/product/36217/The-Postindustrial-Promise-Vital-Religious-Community-in-the-21st-Century-Healy-Anthony-E>
https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/nook-books/sociology/christian-sociology/_/N-8qaZ198q?Ns=P_Display_Name%7C1
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566992879>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996686>
The Postindustrial Promise: Vital Religious Community in the 21st Century
<https://digitalacademy.ecrater.com.au/p/27774657/ebook-978-1566992879-the-postindustrial-promise-vital>
<https://alban.org/archive/discerning-the-shape-of-the-emerging-church/>
<http://resources.mennonitechurch.ca/ResourceView/2/7051>
<http://www.louisville-institute.org/Grants/abstract.aspx?id=963>
[Images for Anthony Healy, author the postindustrial promise](https://www.alban.org/archive/vital-signs/)
[Images for The Postindustrial Promise: Vital Religious Community in the 21st Century \[Anthony Healy\]](https://www.alban.org/archive/vital-signs/)

Vital Signs » Alban

For the last three years, my job has been to go to church. As the project director of a research study on vital congregations, I have spent hundreds of hours in worship, attending programs and events, and talking to pastors and laypeople from healthy and lively churches. Although the conventional wisdom limits such traits to conservative congregations, my search for vitality focused on mainline Protestants, whose old churches dot the American landscape. Many people chuckled when I told them of my quest. "Vital mainline churches?" they asked. "That sounds like a pretty short journey!" But I am an Episcopalian who has found a meaningful way of life through ancient tradition, social justice, spiritual practices, and beautiful worship. So, I set off to find some like-minded pilgrims. I hoped to learn from real people in the pews what it is that makes their churches work and to give voice to their understanding of the gospel.

[Alban at Duke Divinity School » Vital Signs](https://alban.org/archive/vital-signs/)
<https://alban.org/archive/vital-signs/>
[Images for Vital Signs » Alban - Diana Butler Bass](https://alban.org/author/alban/page/99/)
<https://alban.org/author/alban/page/99/>
<https://alban.org/archive/page/94/>

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Practicing-Congregation-Imagining-Church/dp/1566993059>
<http://www.amazon.com/From-Nomads-Pilgrims-Practicing-Congregations/dp/1566993237>
<https://alban.org/category/renewal-vitality/>
<https://alban.org/about-alban/alban-weekly/>
<https://alban.org/books/>
<https://alban.org/author/nekduke-edu/>
<https://www.facebook.com/albaninstitute/>
<http://www.elizabethpresbytery.org/Resource%20Center%20ON%20THE%20WEB/Alban%20Institute%20Resources%202012.pdf>
<https://alban.org/about-alban/congregations-magazine/>

What's Theology Got to Do with It? Convictions, Vitality, and the Church by Anthony B. Robinson (Author)

For congregations seeking renewed purpose and vitality this book gets to the heart of the matter. One of the leading voices on congregational life and leadership, Anthony Robinson makes the case that congregations should openly express their beliefs and values to clarify their purpose. Doing so opens up new avenues for transforming worship, promoting spiritual formation, and forwarding a church's mission. The wisdom invested in this book is powerful enough to shape a ministry and lead a congregation to its call.

<http://www.amazon.com/Whats-Theology-Got-Do-Convictions/dp/1566993202>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/991278.What_s_Theology_Got_to_Do_with_It
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566993203>
<https://www.mightyape.co.nz/product/whats-theology-got-to-do-with-it/27110394>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996937>
https://books.google.com/books/about/What_s_Theology_Got_to_Do_With_It.html?id=doSXAwAAQBAJ
https://books.google.com/books/about/What_s_Theology_Got_to_Do_with_It.html?id=bT9PQAACAAJ
What's Theology Got to Do With It?: Convictions, Vitality, and the Church
http://www.peaks-presbytery.org/catalog/Calibre%20Library/catalog/book/book_473.html
<https://alban.org/archive/whats-in-a-name/>
<https://alban.org/archive/congregational-leadership-ten-observations-from-a-practitioner-and-teacher/>
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/robinson-whats-theology-got-to-do-with-it.html>
<http://www.centerforcongregationalleadership.org/church-vitality.html>
<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/review-of-whats-theology-got-to-do-with-it-convictions-vitality-and-the-church/>
<http://www.anthonyrobinson.com/>
<https://www.faithandleadership.com/anthony-b-robinson>
<https://www.anthonyrobinson.com/about/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Anthony-B.-Robinson/e/B001JRTNII>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/70337.Anthony_B_Robinson
Images for Anthony B. Robinson (Author)
<https://www.facebook.com/anthonybrobinson>
Images for What's Theology Got to Do with It? Convictions, Vitality, and the Church by Anthony B. Robinson (Author)

www.congregationalresources.org: A Guide to Resources for Building Congregational Vitality [Richard Bass]

An ever-increasing number of resources compete for the attention of congregational leaders. With a seemingly endless number of choices, finding the best resource on a particular topic for a specific congregation is an often daunting challenge. www.congregationalresources.org, is an invaluable companion to the groundbreaking online version of Alban Institute's and Indianapolis Center for Congregation's jointly researched and produced Congregation's jointly researched and produced Congregational Resource Guide, launched in 2001 and accessed by thousands of seekers each week. The book conveniently and cogently puts the rich array of important resources into context by examining in depth, the key books, organizations, Web sites, and people that will help leaders gain an understanding of important issues facing their congregations. The book features ten overviews of important topics by widely recognized experts in their fields, including Amy Sherman on Community Ministry, Tom Fischer on Congregational Health, Lee Ramsey on Preaching, Paul Chaffee on Leadership, John Janka on Evaluation, and Jean Trumbauer on Lay Ministry. Each essay is accompanied by an annotated list of selected resources for researching further information. Helpful guides for using these valuable resources to promote and encourage congregational understanding and transformation are also included.

<http://www.amazon.com/www-congregationalresources-org-Resources-Building-Congregational-Vitality/dp/1566992664>
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566997072>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0898698189>
Images for Richard Bass congregational vitality
Images for A Guide to Resources for Building Congregational Vitality [Richard Bass]

Page 175

11) Volunteer

Best 25+ Volunteer quotes ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/volunteer-quotes/>
Images for volunteer quotes pinterest
<https://www.pinterest.com/tchabitat/volunteer-quotes/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/initliveinc/volunteer-quotes/>

Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul: Stories to Celebrate the Spirit of Courage, Caring and Community (Chicken Soup for the Soul) by Jack Canfield (Author), Mark Victor Hansen (Author), Arline Oberst (Author), John Boal (Author), Tom Lagana (Author), Laura Lagana (Author), Arline McGraw Oberst (Author), John T. Boal (Author), Rusty Fischer (Contributor)

Deep within each one of us lies the ability to step up and care for those in need, even though we often feel overwhelmed by a complex world. In fact, more than 200 million people throughout the world offer their time and love to volunteering. The stories in *Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul* highlight the efforts of everyday people in the United States and around the globe who volunteer with the American Red Cross, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Habitat for Humanity, the Peace Corps, Points of Light, Rotary and many, many other nonprofit organizations. Lovingly chosen from more than six thousand stories, poems and cartoons, these tales will inspire readers to do everything in their power to help those in need. Chapters include: The Rewards of Volunteering, Giving Back, Making a Difference, New Appreciation, Love and Kindness, Defining Moments, A Matter of Perspective, Overcoming Obstacles and On Wisdom.

Readers will cherish the story of a community that rallied together to send warm winter coats to refugee families in Kosovo. They'll be moved by the tale of a woman with a "smiley voice" who made audiotapes for the visually impaired despite a losing battle with cancer. They'll never forget the eight-year-old boy without arms or legs who fearlessly wielded a tennis racquet to propel a ball down the length of a room. And they'll be charmed by a rabbit named Cadberi who brings boundless joy to residents of a nursing home.

<http://www.amazon.com/Chicken-Soup-Volunteers-Soul-Communications/dp/0757300146>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/124780.Chicken_Soup_for_the_Volunteer_s_Soul

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/chicken-soup-for-the-volunteers-soul-jack-l-canfield/1101316603>

<http://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Chicken-Soup-for-the-Volunteers-Soul/Jack-Canfield/9781623610012>

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[Images for Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/marlainagrace/chicken-soup-for-the-soul/>

<https://www.pinterest.com.au/betsilyn/chicken-soup-for-the-soul/>

[Images for Chicken Soup for the Soul Pinterest](#)

Church Volunteering Problem Solving: Christian Gravy

Christian, you should be serving in your church. You've known that for some time, but you just don't know what God is calling you to do.

Christian Gravy: Church Volunteering Problem Solving

<http://www.christiangravy.com/2013/01/church-volunteering-problem-solving.html>

[Images for Church Volunteering Problem Solving](#)

Connect: How to Double Your Number of Volunteers [Nelson Searcy, Jennifer Dykes Henson]

What if your church had more volunteers than you knew what to do with? Sound far-fetched? It doesn't have to be. Now consultant, pastor, and author Nelson Searcy unveils his secret to doubling your volunteer base in as little as one day. Yes, you read that right. This step-by-step guide shows church leaders how to create a culture that attracts, keeps, and grows volunteers. Taking a comprehensive approach to the often frustrating issue of finding and retaining volunteers, *Connect* gives leaders the practical insight and tools they need to effectively involve people in serving the local church. It details how to help people see the importance of serving, how to continually raise up new volunteers, how to *really* delegate, and even how to "fire" a volunteer. Every church leader who has struggled with getting and keeping people active in the church (and that's all of them) will love the practical, workable strategies found here.

http://www.amazon.com/Connect-Double-Your-Number-Volunteers/dp/0801014670/ref=pd_sim_b_5

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/13789098-connect>

<https://www.christianbook.com/connect-how-double-your-number-volunteers/nelson-searcy/9780801014673/pd/014673>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/connect-nelson-searcy/1111409787>

<https://www.logos.com/product/43178/connect-how-to-double-your-number-of-volunteers>

http://myhealthychurch.com/store/Item_Data/downloads/039037_preview.pdf

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https://twitter.com/nelsonsearcy?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor

<https://www.churchgrowth.org/nelson-searcy/>

<https://churchleaderinsights.com/tag/nelson-searcy-volunteers/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Jennifer-Dykes-Henson/e/B004RHP0XY>

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<https://faithlife.com/jennifer-dykes-henson/about>

<https://www.facebook.com/jennifer.dykes.henson>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jennifer-dykes-henson-b03292b>

[Images for Nelson Searcy, Jennifer Dykes Henson](#)

[Images for Connect: How to Double Your Number of Volunteers \[Nelson Searcy, Jennifer Dykes Henson\]](#)

Employee/Volunteer Screening

One of the best ways to protect children is to surround them with adults who are concerned with every child's welfare and safety. The first step in doing this is to set up a comprehensive screening process for applicants. A comprehensive screening process consists of: Criminal background checks, In-person interviews, Reference checks, Ongoing observation.

Safe to Compete: An Introduction to Sound Practices

<http://www.safetocompete.org/SoundPractices#EmployeeVolunteerScreening>

[Images for Employee/Volunteer Screening](#)

<https://wikis.engage.com/churchadministraionfall2/1311022011>

How to Mobilize Church Volunteers by Marlene Wilson (Author)

How do you motivate the volunteers on your staff? Are you "burning out" your best people? What can you do with the pew-sitters? Do you find it hard to ask for help? This insightful, practical book by Marlene Wilson, an international authority on volunteerism, will help you answer these and other questions about volunteers in the church. Problems in any church's volunteer program can be corrected, says Wilson. We can learn to care as much about people as we do about programs by using sound principles for human resource management. This new book for all churches points out common problems, establishes management principles, answers questions, and offers a plan to turn the volunteer challenge into a reality.

<http://www.amazon.com/Mobilize-Church-Volunteers-Marlene-Wilson/dp/0806620129>

<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/5403/How-to-Mobilize-Church-Volunteers>

<https://www.energizeinc.com/bios/marlene-wilson>

<http://www.outreachmagazine.com/features/17121-6-ways-to-mobilize-more-volunteers.html>

https://books.google.com/books/about/How_to_Mobilize_Church_Volunteers.html?id=jZ8DAAAACAAJ

https://www.amazon.com/Marlene-Wilson/e/B001HOU5K8/ref=db_a_mng_rwt_scns_share

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/871135.Marlene_Wilson

[Images for Marlene Wilson \(Author\) church volunteers](#)

[Images for How to Mobilize Church Volunteers by Marlene Wilson \(Author\)](#)

The Effective Management of Volunteer Programs [Marlene Wilson]

The volunteer world's bestselling handbook, now in its 10th printing, is the source on setting up a volunteer organization, recruiting, management techniques, volunteer philosophies, job design, and more. Includes worksheets, diagrams, and exercises.

<http://books.google.com/books?id=y0pHAAAAMAAJ&focus=searchwithinvolume&q=>

<http://www.amazon.com/Effective-Management-Volunteer-Programs-Marlene/dp/0960336206>

[Images for The Effective Management of Volunteer Programs \[Marlene Wilson\]](#)

You Can Make a Difference: Helping Others and Yourself Through Volunteering [Marlene Wilson]

A book for & about today's volunteers & prospective volunteers. Emphasis is on how people can achieve meaning & self-worth, as well as new skills & motivation, through volunteer work. Volunteer opportunities, reasons for volunteering, & inspirational stories of people who are volunteering & making a difference are highlighted.

http://books.google.com/books?id=3BX8jOpF6f4C&source=gbs_book_similarbooks

<http://www.amazon.com/You-Can-Make-Difference-Volunteering/dp/0960336230>

<http://yp.scmp.com/go-to-gurus/personal-development/article/98238/help-yourself-helping-others-through-volunteering>

<https://www.pinterest.com/paulaerck/give-back-volunteer-caring-for-others/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/tchabitat/volunteer-quotes/>

[Images for You Can Make a Difference: Helping Others and Yourself Through Volunteering \[Marlene Wilson\]](#)

How To Recruit Church Volunteers & Create A Culture Of Service

It doesn't take long in church leadership to realize that you need your volunteers. Just looking at your to-do list, the time you need to complete it, and the manpower required to make a church run smoothly can feel daunting.

One trend we've noticed here at **Vanderbloemen** is that healthy churches have a church staff that is focused on creating a culture of volunteerism and service. People grow in their faith walk as they exercise their gifts by serving.

There are a few things that church leaders need to be aware of when approaching the challenge of creating a culture of volunteerism and service.

<https://www.vanderbloemen.com/blog/how-to-recruit-church-volunteers-create-a-culture-of-service>

[Images for How To Recruit Church Volunteers & Create A Culture Of Service](#)

<https://blog.proclaimonline.com/2016/08/12/church-volunteer-recruitment/>

<http://www.theequipper.org/articles/show.asp?id=52>

<http://openblog.life.church/11-church-volunteer-recruitment-ideas/>

<http://meettheneed.org/organizations/in/volunteer-management/church-guide.pdf>

<https://churchtechtoday.com/2016/04/25/5-great-church-volunteers-resources/>

<http://www.churchvolunteercentral.com/>

[Images for Train, Protect, Recruit, Retain Volunteers](#)

<http://www.lifeway.com/kidsministry/2014/07/10/9-principles-for-enlisting-and-recruiting-great-volunteers/>

Images for Principles for Enlisting and Recruiting Volunteers
http://www.ehow.com/how_2138361_volunteers-church-keep-them.html
Images for Volunteers at Church and Keep Them

Leading a Church More Complex than Leading a Business

7. The church is highly dependent on **volunteers**. The business world exerts some leverage over employees, but church leaders rely on people voluntarily giving their time and money. When people don't follow through on their commitments, it creates frustration and stress.

<http://www.churchcentral.com/blog/11155/Leading-a-church-more-complex-than-leading-a-business>
Images for church is highly dependent on volunteers

Learning to Give

Learning to Give is the world's leading developer of lessons and resources that teach giving and **volunteerism**, civic engagement, and character through service.

<http://learningtogive.org/>
Images for Learning to Give
Images for giving and volunteerism, civic engagement, and character

New Life through Shared Ministry: Moving from Volunteering to Mission by Judith A. Urban (Author)

In *New Life through Shared Ministry*, Judith Urban creates a pathway for building a shared ministry system. She assists readers in transforming their congregation into one where members are invited into volunteer ministry; people are matched according to their gifts and interests with ministry opportunities; volunteers are offered support, training, and appreciation; and all grow to spiritual maturity through that ministry. This comprehensive guide is based on Urban's consulting, training, and planning with shared ministry directors and teams the past 12 years, her experience building a shared ministry system in a congregation, and her own studies in the field of volunteer management. Urban observes that shared ministry is a way of being church together that creates a distinctive congregational culture. It encompasses the many ways members of a congregation serve their faith community and the wider community. It is based on the concept that all are called to participate in the work of the church bringing the good news of God's saving grace to the world. It is also a system of interrelated parts that work together to bring the concept into reality. Congregations that grow a shared ministry culture are able to facilitate the unique work God gives each member and the community as a whole, creating a system that supports the people of God as they carry out excellent, effective ministry.

<https://www.amazon.com/New-Life-through-Shared-Ministry/dp/1566994357>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/17354904-new-life-through-shared-ministry>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995914>
<https://thecrg.org/resources/new-life-through-shared-ministry-moving-from-volunteering-to-mission>
<http://www.newcastle.anglican.org/userfiles/file/Newcastle%20Website/Mission%20and%20Ministry/Local%20Ministry%20and%20Readers%20Training/Albanweekly29April2013.pdf>
https://www.archspm.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/1392_072414_ArchdioceseStewardshipToolkit4c_TimeAndTalent1.pdf
<https://alban.org/2016/06/07/judy-urban-bringing-new-life-to-your-congregation/>
<https://apcenet.org/2014/06/01/resources-forming-faith/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/judy-urban-9224189>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/6929965.Judith_A_Urban
Images for Judith A. Urban (Author) new life through shared ministry
Images for New Life through Shared Ministry: Moving from Volunteering to Mission by Judith A. Urban (Author)

Recognizing Volunteers – 30 Volunteer Appreciation Ideas

Volunteer appreciation is a critical component of effective volunteer management. Volunteers give of their time freely and don't ask for anything in return but keeping volunteers engaged and motivated is what showing them appreciation is all about. A well-managed volunteer program has systems in place to reward and recognize volunteers strategically and deliberately. Because we all have different social styles, it's important to keep the various perspectives and likes and dislikes in mind when creating a volunteer appreciation system.

http://www.faithvillage.com/blogpost/070abc1099a647a382ebda01e995b43c/recognizing_volunteers_30_volunteer_appreciation_idea
Images for Recognizing Volunteers – Volunteer Appreciation

Recruiting Volunteers: A Guide for Non-Profits (Building an Effective Volunteer Staff) [Mary Ann Burke]

Recruiting Volunteers is to help individuals and organizations define the value of volunteers, evaluate the roles of volunteers, and develop programs to insure the effective use of volunteers. If you are considering using volunteers for the first time, this book will provide a model for developing an effective volunteer program.

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/recruiting-volunteers-carl-liljenstolpe/1000155299?ean=9781560521419&itm=1&usri=9781560521419>
<https://culturalbridging.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/volunteer-management-training.pdf>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/522845.Mary_Ann_Burke
Images for Mary Ann Burke, author recruiting volunteers
Images for Recruiting Volunteers: A Guide for Non-Profits (Building an Effective Volunteer Staff) [Mary Ann Burke]

Simply Strategic Volunteers: Empowering People for Ministry [Tony Morgan, Tim Stevens]

Power up your ministry with empowered people! These in-the-trenches authors show you how to help volunteers use their strengths to benefit the church—and their spiritual growth. Following in the footsteps of *Simply Strategic Stuff*, this comprehensive resource offers 99 straightforward solutions to help you recruit, train, motivate, and keep volunteers in ministry.

<http://www.amazon.com/Simply-Strategic-Volunteers-Empowering-Ministry/dp/0764427563>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/904342.Simply_Strategic_Volunteers

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/simply-strategic-volunteers-tony-morgan/1111009239>

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<https://tonymorganlive.com/>

https://twitter.com/tonymorganlive?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor

<https://theunstuckgroup.com/author/admin/>

<https://www.vanderbloemen.com/about/tony-morgan>

<https://www.amazon.com/Tony-Morgan/e/B002BMDB6A>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/218816.Tony_Morgan

[Images for Tony Morgan, author simply strategic volunteers](#)

<http://leadingsmart.com/>

<https://www.vanderbloemen.com/about/tim-stevens>

[Images for tim stevens author simply strategic volunteers](#)

[Images for Simply Strategic Volunteers: Empowering People for Ministry \[Tony Morgan, Tim Stevens\]](#)

States Volunteering the Most (and Least) - 24/7 Wall St.

Nearly 63 million Americans volunteered a total of roughly 7.7 billion hours in 2013, a contribution estimated to be worth approximately \$173 billion. Despite the economic and community benefits of volunteering, the percentage of Americans who volunteer fell from its peak of 28.8% in 2005 to 25.4% in 2013.

“Volunteers are the lifeblood of our nonprofits and schools and shelters and neighborhood organization, hospitals, hotlines,” said Sandy Scott, senior advisor at the Corporation for National and Community Service in an interview with 24/7 Wall St. “They provide enormous social and economic value for our country.”

<http://247wallst.com/special-report/2015/03/23/states-volunteering-the-most/>

[Images for States Volunteering the Most \(and Least\)](#)

The New Breed: Understanding and Equipping the 21st Century Volunteer by Jonathan R. McKee (Author)

Adapt to the changing world of volunteer management.

More than ever, today's volunteers work online, need flexible hours, and want to play a role in defining their jobs. They also want to feel a sense of responsibility for your organization's overall mission. Harness this passion and potential--with results that uplift your goals and enable your volunteers.

Includes: A profile of the 21st century volunteer. The seven deadly sins of recruiting volunteers. Framing your recruitment message to Boomers, Gen X, and Gen Y. The three levels of motivation. The six rules of empowerment.

Tons of resources! You get ministry job descriptions, applications, and interview questions; activities, icebreakers, and team-builders for volunteer meetings; community-building activities; tips for board retreats and planning sessions; and more!



<http://www.amazon.com/New-Breed-Understanding-Equipping-Volunteer/dp/0764435647>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2596911-the-new-breed>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-new-breed-second-edition-jonathan-mckee/1112247033>

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<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/mckee-the-new-breed-equipping-the-21st-century-volunteer.html>

<http://pdfsharez.com/the-new-breed-understanding-and-equipping-the-21st-century-volunteer>

<https://studyfundraising.info/managing-volunteers/>

<http://stepuptothecall.blogspot.com/2008/05/review-new-breed-understanding-and.html>

<https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/453456256220679159/>
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<http://rodneysthompson.files.wordpress.com/2009/02/new-breed.pdf>
<https://youthministry.com/author/jonathan-mckee/>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/735055.Jonathan_R_McKee
Images for Jonathan R. McKee (Author) volunteers
Images for *The New Breed: Understanding and Equipping the 21st Century Volunteer* by Jonathan R. McKee (Author)

The Volunteer Recruitment (and Membership Development) Book by Susan J. Ellis (Author)

Crammed with innumerable recruitment ideas and recommendations! Starts with designing assignments attractive to new volunteers and continues by addressing organizational image, where to look for volunteers, why people volunteer or do not, how to select the right recruitment technique, what "diversity" means to an organization, and the impact of trends in volunteering today. Includes a full chapter on membership development for all-volunteer organizations and an appendix on how to use the Internet for volunteer recruitment.

<http://www.amazon.com/Volunteer-Recruitment-Membership-Development-Book/dp/0940576252>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1139403.The_Volunteer_Recruitment_and_Membership_Development_Book
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/volunteer-recruitment-book-susan-j-ellis/1001272569>
https://www.energizeinc.com/store/volunteer_recruitment_and_membership_development_book
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http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/559298.Susan_J_Ellis
Images for Susan J. Ellis (Author) volunteer recruitment
Images for *The Volunteer Recruitment (and Membership Development) Book* by Susan J. Ellis (Author)

There's More to Vocation Than a Paycheck: Volunteering with a Purpose

Walking Together: A Congregational Resource Event

There's More to Vocation Than a Paycheck: Volunteering with a Purpose

Nowadays it seems harder and harder to find volunteers willing to teach, lead and serve, and it's tempting to ask anyone and everyone just to fill the spots open on leadership teams and church council. What if we began by finding out where people's passions lie and then suggesting they give a bit of time? We'll find out what Martin Luther meant by the term "vocation." We'll discuss tips to equip new volunteers so they don't burn out, discuss the difference between sprinter and marathon volunteers, and what to do with the volunteer who wants to do it all. Maybe you, too, will find a new passion and purpose in life!
Page 5

Volunteers Are Not Free

Marlys Waldo, deaconess, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Eau Claire

People volunteer for specific reasons. While they may not look for financial remuneration, they do expect their needs to be met. Participants will consider ways to keep volunteers motivated and will look at *The top Ten Tips for Working with Volunteers*.
Page 6

http://www.nswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/program_book_3.16.13.pdf
Images for *There's More to Vocation Than a Paycheck: Volunteering with a Purpose*
<http://nswi.org/leadership/missional-resources>

To Lead Is to Serve: How to Attract Volunteers & Keep Them [Shar McBee]

To Lead Is to Serve is about a quick and easy way to transform a group of volunteers into a thriving organization. Organizations have increased volunteers as much as 500% using this book. Triple your membership. Increase attendance. Make it easy for people to say YES to you.



<http://www.amazon.com/Lead-Serve-Attract-Volunteers-Keep/dp/0963856022>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1069274.To_Lead_Is_to_Serve
<http://www.joyofleadership.com/about/>
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<https://www.pinterest.com/elainebbryant/volunteer-recruiting-training/>
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<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/shar-mcbee>
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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/shar-mcbee-50237162>

http://premierespeakers.com/shar_mcbee/bio
<https://www.amazon.com/Shar-McBee/e/B000APA2EE>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/530575.Shar_McBee
Images for Shar McBee, author
Images for [To Lead Is to Serve: How to Attract Volunteers & Keep Them \[Shar McBee\]](#)

Volunteer Accountability - Episcopal Church Foundation Vital Practices for leading congregations

More churches are relying on volunteers more heavily, so it's important that churches practice good habits concerning volunteers. A few practical steps can ensure that volunteers are nurtured and valued but are also held accountable.

<http://www.ecfvp.org/posts/volunteer-accountability/>
www.ecfvp.org/blogs/672/volunteer-accountability
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<https://donnarawady.wordpress.com/2012/05/29/how-to-increase-accountability-when-managing-volunteers/>
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<https://www.trackitforward.com/benefit/keeping-volunteers-accountable-hard-doesnt-have-to-be>
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<https://www.partnersinleadership.com/insights-publications/accountability-and-the-not-for-profit/>
<https://ask.metafilter.com/110904/How-do-nonprofits-hold-volunteers-accountable>
Images for [nonprofits-hold-volunteers-accountable](#)
<https://youthministry.com/volunteer-accountability/>
<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2008/december-online-only/holding-volunteers-accountable.html>
<https://www.volunteeralive.org/docs/Strategic%20Volunteer%20Engagement.pdf>
<http://www.diycommitteeguide.org/quick/reference/accountability>
<https://vertess.com/2014/5-conclusions-about-volunteers-and-accountability/>
www.boldenterprises.com/2007/12/04/building-in-volunteer-accountability/
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https://www.jstor.org/stable/23715188?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents Ethical Issues in Volunteer Management and Accountability
<https://globalvolunteers.org/agreements/> Accountability and Agreements - Global Volunteers
<https://www.cof.org/content/bringing-personal-accountability-board-0>
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Volunteer Opportunities - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Not only is there a place for you in this church, there is a great need for your time and skills for doing God's work in the world. Everywhere you look, there are opportunities to share God's love and serve our neighbor. This is work we do together in the name of Jesus Christ here and throughout the world through the ELCA and its partners. Let us help you find an opportunity that matches your interests, gifts and available time.

<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Volunteer>
Images for [Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church](#)
<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Global-Church/Global-Mission/Global-Service/Volunteer>
<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Volunteer/Disaster>
<https://www.lutherancentral.com/category/all-lutherans/volunteer-opportunities-us-intl>
Images for [lutherans/volunteer-opportunities-us](#)
<http://lutheranvolunteercorps.org/>
Images for [Volunteer Opportunities - ELCA](#)

Volunteering - King of kings Lutheran Church!

The making of disciples is a vital part of the MAKE! Idea. We are called not only to GO! Out to the world, but to MAKE! Disciples. One of the greatest ways that we as a community of faith & love can help to deepen and strengthen our commitment to Christ as well as our faith is to get involved with the KOK community. One great way we can do this is through many of the volunteer efforts of the KOK community.

There are lots of great things to get involved with at KOK. Here are just a few:

<http://www.koklc.org/volunteering.html>
Images for [Volunteering - King of kings Lutheran Church!](#)

Volunteering: 101 Ways You Can Improve the World and Your Life [Douglas Lawson]

This handy guide presents 101 ways to help others and yourself by volunteering.

<http://www.amazon.com/Volunteering-Ways-Improve-World-Your/dp/1883051177>
<http://self-help-ebook.net/22758-volunteering-101-ways-you-can-improve-the-world.html>
<https://www.linkedin.com/pub/douglas-lawson/63/10b/8b4>
Images for [Douglas Lawson, author volunteering](#)
Images for [Volunteering: 101 Ways You Can Improve the World and Your Life \[Douglas Lawson\]](#)

Volunteering - Wikipedia

Volunteering is generally considered an altruistic activity where an individual or group freely gives time "to benefit another person, group or organization".^[1] Volunteering is also renowned for skill development and is often intended^[by whom?] to promote goodness or to improve human quality of life. Volunteering may have positive benefits for the volunteer as well as for the person or community served.^[2] It is also intended^[by whom?] to make contacts for possible employment. Many volunteers are specifically trained in the areas they work, such as medicine, education, or emergency rescue. Others serve on an as-needed basis, such as in response to a natural disaster.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volunteering>

[Images for Volunteering](#)

Volunteers - Synod Resource Center

[Nursery Attendants](#)

[Guidelines for Protection of Children, Youth and Those Who Work with Them](#)

[Volunteer Coordinators \(menu\)](#)

[Protecting the Ministry, A Manual for Writing Protection Policies in Congregations](#)

[Youth and Children's Ministry Handbook](#)

<http://synodresourcecenter.org/admin/personnel/volunteers/>

[Images for Volunteers - Synod Resource Center](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Volunteering? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/volunteering>

[Images for Bible and Volunteering](#)

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/bible-verses-about-volunteering/>

<https://connectusfund.org/30-good-bible-verses-about-volunteering>

<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Volunteering/>

<https://smartchurchmanagement.com/25-bible-verses-serving-volunteering/>

[Images for bible-verses-serving-volunteering](#)

<http://blogs.christianpost.com/bright-ideas/volunteers-in-the-bible-18872/>

[Images for volunteers-in-the-bible](#)

<http://biblereasons.com/volunteering/>

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/isaiah-volunteers-service/>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2014/11/12/top-7-bible-verses-to-thank-volunteers/>

[Images for bible-verses-to-thank-volunteers](#)

What Volunteers Want: 5 Ways to Make their Service Worthwhile - Christianity Today

Like many volunteers, I spend most of my week in the marketplace, pleasing several masters: bosses, customers, employees.

Those stakeholders have values different from mine. If my workday thoughts appeared in over my head in a cartoon bubble, you would read, "I can't wait to do something that really matters with people I love and with whom I share a common cause."

If you are looking for volunteers, you should be salivating as you read those thoughts. People with those thoughts are ripe for volunteer work, on a few conditions.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/le/2006/july-online-only/cln60724.html>

[Images for What Volunteers Want: 5 Ways to Make their Service Worthwhile - Christianity Today](#)

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/browse/>

Wisdom from Lyle E. Schaller: The Elder Statesman of Church Leadership

28. What Needs to Change for More People to **Volunteer?**

Page 151

<http://www.amazon.com/Wisdom-Lyle-Schaller-Statesman-Leadership/dp/1426749104>

[Images for Wisdom from Lyle E. Schaller: The Elder Statesman of Church Leadership 28. What Needs to Change for More People to Volunteer?](#)

http://leadnet.org/resources/advance/lyle_schallers_wisdom_for_today

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/schaller-and-bird-wisdom-from-lyle-e-schaller.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyle_E._Schaller

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/179868.Lyle_E_Schaller

http://www.abingdonpress.com/lyle_e_schaller

<http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/5884/remember-lyle-e-schaller-the-interventionist>

<http://leadnet.org/lyle-e-schaller-1923-2015-intellectual-pillar-of-leadership-network/>

[Images for Lyle E. Schaller on volunteering](#)

12) Welcome

All Are Welcome: Preaching and the Development of Church Identity - Alban

My experience as pastor of Congregational Church of Union, Connecticut, has convinced me that a congregation's identity as a welcoming community can develop through preaching that is attentive to the local context, intentionally visionary, relational, dialogical, free of coercion, and consistent with other pastoral initiatives in which preacher and congregation are engaged.

[Alban at Duke Divinity School » All Are Welcome: Preaching and the Development of Church Identity](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/all-are-welcome-preaching-and-the-development-of-church-identity/>
[Images for All Are Welcome: Preaching and the Development of Church Identity - Alban](#)

Am I welcome here? Genuinely Welcome Others to Church

Have you been a visitor at a Church? Did you leave feeling warm and loved? Or, did you wonder if they even knew you were there? Do visitors come to your church? How do they feel when they leave? Come explore "welcome" through the experience of others, share your experiences and leave with ideas to improve welcomeness at your church.

[PDF] ALL INFO 2016.xlsx - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

http://www.nwswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/all_info_2016.pdf

[Images for Am I welcome here? Genuinely Welcome Others to Church](#)

Becoming Welcoming Communities: Immigration in the Light of Biblical Faith

About the Wisconsin Council of Churches	Inside Front Cover
Introduction	2
Session 1: Sojourn to the Promised Land	4
Session 2: Practicing Hospitality	7
Session 3: New Immigrants Living an Old Story	10
Session 4: Becoming a Welcoming Nation	13
Evaluation	Inside Back Cover

http://www.wichurches.org/sitecontent/pdf_files/programs/Welcoming_Guide.pdf [PDF] Study Guide - Wisconsin Council of Churches

[Images for Becoming Welcoming Communities: Immigration in the Light of Biblical Faith](#)

<http://www.wichurches.org/programs-and-ministries/becoming-welcoming-communities-immigration-reform/>

Becoming Welcoming to Young Adults - YouTube

This workshop lifts up the stories of young adults who come to our congregations seeking a generationally inclusive community. How might we serve their needs in a way that honors our differences and connects us to the wisdom inherent in every stage of adulthood. We will offer ideas and resources for congregations wishing to widen the circle of participation to a broader range of ages and stages with a focus on inclusive leadership development.

From the Joseph Priestley District Fall Leadership Conference

September 22, 2012

Main Line Unitarian Church, Devon, PA

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLNP4i-liRN4otr2I9IOqQLWWqzUNUZn1>

[Images for Becoming Welcoming to Young Adults - YouTube](#)

[Images for young adults come to our congregations seeking a generationally inclusive community](#)

Characteristics of Pastoral Leadership - St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish

Hospitality – From their collective heart, good stewards say nothing as often as "Welcome." Everyone has something to contribute. Everyone is needed. Everyone needs to be made to feel as such. How does your council/commission welcome and include those serving and those participating in ministry?

<http://www.stmarymagdalen.org/Leadership/pccharacteristics.htm>

[Images for Characteristics of Pastoral Leadership - welcome](#)

Congregational Welcoming Statements - Synod Resource Center

During the 1998 Assembly, a resolution was passed encouraging congregations to adopt a "statement of unconditional welcome and transformation." After publishing several examples, we asked you to send in your statements. Following are some of those submissions; please keep them coming:

http://synodresourcecenter.org/evang/public/hospitality/0012/welcoming_statements.html

https://synodresourcecenter.org/Evangelism_Hospitality_Congregational_Welcoming_Statements

[Images for Congregational Welcoming Statements - Synod Resource Center](#)

ON APPLE STORES & CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME - Adam J. Copeland

The aim of a welcoming worship service and an Apple store is obviously night and day, but I'm one who seeks to learn from the best. In any case, it does seem clear that a congregation that offers few — or no — hands-on, ownership, loyalty-building experiences is, well, not one I'd want to join. And another thought: maybe all pew hymnal racks need to be calibrated to a 70 degree angle.

<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2012/06/21/on-apple-stores-and-congregational-hospitality/>

[Images for ON APPLE STORES & CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME - Adam J. Copeland](#)

One Body Many Members - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"One Body, Many Members" is a faith-based journey of discovery to learn, share and proclaim God's intention of oneness among people of every racial, ethnic and class background. How do we find that unity in a world as diverse as ours? How can we build up "one body" as strong as that?

These materials will lead you through the lands of race, culture and class in the United States, to meet God every step of the way. You will practice skills you need to know to speak the language of **welcome** and show actions of caring. You will sense more clearly God's purpose for you in today's world.

<http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Multicultural-Ministries/Multicultural-Education/One-Body.aspx>
[Images for Images for One Body, Many Members: A Journey for Christians across Race, Culture, and Class - ELCA](#)
<https://www.elca.org/Resources>

Reclaiming the Catechumenate as a Ministry of Welcome

Overall Goal

"To present a vision for the catechumenal process as both a rite of Christian initiation (faith formation for adults) and a means of forming disciples for baptismal living."

From Membership to Discipleship: An Introduction to the Catechumenate

http://www.nswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/making_disciples_fall_2012.pdf

[Images for Reclaiming the Catechumenate as a Ministry of Welcome](#)

info@nswi.org

The Welcoming Church - Sermon Central

A welcoming church. An international church. A church where every tribe and nation can be accepted, so that we might all worship God together.

<http://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/the-welcoming-church-matthew-parker-sermon-on-unity-75351.asp?>

[Images for Welcoming Church - Sermon Central](#)

<https://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/search?sortBy=recentlyviewed&ref=TrendingSermons>

The Welcoming Congregation: Roots and Fruits of Christian Hospitality [Henry G. Brinton, William H. Willimon]

"Every time people sit down to eat and drink together, there is the possibility that community will grow, and people will be reconciled to one another. This is good news for a fractured and polarized world, and a strong sign of the importance of being a welcoming congregation that embraces all people with God's love and grace." [from the introduction]

This practical book by pastor and writer Henry G. Brinton studies the biblical basis for Christian hospitality and how it is practiced in congregations today. While recognizing the challenges for embracing all people in the life of the church, Brinton offers a helpful guide for creating a hospitable congregation and welcoming others through spiritual formation, reconciliation, and outreach. He includes discussion questions and an action plan in each chapter.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Welcoming-Congregation-Christian-Hospitality/dp/0664237002>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/13746577-the-welcoming-congregation>

<https://www.christianbook.com/welcoming-congregation-roots-fruits-christian-hospitality/henry-brinton/9780664237004/pd/237004>

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Welcoming_Congregation.html?id=fuiAJDfsgAC

<http://www.readthespirit.com/explore/meet-henry-brinton-expert-on-welcoming-congregations/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Henry-G.-Brinton/e/B001KHCN7K>

http://www.abingdonpress.com/henry_g_brinton

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_G._Brinton

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/hgbrinton-803>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/348632.Henry_G_Brinton

[Images for Henry G. Brinton, author](#)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Henry_Willimon

http://www.abingdonpress.com/william_h_willimon

<https://divinity.duke.edu/faculty/william-willimon>

<https://willwillimon.wordpress.com/about/>

<https://www.amazon.com/William-H.-Willimon/e/B001IGHNA0>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/10467.William_H_Willimon

[Images for William H. Willimon, author](#)

[Images for The Welcoming Congregation: Roots and Fruits of Christian Hospitality \[Henry G. Brinton, William H. Willimon\]](#)

Unwelcome: 50 Ways Churches Drive Away First-Time Visitors [Jonathan Malm, Kem Meyer]

Walking into a church for the first time can be scary. Are you making your first-time guests feel welcome? Or are you driving them away—unintentionally—with bad signage, reserved seating, clunky communication and more? In this practical book, Jonathan Malm examines 50 ways churches make first-time visitors feel unwelcome. The transgressions range from insider lingo to awkward transitions, a cold congregation to the over-eager greeter. With all 50 church faux pas, Jonathan suggests ways to not only fix the problem, but also infuse excellence into the situation so churches can put their best foot forward with first-time guests. A few simple changes can help your church roll out the welcome mat for your guests.

<http://www.amazon.com/Unwelcome-Churches-Drive-First-Time-Visitors/dp/1502355965>

<http://astore.amazon.com/interimini06-20/detail/1502355965>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/23622494-unwelcome>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/unwelcome-jonathan-malm/1120519736>

<http://churchm.ag/jonathan-malm-unwelcome/>

<https://books.google.com/books/about/Unwelcome.html?id=8RPQoQEACAAJ>

<http://www.sundaymag.tv/excerpt-unwelcome/>

<https://pastoral.center/unwelcome>

<http://mikecrudge.com/2015/02/25/unwelcome-50-ways-churches-drive-away-first-time-visitors-my-review/>

<http://churchmarketingsucks.com/2014/10/unwelcome/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z0vvGvyazlw> Unwelcome - How Do You Decide What to Put in the Bulletin? – YouTube
<http://thomrainer.com/2014/11/top-ten-ways-churches-drive-away-first-time-guests/>
<https://servehq.church/blog/books-read-church-staff/> Decline
<https://www.amazon.com/Jonathan-Malm/e/B00H9RKNYK>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7739598.Jonathan_Malm
Images for Jonathan Malm, author unwelcome
<https://kemmeyer.com/>
<https://www.churchleadership.com/authors/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Kem-Meyer/e/B002BO9R9I>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2890688.Kem_Meyer
Images for Kem Meyer, author unwelcome
Unwelcome: 50 Ways Churches Drive Away First-Time Visitors - Pinterest
Images for Unwelcome: 50 Ways Churches Drive Away First-Time Visitors [Jonathan Malm, Kem Meyer]

Welcome Home: ...to the God who loves you: Dave Browning

In over 20 years as a pastor, Dave has helped thousands of people on their spiritual journey. In Welcome Home Dave surveys seven different sections of the Bible in which God reaches out to welcome you home. Each chapter concludes with a prayer whereby you can receive God's love, acceptance and forgiveness. Find a quiet place. Grab your Bible. Step on the welcome mat. As the door opens, get ready to be loved. The journey is personal. The destination is profound, a personal relationship with the God who created you.

<http://www.amazon.com/Welcome-Home-God-loves-you/dp/0595533078>
<http://astore.amazon.com/interimini06-20/detail/0595533078>
<https://www.iuniverse.com/en/bookstore/bookdetails/111700-Welcome-Home>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0595533078>
https://www.goskagit.com/news/burlington-pastor-dave-browning-dies/article_b6955621-6f3f-50fe-bd52-8d25105e6f62.html
Images for Welcome Home: ...to the God who loves you: Dave Browning

Welcome Quotes - BrainyQuote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/welcome>
Images for welcome quotes
<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/welcome>
www.quoteauthors.com/welcome-quotes/
<https://www.wallwritten.com/catalog/welcoming-75-1.html>
<http://quotes.yourdictionary.com/welcome>
http://www.qiga-usa.com/quotes/topics/welcome_t001.htm
<https://www.enkiquotes.com/welcome-home-quotes.html>

Welcome!: Tools and Techniques for New Member Ministry [Andrew D. Weeks]

This toolkit of intentional and compassionate strategies takes an encouraging, incremental approach to help even small groups get started quickly. Study the separate chapters on: imaginative marketing; the ministry of greeting, crafting welcoming materials, tracking and involving newcomers and structuring groups for growth. Then adapt an additional 34 pages of template forms, brochures, and procedures to your needs while employing Weeks' point-by-point recommendations to: make sure your signs and property invite, not confuse; create powerful, welcoming ads and print communication, train and prepare greeters; and develop programs to incorporate and track newcomers during their first critical months.



<http://www.amazon.com/Welcome-Tools-Techniques-Member-Ministry/dp/1566990572>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3011059-welcome>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/welcome-andrew-d-weeks/1118480751>
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566996907/Welcome!-Tools-and-Techniques-for-New-Member-Ministry>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996902>
Welcome!: Tools and Techniques for New Member Ministry
<http://www.magnetic-church.com/>
<http://www.st-marks.ca/index.php/component/booklibrary/95/view/58/Worship/89/welcome-tools-and-techniques-for-new-member-ministry>
<https://rowman.com/Action/Search/RL/alban%20books>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1294690.Andrew_D_Weeks
Images for Andrew D. Weeks, author
Images for Welcome!: Tools and Techniques for New Member Ministry [Andrew D. Weeks]

Welcome - Wikipedia

A welcome is a kind of [greeting](#) designed to introduce a person to a new place or situation, and to make them feel at ease. The term can similarly be used to describe the [feeling](#) of being accepted on the part of the new person.

In some contexts, a welcome is extended to a [stranger](#) to an area or a household. "The concept of welcoming the stranger means intentionally building into the interaction those factors that make others feel that they belong, that they matter, and that you want to get to know them".^[1] It is also noted, however, that "[i]n many community settings, being welcoming is viewed as in conflict with ensuring safety. Thus, welcoming becomes somewhat self-limited: 'We will be welcoming unless you do something unsafe'".^[2] Different cultures have their own traditional forms of welcome,^[3] and a variety of different practices can go into an effort to welcome:

Making a welcome is not a physical fabrication, though welcome may be embodied and fostered by appropriate physical arrangements. There can be an aesthetics of welcome. What is there when one makes a welcome? No thing really, and yet more than any thing. When one makes a welcome one creates the conditions that promise of home. One makes it possible for the other not any longer to feel outside or out of it, but to feel at home.^[4]

Indications that visitors are welcome can occur at different levels. For example, a [welcome sign](#), at the national, state, or municipal level, is a [road sign](#) at the border of a region that introduces or welcomes visitors to the region.^[5] A welcome sign might also be present for a specific community, or an individual building. One architect suggests that "[a] primary distinction between a gateway and a Welcome sign is that the gateway is usually designed and built by an outsider, a developer or architect, while the Welcome sign has been designed and built by an inside member of the community".^[6] A [welcome mat](#) is a doormat that welcomes visitors to a [house](#) or other building by providing them with a place to wipe their feet before entering.

Another community tradition, the welcome wagon, a phrase that originally referred to an actual [wagon](#) containing a collection of useful gifts collected from residents of an area to welcome new people moving to that area.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Welcome>

[Images for Welcome](#)

Welcoming the Stranger: A Public Theology of Worship and Evangelism [Patrick R. Keifert]

An astute rethinking of theology and pastoral ministry that overcomes sentimental notions of hospitality.

<http://www.amazon.com/Welcoming-Stranger-Theology-Worship-Evangelism/dp/0800624920>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/354731.Welcoming_the_Stranger

<https://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/1946/Welcoming-the-Stranger>

<https://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/search?ss=Patrick%20R.%20Keifert>

<https://www.waterstones.com/book/welcoming-the-stranger/patrick-r-keifert/9780800624927>

https://remnantbooks.secure-chrislands.com/products/category/118/~product_author_asc?page=9

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1451415508>

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[Welcoming the Stranger: A Public Theology of Worship and Evangelism](#)

<http://www.iksynod.org/Resources/Missional%20Leadership%20Books%20from%20AF.pdf>

<https://jimheuvig.files.wordpress.com/2009/12/strangers-at-worship.docx>

<https://digitalcommons.fuller.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1002&context=dmin> Page 150

<http://www.pubtheo.com/page.asp?pid=1043>

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/004057369405000426> Book Review

<http://www.deepintheburbs.com/book-welcoming-the-stranger-by-patrick-keifert/>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/keifert-welcoming-the-stranger.html>

<http://www.deepintheburbs.com/book-welcoming-the-stranger-by-patrick-keifert/>

<http://www.desertspiritsfire.com/2010/01/welcoming-stranger.html>

https://www.luthersem.edu/faculty/fac_home.aspx?contact_id=pkeifert

<http://www.churchinnovations.org/team-member/patrick-keifert/>

<https://iws.edu/admissions/personal-testimonies/patrick-keifert/>

<https://www.christiancentury.org/contributor/patrick-r-keifert>

<https://www.amazon.com/Patrick-R.-Keifert/e/B001KHKS4A>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/203362.Patrick_R_Keifert

[Images for Patrick R. Keifert, author](#)

[Images for Welcoming the Stranger: A Public Theology of Worship and Evangelism \[Patrick R. Keifert\]](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Welcoming New Guests?

https://www.openbible.info/topics/welcoming_new_guests

[Images for Bible and Welcoming Strangers](#)

https://www.openbible.info/topics/welcoming_strangers

<https://www.evangelismcoach.org/14-bible-verses-on-welcoming-the-stranger/>

[Images for Bible and Welcoming the Stranger](#)

<http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Welcoming-Other-People>

[Images for Bible and Welcoming Other People](#)

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2015/06/16/top-7-bible-verses-about-welcoming-other-people/>

[Images for Bible and Welcoming Other People](#)

<https://theconversation.com/what-the-bible-says-about-welcoming-refugees-72050>

Images for Bible and Welcoming Refugees

Wide Welcome: How the Unsettling Presence of Newcomers Can Save the Church [Jessicah Krey Duckworth]

In *Wide Welcome*, Jessicah Krey Duckworth presents the stark differences between the established congregation, which cares for current members and congregational identity, and the disestablished one, intentionally equipped to facilitate the encounter between new and established members. The disestablished congregations, she says, gains purpose and identity in the task of relating to the newcomer, and by doing so engages the world in powerful new ways. By intentionally extending the time of newcomer inquiry and allowing their questions, insights, and experiences to reverberate through the entire congregation both they and the church are changed.

Duckworth intentionally lays out possible designs for newcomer welcome that are local and particular.



<http://www.amazon.com/Wide-Welcome-Unsettling-Presence-Newcomers/dp/0800699394>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15863513-wide-welcome>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/wide-welcome-jessicah-krey-duckworth/1115416086>

<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/productgroup/577/Wide-Welcome-How-the-Unsettling-Presence-of-Newcomers-Can-Save-the-Church>

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[Wide Welcome: How the Unsettling Presence of Newcomers Can Save the Church](#)

[Wide Welcome: How the Unsettling Presence of Newcomers Can Save the Church - Pinterest](#)

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Page 19

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<http://lutheranconfessions.blogspot.com/2014/03/wide-welcome-designing.html>

<http://fortresspress.com/author/jessicah-krey-duckworth>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/author/jessicah-duckworth/>

<https://www.churchleadership.com/author/jessicah-krey-duckworth/>

[Images for Jessicah Krey Duckworth, author wide welcome](#)

[Images for Wide Welcome: How the Unsettling Presence of Newcomers Can Save the Church \[Jessicah Krey Duckworth\]](#)

13) Witness

Growing Spiritual Redwoods [William M. Easum, Thomas G. Bandy]

Growing Spiritual Redwoods is an effort to help church leaders answer the kinds of questions that confront congregations and Christians in this era of rapid and uncertain change. William M. Easum and Thomas Bandy argue that the congregations to whom the term "spiritual redwoods" can be applied are grown slowly, becoming vigorous centers of **witness** and mission.

<http://www.amazon.com/Growing-Spiritual-Redwoods-William-Easum/dp/0687336007>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Growing_Spiritual_Redwoods.html?id=9hP8aEISx0QC

<http://klasslisting.blog.com/2013/01/20/download-growing-spiritual-redwoods-book/>

<http://inthenameofpurpose.org/chp22.htm>

[Images for vigorous centers of witness and mission](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/William-M.-Easum/e/B000APJDAS>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/291455.William_M_Easum

[Images for william m. easum \(author\)](#)

<http://thrivingchurch.com/Home/Who>

http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/author/thomas_g_bandy

<https://www.amazon.com/Thomas-G.-Bandy/e/B001IOBPOM>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/174309.Thomas_G_Bandy

[Images for thomas g. bandy \(author\) goodreads](#)

http://www.abingdonpress.com/thomas_g_bandy

<http://www.chalicepress.com/Author.aspx?AuthorID=111>

[Images for Growing Spiritual Redwoods \[William M. Easum, Thomas G. Bandy\]](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Witnessing? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/witnessing>

[Images for Bible and Witnessing](#)

https://www.openbible.info/topics/witnessing_to_others

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<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/witness>
<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/witnessing>
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/witness/>
<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Being-A-Witness/>
<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Being-a-witness>
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<https://billygraham.org/decision-magazine/june-2006/what-is-a-witness/>
<https://brianzahnd.com/2014/01/scripture-witness-word-god/>
[Images for witness word of god](#)

14) Young Adults

A Passionate Commitment to Young Adults - YouTube

Episode Six of the “A Religion for Our Time” series describes how the First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, California, transformed itself from a graying congregation into a multigenerational one. How is the congregation's commitment to young adult and campus ministry programming grounded? Through a staff person focused on eighteen- to thirty-five-year-olds!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dm9SyFeBeFg&feature=youtu.be>
[Images for Passionate Commitment to Young Adults - YouTube](#)
<https://uugrowth.com/2010/06/16/uua-video-a-passionate-commitment-to-young-adults/>

Attracting Young Adults by Michael Tino (Podcast and Article)

To attract young adults, listen to what they want. Young adults want worship that is relevant to their lives—to their experiences as well as to the turmoil and transitions that they are living with. They want a place where they can explore relationships, connect their values with their work, and ground themselves in community. They want a place where the best ideals of humanity are put forth as a challenge for all of society—justice, accountability, democracy, and equality.

<http://www.uua.org/growth/inclusivity/57446.shtml>
[Images for Attracting Young Adults by Michael Tino](#)
<http://www.slideshare.net/MidAmericaUUA/young-adults-12987692>

[PDF]Best Practices in Young Adult Faith Formation

Most people involved in faith formation would agree that ministry with young adults is filled with much uncertainty and angst. In this present day and age, we all must grapple with a new and evolving technological age in which a thirst for instant gratification is always in the foreground. These aspects of our American culture are well on the minds of many ministry professionals as they attempt to evangelize and serve the needs of young adults in their ministry. At the same time the diverse needs of the two generations that now fall within the classification of young adulthood—Generation X (born 1964-1979) and the Millennial Generation (born post 1980)—have caused a chasm in the focus of this ministry. This is not necessarily a new occurrence, but rather something that can be explained by comparing recent trends in the development of young adults.

http://www.faithformationlearningexchange.net/uploads/5/2/4/6/5246709/best_practices_-_young_adult_faith_formation.pdf
[Images for Best Practices in Young Adult Faith Formation](#)
<https://www.pinterest.com/holyexperiments/faith-formation-best-practices/>
https://www.lifelongfaith.com/uploads/5/1/6/4/5164069/lifelong_faith_journal_1.3.pdf [PDF]Best Practices in Faith Formation
https://www.lifelongfaith.com/uploads/5/1/6/4/5164069/_aff_emerging_adults.pdf

Church for the Under-Forty Crowd: Attracting Younger Adults to Congregational Life – Alban at Duke Divinity School

What does it take for a church to be attractive to a younger adult? The initiative at FCC brings to light that churches should consider how they might be (1) flexible while honoring the importance of commitment, (2) welcoming but not desperate-sounding, and (3) overt about theology while making room for doubt. Clearly, these tensions present more questions than they do answers. But as many churches are led to believe that following fads—such as audio-visual technology or “theology on tap”—is the only way to reach younger adults, these tensions present opportunities for a more nuanced conversation. Younger adults are savvy when someone is trying to sign them up for something, draw them into something, or sell them something. May they also be savvy to how much they have to gain, and how much is at stake for them, as they seek to join with a community to find meaning in their lives.

Alban at Duke Divinity School » Church for the Under-Forty Crowd: Attracting Younger Adults to Congregational Life

<https://alban.org/archive/church-for-the-under-forty-crowd-attracting-younger-adults-to-congregational-life/>
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<https://alban.org/archive/resurrected-lives-relational-evangelism-with-young-adults/>
[Images for relational evangelism with young adults](#)
<https://alban.org/archive/evangelism-and-the-under-thirty-crowd/>
[Images for evangelism and the under thirty crowd](#)
<https://alban.org/category/missions-evangelism/>
<https://alban.org/category/youth-children/>

Coming to terms with the times – The Lutheran

STORY BY

ELIZABETH A. EATON

Creating programs, chasing youth trail telling love of God

When I'm out and about in the church, I'm often asked what I plan to do to save small congregations, reverse the decline in membership, bring **young adults** back to church, increase mission support, make the **ELCA** truly multicultural, boost our relevance in the culture and fix Congress (well, not that last one). I have no plan to do any of that by myself, but I wonder if there is a deeper concern in those questions that requires a deeper answer from all of us.

The world has changed and is changing.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12522

[Images for bring young adults back to church](#)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

Dear Church | thoughts ON

Allow me to introduce myself. I am a **young adult** member of your congregation. I may be the only young adult member of your congregation. I come every Sunday, or nearly every Sunday, and sometimes I volunteer to help out with stuff. Just here and there, nothing major. Or maybe I have led a service a time or two, or lit the chalice, or read announcements. And that one time, a few months ago, I helped lead an adult RE class, except nobody really came. But that's ok.

<http://thoughtsonblank.com/2010/10/15/dear-church/>

[Images for young adult member of your congregation](#)

How Religious Congregations are Engaging Young Adults in America by Monte Sahlin (Author), David Roozen (Editor)

Research has shown that young adults today are increasingly not connected with religion, yet about one in six congregations have an exceptional number of young adult participants. This volume reports both survey findings and case studies of congregations from many different faith traditions that are successfully engaging young adults. The research is part of the Faith Communities Today (FACT) series, the largest study of local congregational life in the United States, conducted by the Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership based at the Hartford Institute for Religion Research. Includes a summary with practices found cross the ten case studies and a review of current research on the topic.

<https://www.amazon.com/Religious-Congregations-Engaging-Adults-America-ebook/dp/B00UZRAOUY>

https://books.google.com/books/about/How_Religious_Congregations_Are_Engaging.html?id=d2E3rgEACAAJ

<http://www.hartsem.edu/2015/05/book-reveals-how-congregations-are-successfully-engaging-new-generations/>

<http://faithcommunitiestoday.org/profile-churches-and-other-congregations-significant-young-adult-participation>

<http://faithcommunitiestoday.org/sites/default/files/Summary-of-Best-Young-Adult-Practices-for-Churches.pdf>

<https://place.asburyseminary.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2407&context=ecommonsatsdissertations>

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<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1248&context=dmin>

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<http://religiousliberty.tv/author/msahlin>

<http://biblio.co.uk/monte-sahlin/author/1780611>

<http://atoday.org/author/monte/>

<https://www.logos.com/product/38543/lifeworks-of-monte-sahlin-part-1>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2120698.Monte_Sahlin

[Images for Monte Sahlin \(Author\) young adults](#)

<https://www.hachettebookgroup.com/authors/david-a-roozen/>

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/david-a-roozen/773181/>

http://hrr.hartsem.edu/about/roozen_vitae.htm

<http://worldcat.org/identities/lccn-n78031931/> Roozen, David A. [WorldCat Identities]

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/176285.David_A_Roozen

[Images for David Roozen, author](#)

[Images for How Religious Congregations are Engaging Young Adults in America by Monte Sahlin \(Author\), David Roozen \(Editor\)](#)

How to reach young adults: Anthony B. Robinson

The author and United Church of Christ minister has eight suggestions for reaching Generation Next, starting with the reminder:

We're not just another social club or civic group.

Anthony B. Robinson: How to reach young adults | Faith and Leadership

<https://www.faihandleadership.com/anthony-b-robinson-how-reach-young-adults>

[Images for Anthony B. Robinson: How to reach young adults | Faith and Leadership](#)

<https://www.faihandleadership.com/anthony-b-robinson>

<https://alban.org/archive/congregations-magazine-spring-2010/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Anthony-B.-Robinson/e/B001JRTNII>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/70337.Anthony_B_Robinson

http://day1.org/3939-the_rev_anthony_robinson

Improve Young Adult Ministry at Your Congregation | UUA.org

A New Tool for Building Great Ministry

Why am I the only person in their 20s at coffee hour? How can my fellowship support the students who meet for lunch after the service? What can this church do to make young parents feel more welcome? How do we get a new generation of leaders on our Board?

If finding answers to any of these questions sounds good to you, then check out the UUA's new [Young Adult Ministry Self-Assessment](#) for congregations! Whether your congregation rarely has anyone under 40 come in the door, or whether you've got several exciting young adult ministries that you want to improve, this is a tool that can help you on your journey toward growing and enriching your ministry to young adults.

<https://www.uua.org/blueboat/guides/improve-young-adult-ministry-your-congregation>
[Images for Improve Young Adult Ministry at Your Congregation | UUA.org](#)
<http://blueboat.blogs.uua.org/2013/09/05/improve-young-adult-ministry-at-your-congregation/>
<https://www.uua.org/data/faq/a-z>

Kissing in the Chapel, Praying in the Frat House: Wrestling with Faith and College by Adam J. Copeland (Editor), Taylor Brorby (Contributor), Mary Ellen Jebbia (Contributor), Brandan J. Robertson (Contributor), Kristi Del Vecchio (Contributor), Lydia Hawkins (Contributor), Rick Reiten (Contributor), Hillary Martinez (Contributor), Anna DeWeese (Contributor), Andrew Amanda Leigh-Bullard (Contributor), Agnes Potamian (Contributor), Michelle Johnson (Contributor), Kyle J. Thorson (Contributor), Allison Chubb (Contributor), Michael Casey W. Woolf (Contributor), Lauren Deidra Sawyer (Contributor), Br. Lawrence A. Whitney (Contributor), Andrea Campo (Contributor), Johnna Purchase (Contributor), Edward Anderson (Contributor), Joseph Paillé (Contributor), Steven James Porter (Contributor)

College is a time to learn, explore, and grow, but what does faith have to do with it? In this collection of essays, gifted writers in their twenties and early thirties reflect on their college years by telling stories—some hilarious, some heart-wrenching—on the intersection of faith and college.

At a time when so much is written *about* young adults but not *by* young adults, this collection allows writers to reveal their college experience in their own voice, sharing, through reflection on their own joys and sorrows, unique insight into students' experience of college. Themes include negotiating identity, sex and sexuality, discerning the future, studying abroad, and transitions in faith. This collection includes stories from large public universities and small, faith-related colleges. Perfect for faith leaders, college administrators, study groups, young adults, and anyone who loves a college student, *Kissing in the Chapel, Praying in the Frat House* reveals college struggles that help us reflect on faith and life in college, and forever.

<http://www.amazon.com/Kissing-Chapel-Praying-Frat-House/dp/1566997305>
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<https://www.thebtscenter.org/bearings/2015-march/when-faith-goes-to-college-and-joins-the-wrestling-team/>
https://www.thebtscenter.org/bearings/2016-july/summer_reading_heat_wave/
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/faith-college-book/>
<http://theconcordian.org/2015/01/22/kissing-in-the-chapel-praying-in-the-frat-house>
<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-1-56699-765-2> Nonfiction Book Review
<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/rhetoricraceandreligion/2013/02/call-for-submissions-kissing-in-the-chapel-praying-in-the-frat-house-wrestling-with-faith-and-college.html>
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<http://localauthorsfm.areavoices.com/tag/adam-copeland/>
<https://sojo.net/biography/adam-copeland>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7832365.Adam_J_Copeland
[Images for Kissing in the Chapel, Praying in the Frat House: Wrestling with Faith and College by Adam J. Copeland \(Editor\)](#)

Reworking, Reconsidering, and Re-Doing Young Adult Ministry by ADAM J. COPELAND

I really appreciated Lara's thoughtful post yesterday, "What Do We Do with Young Adults?" It gets at some of the contextual challenges of church for folks in their 20s and 30s. And it has me thinking, if I were king of the world and arranging a mission development conference focused on emerging young adult faith communities, what questions and issues would I be sure to tackle?

<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2011/08/03/reworking-reconsidering-re-doing-young-adult-ministry/>
[Images for Young Adult Ministry by ADAM J. COPELAND](#)
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2011/07/30/extra-extra-read-all-about-it/>
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2011/05/18/a-lutheran-a-presbyterian-and-a-zombie-walk-into-a-bar/>
<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2012/05/24/reaching-out-to-young-adults-will-screw-up-your-church/>
https://www.huffingtonpost.com/rev-adam-j-copeland/reaching-out-to-young-adults-will-screw-up-your-church_b_1543142.html
[Images for reaching-out-to-young-adults by ADAM J. COPELAND](#)
<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/2012-01/no-need-church>
<https://sojo.net/articles/young-adults-forget-church-follow-jesus>

Lessons from Churches that Reach Young Adults - Lewis Center for Church Leadership

Lovett Weems examines the findings of a new report on engaging young adults and shares clues for improving ministry with younger people. He notes that churches that assume they can engage young adults in the same manner as anyone else virtually always fail. To have young adults involved beyond a token level, there must be a specific strategy to reach them.

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/lessons-churches-reach-young-adults/>

[Images for Churches that Reach Young Adults - Lewis Center for Church Leadership](https://www.churchleadership.com/resources/)

<https://www.churchleadership.com/resources/>

<https://www.churchleadership.com/category/leading-ideas/>

<https://www.churchleadership.com/category/50-ways/>

More young adults unchurched? - The Lutheran Magazine

How Lutherans can engage us

I don't think Lutherans should be alarmed about the [Pew Forum](#) results. I do recognize decline in the [ELCA](#) as a concern. The [Pew](#) research reveals the tendency for people in this country to leave their childhood religion.

All groups experienced gain and loss ... people's faith is in flux. Of particular interest to me is the unaffiliated demographic among young adults. Young adults are on journeys of self-identity that may take them away from organized religion but not necessarily from faith.

One quarter of adults under 30 are "unaffiliated," many of whom choose "nothing in particular" for religion. As a young adult and trained spiritual director, I am curious about what this means ... for myself, my peers and the church.

For example, I've given spiritual direction in coffee shops. I believe if the church is to understand the young culture, it must be able to adapt. Seattle's coffee shops are sacred spaces. I know people who are more comfortable in a coffee shop than inside a church. They express faith in Christ and [place] high importance [on] community, but [have] little interest in the confines of [a traditional] church.

Given the fluidity of religious affiliation in this country, how can Lutherans engage with young adults? Here are a few thoughts...

- Be genuine. Really.
- Please don't target us. Find out where we are and through what means we find spirituality.
- Ask us to be on committees and take seriously our input.
- Give those of us who aren't seminarians permission to create worship and write sermons (really, trust us).
- Branch out beyond the Lutheran bubble ... many of us are moving beyond denominational boundaries.
- But most importantly: listen to us and hear our stories.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=7183

[Images for young adults unchurched? - The Lutheran Magazine](#)

Quarterlife Crisis: The Unique Challenges of Life in Your Twenties by Alexandra Robbins (Author), Abby Wilner (Author)

While the midlife crisis has been thoroughly explored by experts, there is another landmine period in our adult development, called the quarterlife crisis, which can be just as devastating. When **young adults** emerge at graduation from almost two decades of schooling, during which each step to take is clearly marked, they encounter an overwhelming number of choices regarding their careers, finances, homes, and social networks. Confronted by an often shattering whirlwind of new responsibilities, new liberties, and new options, they feel helpless, panicked, indecisive, and apprehensive.

Quarterlife Crisis is the first book to document this phenomenon and offer insightful advice on smoothly navigating the challenging transition from childhood to adulthood, from school to the world beyond. It includes the personal stories of more than one hundred twentysomethings who describe their struggles to carve out personal identities; to cope with their fears of failure; to face making choices rather than avoiding them; and to balance all the demanding aspects of personal and professional life. From "What do all my doubts mean?" to "How do I know if the decisions I'm making are right?" this book compellingly addresses the hardest questions facing young adults today.

http://www.penguin.com/book/quarterlife-crisis-by-alexandra-robbins/9781585421060?Quarterlife_Crisis_Alexandra_Robbins

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[Images for alexandra robbins author quarter life crisis](#)

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https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/14361.Abbey_Wilner

[Images for abby wilner author quarter life crisis](#)

[Images for Quarterlife Crisis: The Unique Challenges of Life in Your Twenties by Alexandra Robbins \(Author\), Abby Wilner \(Author\)](#)

Reaching young adults in established churches - The Presbyterian Outlook

So, in the spirit of educating people for whom young adults are a different species, here is a rudimentary introduction to reaching young adults in established churches.

<https://pres-outlook.org/2015/06/reaching-young-adults-in-established-churches/>

[Images for Reaching young adults in established churches - The Presbyterian Outlook](#)

<https://pres-outlook.org/category/presbyterian-hub/digital-issues/>

<https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/deacon-young-adult-ministry-connection-service>

<https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/effective-evangelism-with-young-adults>

<https://lifewayresearch.com/2007/08/07/reasons-18-to-22-year-olds-drop-out-of-church/>

<https://lifewayresearch.com/2006/12/05/new-church-view-of-young-adults/>

[Images for Reaching Young Adults | The Future of the Church](#)

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/lessons-churches-reach-young-adults/>

<https://www.nlchurch.com/youngadults/>

<https://www.sdadata.org/digital-evangelism-blog/category/reaching-young-adults>

<https://www.pinterest.com/GodsGurl09/young-adult-ministry/>

Reimagining Young Adult Ministry: A Guidebook for the Ordinary Church by Scott Pontier (Author), Mark DeVries (Author)

Helping college students and 20-somethings today—the “Millennial generation”—engage with the church seems nearly impossible. Everywhere you look, churches are trying the same stop-and-start, can’t-quite-get-it-to-work, and copy-the-church-down-the-street methods of trying to reach young adults.... and none of it seems to work. But what if it doesn’t have to be that way? What if success with young adults is within the grasp of every church? Before we throw in the towel on an entire generation with tremendous potential to change the church (and the world), it’s time to consider a new approach. With the clear, intentional, and measured approach found in Reimagining Young Adult Ministry, Pontier & DeVries will first open the roadmap and firmly clarify “you are here” with the state of the relationship between Millennials and the Church. From there, they will help you avoid the six most common mistakes churches make with young adults and walk you through six new paradigms of young adult ministry that will reshape how we think about next generation ministry from the ground up. Finally, you will enter this new landscape with a step-by-step process that will give you the handles you need to always know what to do next!

<https://www.amazon.com/Reimagining-Young-Adult-Ministry-Guidebook/dp/0998806404>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Reimagining_Young_Adult_Ministry.html?id=xZvjAQAACAAJ

<https://www.youthministrybooster.com/blog/scott-pontier-young-adult-ministry>

<http://www.organicstudentministry.com/?p=62661> New Book on Young Adult Ministry!!! - Organic Student Ministry

<http://ministryarchitects.com/team-view/scott-pontier/>

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[Images for Mark DeVries \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Reimagining Young Adult Ministry: A Guidebook for the Ordinary Church by Scott Pontier \(Author\), Mark DeVries \(Author\)](#)

The Church's Doomed Pursuit of the Elusive Young Adult | HuffPost

As I reflect on my own stage of ministry, after 25 years of working in the church, including 17 years of ordained ministry, I am keenly aware of my short-comings when it comes to reaching young adults. My Gen X worldview and ecclesiastic experience often cloud my judgment and my aversion to getting old can be a stumbling block to my own continued growth in ministry. I think the church as a living body is not much different in our current stage of life. Over the generations, what the church has done in the world has been amazing and powerful, but those resting on the laurels of those accomplishments often hampers our ability to see the church of the future; one that could have the same impact on the world. So, before we journey too far down the path of our young adults’ expedition, I would offer three faulty assumptions that many of us make when thinking about young adults and the future of the church.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/bruce-reyeschow/church-doomed-pursuit-of-the-elusive-young-adult_b_1836938.html

[Images for Church's Doomed Pursuit of the Elusive Young Adult](#)

[Images for Church Young Adults | HuffPost](#)

Why Young Adults Are Walking Away from the Church & What You Can Do About It—An Interview with Kara Powell – Carey Nieuwhof

Kara Powell's decade long research project sheds light—and hope—on a growing problem for parents and church leaders.

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2014/10/episode4/>

[Images for Why Young Adults Are Walking Away from the Church & What You Can Do About It—An Interview with Kara Powell – Carey Nieuwhof](#)

<https://www.centerforcongregations.org/resources/resource-guides?page=6> Sticky Faith: Understanding Why Youth and Young Adults Stay in Church

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2014/10/episode7/> Delayed Adolescence: Why So Many Young Adults Fail to Thrive—An Interview with Ted Cunningham

<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode149/> Kris Vallotton on the Rise of Bethel Church, Bethel Music and Reaching Young Adults through Charismatic Ministry

<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode166/> Chris Durso on Culture, Justin Bieber and Reaching Young Adults in Hard to Reach Areas

<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode119/> Louie Giglio on Preaching that Connects with Today's Young Adults

<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode151/> Mark Clark on Apologetics for Post-Christian, Post-Modern Young Adults: Sex, Hell, Science and So Much More

<https://careynieuwhof.com/module-1/engaging-young-adults/>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-surprising-characteristics-of-churches-that-are-actually-reaching-the-next-generation/>

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<https://www.facebook.com/cniewhof/>

<http://connexuschurch.com/about-us/carey-nieuwhof/>

[Images for carey nieuwhof \(author\)](#)

Young Adults - Reimagine Faith Formation

Young adulthood encompasses the years of “emerging adulthood” (eighteen to twenty-nine) a time of significant change and transition, and the early years of marriage and the beginning of parenting. In American society today, the young adult stage of adulthood corresponds to the millennial generation. (As of 2015, the oldest millennials are thirty-five years old and the youngest in the later years of high school.) The following summary, based on his chapter, presents key developmental, generational, and religious/spiritual perspectives on young adulthood drawn from a variety of research studies and analysis.

www.reimaginefaithformation.com/young-adults.html

[Images for Young Adults - Reimagine Faith Formation](#)

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<https://www.amazon.com/Faith-Formation-2020-Designing-Future-ebook/dp/B007387MZ8>

[Images for Faith-Formation-2020-Designing-Future](#)

15) Young People

Dear church: An open letter from young people - United Church of Christ

So, here is our challenge to you: reach out to us; encourage us; invite us to the table; and treat us as whole, vital members of the church.

<http://www.ucc.org/dear-church-an-open-letter>

[Images for Dear church: An open letter from young people - United Church of Christ](#)

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/ponderanew/2015/05/13/dear-church-an-open-letter-from-one-of-those-millennials-you-cant-figure-out/>

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Greenhouses of Hope: Congregations Growing Young Leaders Who Will Change the World [Dorie Grinenko Baker]

Do you know a church where **young people** regularly shape the liturgy with words that speak their truth in ways that also inspire their elders? Do you hear about congregations that reach out in quirky new ways to their ailing neighborhoods, instead of locking doors and shipping out to a suburb? Do you find churches creating hospitable space that invites the live wriggling questions and doubts of young people in unhurried, unworried ways? Do you see congregations where young people's gifts are not stored in the basement or bracketed into 'contemporary' worship services but are brought forth and celebrated? The authors who collaborated on this book launched a quest for such vibrant, life-giving, greening congregations and observed the diverse practices that grow there. They named these churches 'Greenhouses of Hope.' A Greenhouse of Hope is a Christian congregation freeing itself to experiment with both newly imagined and time-honored ways of following the path of Jesus. Its members respond to God's love through practices that genuinely embrace the gifts of youth and young adults. Out of these greenhouses emerge young leaders who want to change the world. In *Greenhouses of Hope*, Dori Baker and six contributors tell the stories of these remarkable congregations, helping others think about how they can create space for the dreams of young people to be grafted into God's dreams for the world.



<http://www.amazon.com/Greenhouses-Hope-Congregations-Growing-Leaders/dp/1566994098>
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<https://apcenet.org/2011/12/01/how-firm-is-our-foundation/>
<https://alban.org/archive/hope-and-ethnography/>
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<http://www.doribaker.com/aboutdori/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Dori-Grinenko-Baker/e/B001JS627W>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/646727.Dori_Grinenko_Baker
[Images for Dorie Grinenko Baker, author](#)
[Images for Greenhouses of Hope: Congregations Growing Young Leaders Who Will Change the World \[Dorie Grinenko Baker\]](#)

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The Five Strategies to Reach Young People at Church - Will Mancini

In an effort to help churches think through their strategy, I have developed "the five."

<https://www.willmancini.com/blog/the-five-strategies-to-reach-young-people-at-church>
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<https://www.premierchristianity.com/Blog/If-the-Church-wants-to-reach-young-people-we-must-stand-in-solidarity-with-victims-of-racial-injustice>
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You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are Leaving Church...and Rethinking Faith by David Kinnaman (Author), Aly Hawkins (Author)

Close to 60 percent of young people who went to church as teens drop out after high school. Now the bestselling author of *unChristian* trains his researcher's eye on these young believers. Where Kinnaman's first book *unChristian* showed the world what outsiders aged 16-29 think of Christianity, *You Lost Me* shows why younger Christians aged 16-29 are leaving the church and rethinking their faith.

Based on new research, *You Lost Me* shows pastors, church leaders, and parents how we have failed to equip young people to live "in but not of" the world and how this has serious long-term consequences. More importantly, Kinnaman offers ideas on how to help young people develop and maintain a vibrant faith that they embrace over a lifetime.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xb6ST0qIEY> David Kinnaman – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQYeegAwRXI> You Lost Me DVD trailer – YouTube
<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode82/> David Kinnaman on How Christians are Increasingly Perceived by the Unchurched as Irrelevant and Extreme
<https://www.barna.com/about/david-kinnaman/>
<http://qideas.org/contributors/david-kinnaman/>
<https://twitter.com/davidkinnaman?lang=en>
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<http://qideas.org/contributors/david-kinnaman/>
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<http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/contributors/david-kinnaman.html>
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<https://www.amazon.com/David-Kinnaman/e/B001JSDFPE>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/524557.David_Kinnaman
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<http://www.christianbookpreviews.com/christian-book-author.php?isbn=0830737308>
<https://www.amazon.com/Aly-Hawkins/e/B0024JASBG>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/422328.Aly_Hawkins
[Images for Aly Hawkins \(Author\) you lost me](#)
[Images for You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are Leaving Church...and Rethinking Faith by David Kinnaman, Aly Hawkins](#)

16) Youth

Derwin Gray on Reaching Youth for Jesus

The father of two boys, ages 15 and 11, Gray has a little experience on the matter. And the best advice he could give a parent or church leader in how to reach the youth: Start from within.

<https://billygraham.org/story/derwin-gray-on-reaching-youth-for-jesus/>

[Images for Derwin Gray on Reaching Youth for Jesus](#)

Engaging the Soul of Youth Culture: Bridging Teen Worldviews and Christian Truth [Walt Mueller]

Before we can reach today's youth with the truth of the gospel, we need to see what they see and hear what they hear. We need to catch the messages encrypted in their culture and understand what's really being communicated. In *Engaging the Soul of Youth Culture* Walt Mueller, founder and president of the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding, helps us to navigate the troubling and confusing terrain of teen worldviews so that we can effectively and compassionately pass along good news: our God is their God, our Savior can be their Savior.



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Images for Walt Mueller, author
Images for Engaging the Soul of Youth Culture: Bridging Teen Worldviews and Christian Truth [Walt Mueller]

10 Steps To Reaching The (un-churched) Youth Of Your Community

Have you ever *really* thought about how to make a difference in the lives of the teenagers of your community? I'm talking about the students outside of your church walls. The students who will never, on their own, *ever* show up for one of your events or outreaches. Reaching these students can be done, but you might need to think bigger than you have in the past. You might need to consider what it takes not just to reach individual teenagers, but to become a true resource for your community. *What if your church were known in your community as a place where teenagers could go to find hope, purpose, and community? It's a big task.* However, if becoming a true resource to your community is something that you and your church are passionate about, here are 10 steps to get you started.

<https://youthministry360.com/blogs/all/10-steps-to-reaching-the-un-churched-youth-of-your-community>
Images for 10 Steps To Reaching The (un-churched) Youth Of Your Community

The Five Strategies to Reach Young People at Church – Will Mancini

In an effort to help churches think through their strategy, I have developed “the five.”

<https://www.willmancini.com/blog/the-five-strategies-to-reach-young-people-at-church>
Images for The Five Strategies to Reach Young People at Church – Will Mancini

What does the Bible say about youth ministry?

<https://ebible.com/questions/2567-what-does-the-bible-say-about-youth-ministry>

Images for Bible and youth ministry

<https://www.gotquestions.org/youth-ministry.html>

<https://www.compellingtruth.org/youth-ministry.html>

<https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/articles/is-youth-ministry-in-the-bible>

<https://www.biola.edu/blogs/good-book-blog/2012/biblical-mandate-for-youth-ministry-part-2-youth-ministry-in-the-old-testament>

<https://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/christian-trends/is-youth-ministry-biblical.html>

Youth ministry - Wikipedia

Youth ministry, also commonly referred to as youth group, is an age-specific religious ministry of faith groups or other religious organizations, which carry out youth ministry to involve and engage with young people who attend their places of worship, or who live in their community. Christian youth ministry usually encompasses one or more of the following:

- encouraging young people (whether they have professed a faith or not) to learn more about a given faith and to become more involved in spiritual life
- providing open youth clubs or other activities for the common good of the young people, sometimes without an overtly religious agenda

As well as organizing events and activities, youth ministry will usually include some form of religious instruction and pastoral oversight of young people.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Youth_ministry

Images for Youth ministry

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protestant_youth_ministry

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