

Interim Ministry Resources

Chapter 13 Identity

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Resources

1) Small Town

A Big Gospel in Small Places: Why Ministry in Forgotten Communities Matters by Stephen Witmer (Author), Raymond C Ortlund Jr. (Foreword)

Jesus loves small, insignificant places. In recent years, Christian ministries have increasingly prioritized urban areas. Big cities and suburbs are considered more strategic, more influential, and more desirable places to live and work. After all, they're the centers for culture, arts, and education. More and more people are leaving small places and moving to big ones. As a ministry strategy, focusing on big places makes sense. But the gospel of Jesus is often unstrategic. In this book, pastor Stephen Witmer lays out an integrated theological vision for small-place ministry. Filled with helpful information about small places and with stories and practical advice from his own ministry, Witmer's book offers a compelling, comprehensive vision for small-place ministry today. Jesus loves small places, and when we care deeply about them and invest in them over time, our ministry becomes a unique picture of the gospel—one that the world badly needs to see.

<https://www.amazon.com/Big-Gospel-Small-Places-Communities/dp/0830841555>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/46348058-a-big-gospel-in-small-places>

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[Images for Stephen Witmer \(Author\)](#)

[Images for A Big Gospel in Small Places: Why Ministry in Forgotten Communities Matters Paperback by Stephen Witmer \(Author\), Raymond C Ortlund Jr. \(Foreword\)](#)

Advice to a New Pastor of a small town Church | Loving the Word with the Mudpreacher

17. A small church is not leadership driven. Small churches are “interwoven” meaning that the people have strong relationships based on blood or long friendships. They will tend to take the church very personally. They will see it as “their” church. You may want to make some changes or start certain programs, but while they may say “that’s a good idea, pastor,” they will be looking to see what the church patriarchs are thinking. If you do not win the true leaders over, you will never get the support or participation you need.

<http://mudpreacher.org/2012/11/15/advice-to-a-new-pastor-of-a-small-town-church/>

[Images for Advice to a New Pastor of a small town Church | Loving the Word with the Mudpreacher](#)

Best 25+ Small towns ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/small-towns/>

[Images for small town pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/small-town-quotes/>

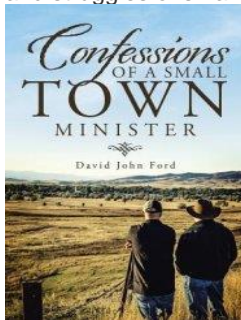
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<https://www.pinterest.com/TropicalBaby/small-town-living/>

[Images for pinterest/small-town-living](#)

Confessions of a Small Town Minister by David John Ford (Author)

Ministry in a small town or rural context is challenging. The minister and his or her family live in a fishbowl, with every aspect of life under constant scrutiny. In addition, few seminaries or Christian colleges and universities offer courses preparing people for small-town ministry. Throw in limited resources and small-town politics, and you might begin to understand the struggle of Ben Wright, minister in Madison, Montana. In a last-ditch effort to find help before he quits ministry altogether, Ben solicits the advice of another minister, the aged and experienced Kain Hoddiss. Ben and Kain undertake a journey of discovery as together they explore the joys and struggles of small-town ministry.



<http://www.amazon.com/Confessions-Small-Town-Minister-David-ebook/dp/B00RAIM9FY>

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Confessions of a Small Town Minister - Google Books Result
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Don't Despise Small Town Living: Jesus Didn't - Christianity Today

Capernaum was home to about 1,500 people. / TYSON LAMBERTSON
<https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2017/august/dont-despise-small-town-living-jesus-didnt.html>
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Dynamics of Small Town Ministry [Lawrence W. Farris]

Unique in character and cultural distinctions, small towns present special challenges for pastors, especially for those whose models of ministry may be grounded in urban or suburban contexts. Writing out of his personal experience in and commitment to small town ministry, Farris explores the impact and importance of such factors as local history, geography, the values and metaphors of small town life, boundary setting, and ministerial roles. For everyone involved in small town ministry, this book is a "must-read."

Foreword by Norma Cook Everist



<http://www.amazon.com/Dynamics-Small-Ministry-Lawrence-Farris/product-reviews/1566992281>
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Dynamics of Small Town Ministry - Page 18 - Google Books Result

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[Images for Lawrence W. Farris, author](#)
[Images for Dynamics of Small Town Ministry \[Lawrence W. Farris\]](#)

Lake Wobegon - Wikipedia

Lake Wobegon is a fictional town that was created in the imagination of Garrison Keillor to provide the setting for the fictions of his long-running radio broadcast, *Prairie Home Companion*. Lake Wobegon is also the setting for many of his stories and novels. It is described as a **small rural town** in central Minnesota, and it is peopled with fictional characters and places, many that have become familiar to listeners of the broadcast. The events and adventures of the imaginary townspeople provide the prolific Keillor with a wealth of stories, that are humorous and at times touching and thoughtful.^{[1][2]}

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Wobegon

[Images for Lake Wobegon described as a small rural town in central Minnesota](#)

No Little Places: The Untapped Potential of the Small-Town Church [Ron Klassen, John Koessler, Warren W. Wiersbe]

The authors celebrate the small and rural church, showing pastors how they can uncup the potential in these congregations by learning to appreciate and accept their differences.

Warren W. Wiersbe says of *No Little Places*, "You'll learn a lot about small-town America and the changes occurring in American society today. Written by two seasoned veterans of ministry in small-town America, No Little Places is a heart-to-heart account of cross-cultural evangelism right here in the United States. It's a primer on how to discover a church's potential and build on it. It's a transparent, how-to-do-it book that pulls no punches. It reads like another chapter in the Book of Acts or extra verses in Hebrews 11".

<http://www.amazon.com/No-Little-Places-Potential-Small-Town/dp/0801090148>

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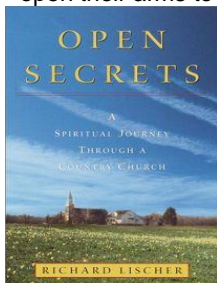
Images for Warren W. Wiersbe, author

Images for No Little Places: The Untapped Potential of the Small-Town Church [Ron Klassen, John Koessler, Warren W. Wiersbe]

Open Secrets: A Memoir of Faith and Discovery [Richard Lischer]

In the tradition of Garrison Keillor, *Open Secrets* captures the friendships, rivalries, and rumors of small-town life by chronicling the lives of the citizens of a small Midwestern community through the eyes of a young minister.

Fresh out of divinity school and bursting with enthusiasm, Richard Lischer found himself assigned to a small conservative church in an economically depressed town in southern Illinois. It's an awkward marriage at best - a young man with a Ph.D. in theology, full of ideas and ambitions, determined to improve his parish and bring it into the twenty-first century, and a community that is "as tightly sealed as a jar of home-canned pickles." In *Open Secrets*, Lischer tells not only his own story but also the story of New Cana and its inhabitants. With charm, openness, and humor, Lischer brings to life the clash of cultures and personalities that marks his pastoral tenure, including his own doubts, as well as those of his parishioners, that a twenty-eight-year-old suburban-raised liberal can deal with the troubled marriages, alcoholism, teen sex, inadequate farm subsidies, and other concerns of the conservative, tightly knit community. But the inhabitants of New Cana - lovable, deeply flawed, imperfect people who stick together - open their arms to him in their own way, and the result is a colorful, poignant comedy of small-town life and all it has to offer.



<http://www.amazon.com/Open-Secrets-Memoir-Faith-Discovery/dp/0767907442>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/387159.Open_Secrets
<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/102030/open-secrets-by-richard-lischer/>
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Open Secrets: A Memoir of Faith and Discovery

Images for Open Secrets captures the friendships, rivalries, and rumors of small-town life

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https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/153374.Richard_Lischer

Images for Richard Lischer, author

Images for Open Secrets: A Memoir of Faith and Discovery [Richard Lischer]

Population: 485- Meeting Your Neighbors One Siren at a Time (P.S.) [Michael Perry]

Welcome to New Auburn, Wisconsin, where the local vigilante is a farmer's wife armed with a pistol and a Bible, the most senior member of the volunteer fire department is a cross-eyed butcher with one kidney and two ex-wives (both of whom work at the only

gas station in town), and the back roads are haunted by the ghosts of children and farmers. Against a backdrop of fires and tangled wrecks, bar fights and smelt feeds, *Population: 485* is a comic and sometimes heartbreaking true tale leavened with quieter meditations on an overlooked America.

<http://www.amazon.com/Population-485-Meeting-Neighbors-Siren/dp/0061363502>
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<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=1811513>
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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Auburn,_Wisconsin
<https://www.amazon.com/Michael-Perry/e/B000APJY1G>
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Images for michael perry author
Images for *Population: 485- Meeting Your Neighbors One Siren at a Time (P.S.) [Michael Perry]*

Visiting Tom: A Man, a Highway, and the Road to Roughneck Grace [Michael Perry]

"Somewhere between Garrison Keillor's idyllic-sweet Lake Wobegon and the narrow-mindedness of Sinclair Lewis's Main Street lies the reality of **small-town** life. This is where Michael Perry lives."

—*St. Paul Pioneer Press*

"Perry can take comfort in the power of his writing, his ability to pull readers from all corners onto his Wisconsin spread, and make them feel right at home."

—*Seattle Times*

Tuesdays with Morrie meets Bill Bryson in *Visiting Tom*, another witty, poignant, and stylish paean to living in New Auburn, Wisconsin, from Michael Perry. The author of *Population: 485*, *Coop*, and *Truck: A Love Story*, Perry takes us along on his uplifting visits with his octogenarian neighbor one valley over—and celebrates the wisdom, heart, and sass of a vanishing generation that embodies the indomitable spirit of small-town America.

<http://www.amazon.com/Visiting-Tom-Highway-Roughneck-Grace/dp/006189446X>
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http://books.google.com/books/about/Visiting_Tom.html?id=CofLQxk_LPIC
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Images for *Visiting Tom: A Man, a Highway, and the Road to Roughneck Grace [Michael Perry]*
Images for reality of small-town life. This is where Michael Perry lives

7 Steps to Revitalizing the Small-town Church [Paul N. Hazelton]

A small community with a shrinking population, LaMoure, North Dakota, was definitely not the desired backdrop for church growth. With church stats reporting that "three died, six moved, and two dropped out," LaMoure was not expected to survive, much less thrive. But then a new pastor moved to town. A pastor who didn't recognize the lackluster expectations for the church. Pastor Paul Hazelton dared to ask himself and his congregation, "Can small-town churches be revitalized? Can THIS small-town church become a thriving, growing church ministering to the community of Christ?" Together they found the answers to be a resounding "yes!" Drawing from the inspirational success story of the LaMoure church, Hazelton offers seven approaches and seven practical action steps for revitalizing declining churches everywhere.

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Images for Paul N. Hazelton, author small town church
Images for *7 Steps to Revitalizing the Small-town Church [Paul N. Hazelton]*
<https://www.pinterest.cl/amp/pin/120119515031790477/> 7 Steps To Revitalizing The Small-town Church By: Paul N. Hazelton

Small-Town America: Finding Community, Shaping the Future [Robert Wuthnow]

A revealing examination of small-town life

More than thirty million Americans live in small, out-of-the-way places. Many of them could have joined the vast majority of Americans who live in cities and suburbs. They could live closer to more lucrative careers and convenient shopping, a wider range of educational opportunities, and more robust health care. But they have opted to live differently.

In *Small-Town America*, we meet factory workers, shop owners, retirees, teachers, clergy, and mayors--residents who show neighborliness in small ways, but who also worry about everything from school closings and their children's futures to the ups and downs of the local economy. Drawing on more than seven hundred in-depth interviews in hundreds of towns across America and three decades of census data, Robert Wuthnow shows the fragility of community in small towns. He covers a host of topics, including the symbols and rituals of small-town life, the roles of formal and informal leaders, the social role of religious congregations, the perception of moral and economic decline, and the myriad ways residents in small towns make sense of their own lives. Wuthnow also tackles difficult issues such as class and race, abortion, homosexuality, and substance abuse.

Small-Town America paints a rich panorama of individuals who reside in small communities, finding that, for many people, living in a small town is an important part of self-identity.

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[Images for Robert Wuthnow, author](#)

[Images for Small-Town America: Finding Community, Shaping the Future \[Robert Wuthnow\]](#)

Small Town Jesus: Taking the gospel mission seriously in seemingly unimportant places by Donnie Griggs (Author)

Small towns are big mission fields that are almost totally neglected by modern church planters. City ministry has become, for many, the definition of godly ministry. But what about the millions of people around the world who live in small towns? This is not just a book, it is a call to take the gospel everywhere, big or small, because that's what Jesus told us to do.

<https://www.amazon.com/Small-Town-Jesus-seriously-unimportant/dp/0991403053>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/30654682-small-town-jesus>

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[Images for Donnie Griggs \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Small Town Jesus: Taking the gospel mission seriously in seemingly unimportant places by Donnie Griggs \(Author\)](#)

Staying Sharp in a Small Town | Leadership Journal

Down home values don't have to include lower standards. Advice based on the author's experience in moving from a large city to a small town.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/le/1999/summer/913053.html>

[Images for Staying Sharp in a Small Town | Leadership Journal](#)

Steeple & people: Doors open to congregation stories - The Lutheran Magazine

Here is the church. Here is the steeple.

A quiet town by anyone's standards, Daykin, Neb., offered shelter from the cold January night after a long drive over icy roads. The church has been there for a long time. An hour southwest of Lincoln, Neb., this might be a place where people escape to the country. "Most of those people haven't discovered Daykin yet," said Pastor Elizabeth Liggett with a twinkle in her eye. No matter. Here one sees a steady, stable identity to sustain residents through dry seasons and the winds of change. Daykin is known as "the windmill capital," an identity that conveys grain and wind, energy and transition. The town struggles with grain prices and changing times. Set amid the windmills—most are actually gone—is the church steeple. St. John Lutheran Church struggles along with the people, but its symbol of identity remains strong.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=5287

[Images for Steeple & people: Doors open to congregation stories - The Lutheran Magazine](#)

[Images for Here is the church. Here is the steeple.](#)

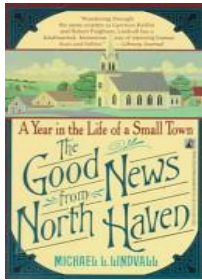
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<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>

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

The Good News from North Haven: A Year in the Life of a Small Town [Michael L. Lindvall]

This charming collection of slice-of-life stories about the Rev. David Battles and life in a mythical Midwest town caused a sensation when it was first released. With over 55,000 copies in print and a review in the *New York Times*, it remains a favorite for Christian readers.



<http://www.amazon.com/Good-News-North-Haven-Small/dp/0824520122>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/359113.Michael_L_Lindvall

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Good_News_from_North_Haven.html?id=5yNPp749eH8C

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-671-79200-8> Fiction Book Review

[Images for Michael L. Lindvall, author life of a small town](#)

[Images for The Good News from North Haven: A Year in the Life of a Small Town \[Michael L. Lindvall\]](#)

The Small Town Church (Creative leadership series) [Peter J Surrey]

Welcome to Bypass, Michigan. Nestled securely at the very fringe of civilization, Bypass is a happy little hamlet that seems to have forgotten which century it resides in. It is also the scourge of many a pastor... Such is the fate of Paul, the young pastor we are concerned with here. After clamoring for an assignment in the shiny new church of a swank, chic community, he instead finds himself at St. Stephen's a dusty old parish (or archeological relic) located in Bypass. And the letters that comprise this "document" chronicle Paul's pastoral encounters and escapades with the natives and with the folks back at Church HQ.

In his Foreword, Lyle Schaller says

While the book is filled with humorous situations and insights, this is a very serious volume. It not only can be of great help to the minister going out to serve a small town congregation, it can also be of tremendous value to the leaders of the small town church as they see various facets of their own parish reflected in what goes on at St. Stephen's.

Surrey demonstrates that many seemingly trivial incidents and pieces of gossip are in fact indicative of major factors in the town's character. He shows that these personality struggles and upheavals are problems unique to small churches in small towns – problems for which seminary could never prepare a person. Lay people, too, will benefit from seeing how things look through their pastor's eyes. Entertaining, humorous, serious... all these adjectives aptly describe this excellent introduction to small town church life in America.

<http://www.amazon.com/small-town-church-Creative-leadership/dp/0687387205>

<http://www.bosmarences.com/obits/obituaries.php/obitID/171267>

<https://www.rarenonfiction.com/product/221283/The-Small-Town-Church-Creative-leadership-series-Surrey-Peter-J>

[Images for Peter J Surrey, author small town church](#)

[Images for The Small Town Church \(Creative leadership series\) \[Peter J Surrey\]](#)

<https://www.librarything.com/series/Creative+Leadership+Series>

[Images for Creative leadership series](#)

Town - Wikipedia

A town is a human settlement larger than a village but smaller than a city. The size definition for what constitutes a "town" varies considerably in different parts of the world.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Town>

[Images for town](#)

2) Society

[PDF]Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times - Rockhay

Western **society** is experiencing a shift *from* one historic period *to* another: focus on continuity - living with constant radical change; intellectual approach - experience of faith; following denominational/family ties - shopping for a church; organized around a neighborhood - organized around a region; structure is vertical (top down) - horizontal structure (networks/teams); info and knowledge key, certainty is important - verbal and visual communication; loyalty to institution - participation in meaningful groups; worship as strengthening faith - worship as evangelism.

http://rockhay.tripod.com/cohort/Congregational_Leadership_in_Anxious_Times.pdf

Page 7

[Images for Western society is experiencing a shift from one historic period to another](#)
[Images for congregational leadership in anxious times](#)

How Can We Cope in a World of Rapid Change? | United Church of God

It all underscores a vital point: While our world has always experienced change, *the rate of change is speeding up*. Many historians, sociologists and journalists have expressed concern in recent years about the rapid change in our **society**. They tell us that today's world is changing at an accelerated rate, unlike anything past generations witnessed.

<http://www.ucg.org/the-good-news/how-can-we-cope-in-a-world-of-rapid-change>

[Images for How Can We Cope in a World of Rapid Change? | United Church of God](#)
[Images for rapid change in our society](#)

L. Gregory Jones and Nathan Jones: Deep trends affecting Christian institutions

Have the church and other Christian institutions ever seen such a powerful ... that the digital revolution is changing basic patterns of remembering, perceiving, ... and issues at the intersection of ethnicity, church and **society**.

<https://www.faithandleadership.com/l-gregory-jones-and-nathan-jones-deep-trends-affecting-christian-institutions>

[Images for L. Gregory Jones and Nathan Jones: Deep trends affecting Christian institutions](#)
[Images for intersection of ethnicity, church and society](#)

The Church and Changing Culture - Direction Journal

What is happening in **society** is an unbelievably rapid acceleration of change produced by the geometrically-multiplied effects of multiple technologies, what Brezinezinski terms "the technetronic era."¹

<http://www.directionjournal.org/1/3/church-and-changing-culture.html>

[Images for Church and Changing Culture - Direction Journal](#)
[Images for What is happening in society is an unbelievably rapid acceleration of change](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Society? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/society>

[Images for Bible and Society](#)

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

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Society.-Positive-Aspects-Of>

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Society.-Negative-Aspects-Of>

<https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/how-does-the-bible-influence-society/>

3) Spiritual

Becoming a Blessed Church: Forming a Church of Spiritual Purpose, Presence, and Power [N. Graham Standish]

Pastor and author N. Graham Standish describes how a church that is open to God's purpose, presence, and power can claim God's blessing. Standish shares the story of Calvin Presbyterian Church in Zelienople, Pennsylvania, and its journey to become a spiritually deep congregation, one that is inwardly and outwardly healthy: spiritually, psychologically, physically, and relationally. *Becoming a Blessed Church* will help you discern God's purpose and the path God is calling your congregation to walk. This book will help you find Christ in your midst and become aware of the many ways the blessings of God's Spirit flow through your congregation.

<http://www.amazon.com/Becoming-Blessed-Church-Spiritual-Presence/dp/1566993121>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/837530.Becoming_the_Blessed_Church

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<https://rowman.com/isbn/9781566997928/becoming-a-blessed-church-forming-a-church-of-spiritual-purpose-presence-and-power-second-edition>

<https://imnedu.org/imn-library/becoming-a-blessed-church-forming-a-church-of-spiritual-purpose-presence-and-power/>

[Becoming a Blessed Church: Forming a Church of Spiritual Purpose, Presence, and Power](#)

<http://www.ngrahamstandish.org/ngrahamstandish.org/Welcome.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/BlessedChurch2/>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/standish-becoming-a-blessed-church.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566994713>

<http://www.georgefox.edu/discernment/conference/standish.html>

<https://alban.org/archive/rational-functionalism/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puiHDEHiO8I> Deepening the Spirituality of Your Congregation with Graham Standish – YouTube

Images for Graham Standish - YouTube

<https://alban.org/archive/a-church-of-purposeful-practice/>

<https://www.amazon.com/N.-Graham-Standish/e/B000APLCY8>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/435253.N_Graham_Standish

Images for n. graham standish, author

Images for *Becoming a Blessed Church: Forming a Church of Spiritual Purpose, Presence, and Power* [N. Graham Standish]

Why Strategic Planning for Churches Wastes Your Time - EthicsDaily

A **spiritual** discernment process is very different from a corporate strategic planning model or a biased approach to your future.

<http://www.ethicsdaily.com/why-strategic-planning-for-churches-wastes-your-time-cms-18893#sthash.N3mC9mGl.dpuf>

Images for spiritual discernment process

4) Spiritual but not Religious

Beliefs without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but Not Religious by Linda A. Mercadante

Belief without Borders deals with tricky conceptual territory: are spirituality and religion distinct, as SBNRs claim, or different words for the same phenomenon? Mercadante sees this group as part of the "nones", the religiously unaffiliated, whose numbers have tripled since 1990 to a fifth of the US population.

A theological standpoint frames the book, for Mercadante is concerned about what this means for the church. Although gracious in her critique, she pulls no punches: SBNRs think theologically, but haltingly. Their beliefs have something to teach the church (for instance, care for the Earth), "but are they enough?" she asks. Without a structured system of believing and belonging, it will be hard for SBNRs to pass their beliefs to a new generation or help meet society's social welfare needs (as faith-based organizations have long done).



<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/books/belief-without-borders-inside-the-minds-of-the-spiritual-but-not-religious-by-linda-a-mercadante/2014785.article>

<https://www.amazon.com/Belief-without-Borders-Spiritual-Religious/dp/0199931003>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/18499509-belief-without-borders>

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[Belief without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but Not Religious](#)

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/spiritual_not_religious.pdf

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/belief-without-borders-9780199931002?cc=us&lang=en&>

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<http://www.dts.edu/reviews/belief-without-borders-mercadante>

<https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/book-reviews/view/26773/belief-without-borders>

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/books/belief-without-borders-inside-the-minds-of-the-spiritual-but-not-religious-by-linda-a-mercadante/2014785.article>

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-19-993100-2> Nonfiction Book Review

<http://www.secularismandnonreligion.org/articles/10.5334/snr.bb/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheOxbridgeGroup/posts/10152157643616637>

<https://www.mtso.edu/about-mtso/faculty-directory/linda-mercadante/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Linda-A.-Mercadante/e/B001HMLK3Q>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1264294.Linda_A_Mercadante

Images for Linda A. Mercadante, author

Images for *Beliefs without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but Not Religious* by Linda A. Mercadante

Best 25+ Spiritual but not religious ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

Images for spiritual but not religious pinterest

<https://in.pinterest.com/explore/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/rwr319/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/SeattleCSL/spiritual-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/4evr25/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/dominika272/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/RKies76/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/croff/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/zayincabot/spiritual-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/magnumpeon/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/HandsometheDad/im-not-religious-im-spiritual/>

Meet the "Spiritual but Not Religious" - Barna Group

"I'm spiritual but not religious." You've heard it—maybe even said it—before. But what does it actually mean? Can you be one without the other? Once synonymous, "religious" and "spiritual" have now come to describe seemingly distinct (but sometimes overlapping) domains of human activity. The twin cultural trends of deinstitutionalization and individualism have, for many, moved spiritual practice away from the public rituals of institutional Christianity to the private experience of God *within*. In this conclusion of a two-part series on faith outside the church ([read the first part, on those who "love Jesus but not the church"](#)), Barna takes a close look at the segment of the American population who are "spiritual but not religious." Who are they? What do they believe? How do they live out their spirituality daily?

<https://www.barna.com/research/meet-spiritual-not-religious/>

[Images for Meet the "Spiritual but Not Religious" - Barna Group](#)

<https://www.barna.com/research/meet-love-jesus-not-church/>

[Images for barna/research/meet-love-jesus-not-church](#)

Sharing the Gospel in a "Spiritual but not Religious" Age

<http://www.slideshare.net/brianafbeckstrom/sharing-the-gospel-in-a-spiritual-but-not-religious-age>

[Images for Sharing the Gospel in a "Spiritual but not Religious" Age](#)

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/responding-to-spiritual-but-not-religious-christians> Responding to "Spiritual but Not Religious" Christians | Catholic Answers

[Images for Responding to "Spiritual but Not Religious" Christians](#)

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<http://faithfullymagazine.com/spiritual-not-religious/>

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<https://www.deseretnews.com/article/865584720/Religious-vs-spiritual-Study-says-the-truly-spiritual-but-not-religious-are-hard-to-find.html>

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/bruce-davis-phd/spiritual-but-not-religio_3_b_5631095.html

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/19/us/examining-the-growth-of-the-spiritual-but-not-religious.html?_r=1

[Images for examining-the-growth-of-the-spiritual-but-not-religious](#)

Spiritual but not Religious: A Call to Religious Revolution in America [Sven Erlandson]

For many spiritual people in America, the Christian Church has lost its appeal. Americans have become disenchanted with the Church's unbelievable story and ugly history. They have been turned off by the Church's use of outdated and hard-to-understand language and music. And they have become contemptuous of Church leadership littered with the uninspired, overbearing, and weak. This has created an exodus from organized religion that, in turn, has created an enormous spiritual longing in America. *Spiritual but not Religious* takes a deep look at this ever-growing problem, which in the new century is strengthening its grip on younger America and posing a mortal threat to the Church—a threat the Church has been too afraid to look at. Challenging, fascinating, and oftentimes humorous, *Spiritual but not Religious* closely examines the exodus from the Church, citing its causes and implications. It also offers a detailed plan for what the Church must do to not only regain its lost members, but to regain its lost spirit. Let there be no doubt, a revolution is needed! *Spiritual but not Religious* is the call for that revolution.

<http://www.amazon.com/Spiritual-but-Not-Religious-Revolution/dp/059501108X>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiritual_but_not_religious

https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?article_id=2997

<http://www.badasscounseling.com/bio/>

<http://www.badasscounseling.com/books>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiritual_but_not_religious

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sven-erlandson-mdiv-8350b35>

<https://www.amazon.com/Sven-Erlandson/e/B0045FEFH0>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/170762.Sven_Erlandson

[Images for Sven Erlandson, author spiritual but not religious](#)

[Images for Spiritual but not Religious: A Call to Religious Revolution in America \[Sven Erlandson\]](#)

Spiritual, But Not Religious - Beliefnet

www.beliefnet.com/entertainment/books/2002/07/spiritual-but-not-religious.aspx

[Images for Spiritual but not Religious quotes](#)

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/spirituality-vs-religion>

<http://prayables.org/spiritual-but-not-religious/>

Spiritual But Not Religious | HuffPost - Huffington Post

<https://www.huffingtonpost.com/topic/spiritual-but-not-religious>

[Images for Spiritual But Not Religious | HuffPost – Huffington Post](#)

"Spiritual but not religious": inside America's rapidly growing faith group - Vox

A new poll finds almost one in five Americans is spiritual but not religious.

<https://www.vox.com/identities/2017/11/10/16630178/study-spiritual-but-not-religious>

[Images for "Spiritual but not religious": inside America's rapidly growing faith group - Vox](https://flipboard.com/@flipboard/-spiritual-but-not-religious-inside-amer/f-4f0524ce1d%2Fvox.com)
<https://flipboard.com/@flipboard/-spiritual-but-not-religious-inside-amer/f-4f0524ce1d%2Fvox.com>
https://www.reddit.com/r/religion/comments/7cp3rn/spiritual_but_not_religious_inside_americas/
<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/09/06/more-americans-now-say-theyre-spiritual-but-not-religious/>
www.bbc.com/news/magazine-20888141 Spiritual, but not religious - BBC News
<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/276689970840531048/> "Spiritual but not religious": inside America's rapidly growing faith group - vox
Images for "Spiritual but not religious": inside America's rapidly growing faith group - vox on pinterest

Spiritual But Not Religious | Psychology Today

A growing number of people describe themselves as "spiritual but not religious." But what does it mean to have a spiritual life devoid of God, scripture, or doctrine?

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/collections/201408/spiritual-not-religious>
Images for Spiritual But Not Religious | Psychology Today
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/rationally-speaking/201007/spiritual-not-religious>
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/hot-thought/201610/spiritual-not-religious>
<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/psychiatry-the-people/201804/spiritual-not-religious-is-associated-depression>

Spiritual but Not Religious - The New York Times

Unsurprisingly, the S.B.N.R.s, as this growing group is often called, are attracting a lot of attention. Four recent books offer perspectives on these Americans who seem to want some connection to the divine, but who don't feel affiliated with traditional religion. There's the minister who wants to woo them, two scholars who want to understand them and the psychotherapist who wants to help them.

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/19/us/examining-the-growth-of-the-spiritual-but-not-religious.html?_r=0
Images for Spiritual but Not Religious - The New York Times
<https://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/20/opinion/20blow.html> Spirit Quest - The New York Times
<https://www.nytimes.com/books/best-sellers/religion-spirituality-and-faith/>

Spiritual, but not Religious: Understanding Unchurched America by Robert C. Fuller (Author)

Nearly 40% of all Americans have no connection with organized religion. Yet many of these people, even though they might never step inside a house of worship, live profoundly spiritual lives. But what is the nature and value of unchurched spirituality in America? Is it a recent phenomenon, a New Age fad that will soon fade, or a long-standing and essential aspect of the American experience?

In *Spiritual but not Religious*, Robert Fuller offers fascinating answers to these questions. He shows that alternative spiritual practices have a long and rich history in America, dating back to the colonial period, when church membership rarely exceeded 17% and interest in astrology, numerology, magic, and witchcraft ran high. Fuller traces such unchurched traditions into the mid-nineteenth century, when Americans responded enthusiastically to new philosophies such as Swedenborgianism, Transcendentalism, and mesmerism, right up to the current interest in meditation, channeling, divination, and a host of other unconventional spiritual practices. Throughout, Fuller argues that far from the flighty and narcissistic dilettantes they are often made out to be, unchurched spiritual seekers embrace a mature and dynamic set of basic beliefs. They focus on inner sources of spirituality and on this world rather than the afterlife; they believe in the accessibility of God and in the mind's untapped powers; they see a fundamental unity between science and religion and an equality between genders and races; and they are more willing to test their beliefs and change them when they prove untenable.

Timely, sweeping in its scope, and informed by a clear historical understanding, *Spiritual but not Religious* offers fresh perspective on the growing numbers of Americans who find their spirituality outside the church.



<http://www.amazon.com/Spiritual-but-not-Religious-Understanding/dp/0195146808>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/606124.Spiritual_But_Not_Religious
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0198033540>
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<https://www.questia.com/library/103540341/spiritual-but-not-religious-understanding-unchurched>
<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-19-514680-6> Nonfiction Book Review
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<http://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/author/F/R/au15288727.html>
<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-C.-Fuller/e/B001IXMPFG>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/85923.Robert_C_Fuller
Images for robert c. fuller (author)
Images for Understanding Unchurched America by Robert C. Fuller (Author)

Spiritual but not religious - Wikipedia

"Spiritual but not religious" (SBNR) is a popular phrase and initialism^[1] used to self-identify a **life stance** of **spirituality** that rejects traditional **organized religion** as the sole or most valuable means of furthering spiritual growth.^{[2][3]}

The term is used world-wide, but is most prominent in the United States where one study reports that as many as 33% of people identify as spiritual but not religious.^[4] Other surveys report lower percentages ranging from 24%^[5] to 10%^[6] The term has been called cliché by popular religious writers such as **Robert Wright**,^[7] but is gaining in popularity. The SBNR lifestyle is most studied in the population of the United States.

Historically, the words *religious* and *spiritual* have been used synonymously to describe all the various aspects of the concept of religion.^{[12][13]} Gradually, the word *spiritual* came to be associated with the private realm of thought and experience while the word *religious* came to be connected with the public realm of membership in a religious institution with official denominational doctrines.^[14] Zinnbauer and Pargament (2005) write that in the early 1900s psychology scholars such as **William James**, **Edwin Starbuck**, **G. Stanley Hall**, and **George Coe** investigated religiosity and spirituality through a lens of **social science**.^[15]

Types

SBNRs are made up of heterogeneous and differing typologies. While no individual fits exhaustively into or remains permanently in one type, Linda A. Mercadante categorizes SBNRs into five distinct categories: (a) Dissenters, (b) Casuals, (c) Explorers, (d) Seekers, and (e) Immigrants.

1. "**Dissenters**" are the people who, for the most part, make a conscious effort to veer away from institutional religion. "Protesting dissenters" refers to those SBNRs who have been 'turned off' religious affiliation because of adverse personal experiences with it. "Drifted Dissenters" refers to those SBNRs who, for a multitude of reasons, fell out of touch with organized religion and chose never to go back. "Conscientious objector dissenters" refers to those SBNRs who are overtly skeptical of religious institutions and are of the view that religion is neither a useful nor necessary part of an individual's spirituality.
2. "Casuals" are the people who see religious and/or spiritual practices as primarily functional. Spirituality is not an organizing principle in their lives. Rather they believe it should be used on an as-needed basis for bettering their health, relieving stress, and for emotional support. The spirituality of "Casuals" is thus best understood as a "therapeutic" spirituality that centers on the individual's personal wellbeing.
3. "Explorers" are the people who seem to have what Mercadante refers to as a "spiritual wanderlust". These SBNRs find their constant search for novel spiritual practices to be a byproduct of their "unsatisfied curiosity", their desire for journey and change, as well as feelings of disappointment. Explorers are best understood as "spiritual tourists" who take comfort in the destination-less journey of their spirituality and have no intentions of ultimately committing to a spiritual home.
4. "Seekers" are those people who are looking for a spiritual home but contemplate recovering earlier religious identities. These SBNRs embrace the "spiritual but not religious" label and are eager to find a completely new religious identity or alternative spiritual group that they can ultimately commit to.
5. "Immigrants" are those people who have found themselves in a novel spiritual realm and are trying to adjust themselves to this newfound identity and its community. "Immigrants" can be best understood as those SBNRs who are "trying on" a radically new spiritual environment but have yet to feel completely settled there. It is important to note that for these SBNRs, although they are hoping to become fully integrated in their newfound spiritual identities, the process of acclimation is difficult and often disconcerting.^[21]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiritual_but_not_religious

[Images for spiritual but not religious](#)

[Images for Spiritual but not religious - Dissenters, Casuals, Explorers, Seekers, Immigrants](#)

Spirituality | Spiritual but not Religious | SBNR |

SBNR.org: Your home for OPEN SOURCE SPIRITUALITY. Join 100 million SBNR people world-wide in spreading love and sharing the wonder of being alive!

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

[Images for Spirituality | Spiritual but not Religious | SBNR |](#)

Spirituality versus religion - Living Lutheran

Is there a difference and do the two need to be reconciled?

I have often heard the phrase, "Religion is for people who are afraid of going to hell. Spirituality is for people who have already been there." I feel spirituality is more important than being religious — is there a difference? How do we reconcile the two? — Eileen Prendergast, New Lenox, Ill.

Brian: While both "spirituality" and "religion" have taken on many meanings, the difference generally boils down to one being an individual experience and the other being communal. I don't think faith is possible, or at least healthy, without experiencing both. Being spiritual without being religious is a little like playing a team sport alone — you may have a better grasp of fundamentals than anyone else around. But when the inevitable assaults on your faith arise, whom do you have to turn to for support? Conversely, if you're going through all the motions religiously but don't really know (or care) why, what carries you through in those lonely moments when you're confronted with questions of meaning? Neither "spiritual" nor "religious" is better than the other, and each is poorer when it's not partnered with the other. Jesus' call to faith is consistently about a personal experience of God and about life in community. Without both, one can't fully experience Christian faith.

<http://www.elca.org/en/Living-Lutheran/Ask-a-Pastor/2015/03/150309-Spirituality-versus-religion>

[Images for Spirituality versus religion - Living Lutheran](#)

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

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The New Metaphysicals: Spirituality and the American Religious Imagination [Courtney Bender]

American spirituality, with its focus on individual meaning, experience, and exploration, is usually thought to be a product of the postmodern era. But, as *The New Metaphysicals* makes clear, contemporary American spirituality has historic roots in the nineteenth century and a great deal in common with traditional religious movements. To explore this world, Courtney Bender combines research into the history of the movement with fieldwork in Cambridge, Massachusetts - a key site of alternative religious inquiry from Emerson and William James to today. Through her ethnographic analysis, Bender discovers that a focus on the new, on progress, and on the way spiritual beliefs intersect with science obscures the historical roots of spirituality from its practitioners and those who study it alike, and shape an enduring set of modern religious possibilities in the process.

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[Images for Courtney Bender, author the new metaphysicals](#)

[Images for The New Metaphysicals: Spirituality and the American Religious Imagination \[Courtney Bender\]](#)

When Spiritual but Not Religious Is Not Enough: Seeing God in Surprising Places, Even the Church by Lillian Daniel (Author).

The phrase "I'm spiritual but not religious" has become a cliché. It's easy to find God amid the convenience of self-styled spirituality—but is it possible (and more worthwhile) to search for God through religion?

Minister and celebrated author Lillian Daniel gives a new spin on church with stories of what a life of faith can really be: weird, wondrous, and well worth trying. From a rock-and-roller sexton to a BB gun-toting grandma, a church service attended by animals to a group of unlikely theologians at Sing Sing, Daniel shows us a portrait of church that is flawed, fallible—and deeply faithful. With poignant reflections and sly wit, Daniel invites all of us to step out of ourselves, dare to become a community, and encounter a God greater than we could ever invent.

Humorous and sincere, this is a book about people finding God in the most unexpected of places: prisons, airports, yoga classes, committee meetings, and, strangest of all, right there in church.

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<http://www.encyclopediadubuque.org/index.php?title=DANIEL, Lillian>
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[Images for Lillian Daniel \(Author\)](#)
[Images for When Spiritual but Not Religious Is Not Enough: Seeing God in Surprising Places, Even the Church by Lillian Daniel](#)

5) Stalled Congregation

[PDF] A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper

VI. Stalled Congregations

- A. Description: Established congregation on the verge of decline
- B. Need: A new vision for their current day
- C. Intervention: Envisioning retreat

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[Images for A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper VI. Stalled Congregations](#)
[Images for A. Description: Established congregation on the verge of decline B. Need: A new vision for their current day C. Intervention: Envisioning retreat](#)
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[PDF] Growing Congregations Do These Things Stalled Congregations Do These Things

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6) Sticky Congregation

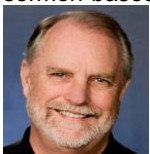
Six Reasons Congregations Have Become Sticky – ThomRainer.com

Thanks to the excellent work of Pew Research, we now have some clear reasons why some churches have members who attend much more frequently than other churches. In other words, we have a clearer picture of what a sticky church looks like.

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[Images for thom rainer \(author\)](#)

Sticky Church (Leadership Network Innovation Series) by Larry Osborne (Author)

The greatest challenge facing most churches today isn't getting people through the front door---it's keeping them from leaving through the back door. In his new book, Larry Osborne reveals what it takes to cultivate a 'sticky' church and reveals the strategy of sermon-based small groups to retain members while leading your church into even deeper levels of discipleship.



<https://www.amazon.com/Sticky-Church-Leadership-Network-Innovation/dp/0310285089>
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 Images for Leadership Network Innovation Series - YouTube
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<https://www.overdrive.com/series/leadership-network-innovation>
 Images for Leadership Network Innovation Series

Sticky Teams: Keeping Your Leadership Team and Staff on the Same Page by Larry Osborne (Author)

In *Sticky Teams*, Larry Osborne exposes the hidden roadblocks, structures, and goofy thinking that all too often sabotage the health and harmony of even the best intentioned ministry teams. Then, with practical and seasoned advice, he shows what it takes to get a leadership board, ministry team, and an entire congregation headed in the same direction, sticking together, unified and healthy for the long haul.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGDIE1pbVlg> Sticky Teams by Larry Osborne, book trailer - YouTube
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7) Story

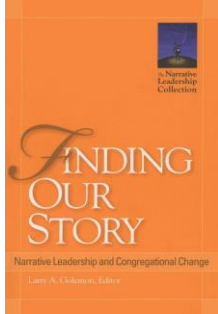
[PDF] Constructing Your Congregation's Story - s3.amazonaws

There are times when all congregations need to reflect upon who they are and where they have been to discern and understand where they are going. At such times, it is important for a congregation to research, create, and present its story. James Wind, president of the Alban Institute, offers a complete and concise guide to constructing and telling your congregation's story. Beginning with assembling the raw materials and developing the basic skills, Wind shows congregational historians how to collect the inner and public profiles of a church's life, as well as how to create and tell a compelling story. Although written for Lutherans, this resource can be readily used by other denominations.

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<http://www.umvitalcongregations.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=btJRL9NSJoL6H&b=7830619&ct=11233035¬oc=1>
 Images for Constructing Your Congregation's Story

Finding Our Story: Narrative Leadership and Congregational Change (Narrative Leadership Collection) [Larry A. Golemon]

Helping a community of faith 're-vision' its personal and collective narratives is one of the greatest leadership challenges of the age. In *Finding Our Story*, Larry Golemon, lead researcher of the Alban Institute's Narrative Leadership in Ministry project, has assembled essays by congregational consultants who use the power of story to help congregations heal, strengthen, and reinvent themselves. These consultants describe how narrative therapy works, explore its promise and its challenges, and share the practical wisdom of their own experiences along with their favorite models of narrative change to show how congregations can be transformed by re-authoring the operative stories they live by.



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<http://www.amazon.com/Finding-Our-Story-Leadership-Congregational/dp/1566993768>

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Images for Larry A. Golemon, author

Images for Finding Our Story: Narrative Leadership and Congregational Change (Narrative Leadership Collection) [Larry A. Golemon]

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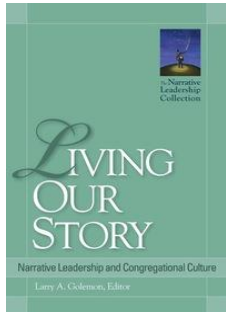
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<https://store.kobobooks.com/en-ca/search?query=narrative%20leadership%20collection>

Images for Narrative Leadership Collection

Living Our Story: Narrative Leadership and Congregational Culture (The Narrative Leadership Collection) [Larry A. Golemon]

Living Our Story explores how good narrative work—the retrieval, construction, and performance of valued stories—takes place in ministry. Authors Larry Golemon, Lee Ramsey, Graham Standish, Tim Shapiro, Carol Johnson, Mike Mather, Niles Elliot Goldstein, and Diana Butler Bass examine this question from a variety of perspectives, including the role of the pastor or rabbi as narrative leader, the sacred and mundane stories that shape congregational life and identity, storytelling as a means of community building, and story sharing as a practice of hospitality. Through the stories they themselves tell, these authors show how stories witness to God's presence in the unfolding of human life, and how the best leaders craft stories that reveal how God is at work among the people and inspire them to become a part of this larger story.



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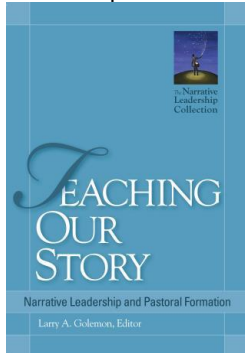
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[Images for Living Our Story: Narrative Leadership and Congregational Culture \(The Narrative Leadership Collection\) \[Larry A. Golemon\]](#)

Teaching Our Story: Narrative Leadership and Pastoral Formation (The Narrative Leadership Collection) [Larry A. Golemon]

Teaching Our Story is based on the premise that as congregations become intentional story-forming communities, they can shape the lives of millions of generative, faithful, and civic-minded adults. To do so, a framework that relates narrative work to the full range of congregational life is needed. This book offers such a framework, featuring essays that examine crucial shapers of narrative, outline a course in preaching that addresses crucial questions for today's church leaders, illuminate the creative power of listening to the collective stories of a faith community, and observe what can happen when first-year seminary students are asked to become story brokers -- integrating the stories from their communities with biblical stories, their own personal stories, and the theological doctrines formed within the story of their tradition.



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[Images for Teaching Our Story: Narrative Leadership and Pastoral Formation \(The Narrative Leadership Collection\) \[Larry A. Golemon\]](#)

Getting to the Heart of the Matter | Susan Beaumont and Associates, LLC

If congregations are to thrive in the midst of chaos and change, then their members must become intentional about telling better **stories**. Congregations need to identify the ways in which the stories they tell are limiting their potential. Their leaders must become more adept at listening to, articulating, and reframing truthful stories that lead the congregation toward a fuller existence and ministry.

<http://www.susanbeaumont.com/getting-to-the-heart-of-the-matter/>

<http://www.susanbeaumont.com/page/10/?s>

[Images for Getting to the Heart of the Matter | Susan Beaumont and Associates, LLC](#)

<https://www.susanbeaumont.com/blog/>

Know Your Story and Lead with It The Power of Narrative in Clergy Leadership by Richard L. Hester (Author), Kelli Walker-Jones Center Director (Author)

Knowing your story is an essential component of effective leadership, but finding your story among the myriad narratives that fill your life isn't a simple task. Richard L. Hester and Kelli Walker-Jones have offered a path to finding your own story amid the powerful family and cultural narratives that may be obscuring your vision.

The aim of this book is to show leaders how to explore their story of reality, tell it to other group members, and consider how it can be used as a resource for leadership. This narrative perspective holds that because there's always more than one story about a situation, we have choices about which story we will embrace.

After more than six years working with groups of clergy, the authors have woven these stories together to create the fabric that is the backdrop of narrative clergy leadership. The book is an account of their pilgrimage. As you read you will have a sense that this is your pilgrimage, and it will encourage you into narrative ventures of your own.

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Page 28
Page 9 of 17

[Images for Richard L. Hester \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Kelli Walker-Jones, author](#)

[Images for Know Your Story and Lead with It The Power of Narrative in Clergy Leadership by Richard L. Hester \(Author\), Kelli Walker-Jones Center Director \(Author\)](#)

Reclaiming the Story: Narrative Leadership in Ministry - Alban Institute

Jewish and Christian ministries have used stories of faith to form communal identity and mission since their beginning. Jews continue to celebrate the founding story of the Exodus in their homes each Passover, and the rabbis tell us that God created human beings, in part, because “God loves stories.” Christians started out as a band of storytellers who put the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus into narrative forms in liturgy, preaching, and a new genre called “gospels.” Storytelling and faith narratives are so much a part of Jewish and Christian practice, in fact, that most congregations take them for granted. We at the Alban Institute believe it is time to reclaim the power of these stories—biblical, personal, and communal—for renewing our faith traditions and transforming the shape of ministry and congregational practice.

<https://alban.org/archive/reclaiming-the-story-narrative-leadership-in-ministry/>

<https://alban.org/author/alban/page/66/>

[Images for Reclaiming the Story: Narrative Leadership in Ministry - Alban Institute](#)

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566994477> Narrative Leadership: Rediscovering the Life-Giving Nature of Stories
Congregations magazine, Winter 2008, Volume 34, Number 1.

<https://alban.org/archive/congregations-magazine-winter-2008/> Narrative Leadership: Rediscovering the Life-Giving Nature of Stories

<https://www.kobo.com/us/en/search?query=narrative%20leadership%20collection>

<https://alban.org/archive/the-power-of-story-in-local-congregations/>

[Images for power of story in the congregation](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/the-pastor-as-narrative-leader/>

[Images for Pastor as Narrative Leader](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/narrative-leadership-in-changing-times/>

[Images for alban/narrative-leadership-in-changing-times/](#)

Storied Leadership: Living and Leading from the Christian Narrative by Brian Jensen (Author), Keith R. Martel (Author), Donald Opitz (Foreword)

There is a pressing need for gifted and committed student leaders on our college campuses. However, to influence well requires more than leadership tools and techniques. A solid foundational perspective is necessary. Storied Leadership contends that assumptions held about the world are the ultimate foundation of one's perspective on leadership. The stories we believe and tell about the nature of reality hold up our perspectives on leadership and serve as a powerful shaping force. If this is true, then a more accurate story about reality will offer a more authentic paradigm for leadership. Distorted views of reality will always incite distortions in leadership. The biblical narrative, developed through the entirety of the scriptures, helps us to understand the nature of the world, who we are in the world, and where reality is heading. This storied perspective provides a solid groundwork from which to discover the particular call to leadership, what leadership is, and how we-as people in the story-ought to lead. Storied Leadership will take students on a journey of discovery through the scriptures, making clear along the way how this powerful story will transform the way live and lead on campus.

Are you looking for something more than leadership tips, tricks, and techniques?

Are you longing for a perspective on leadership that is developed from the rich story of the Scriptures?

Storied Leadership offers just that.

Jensen and Martel take their readers on a journey through the biblical narrative, drawing out rich and poignant ways that the scriptures help us to understand the world—and enable us to live and lead more authentically.

Storied Leadership offers an encounter that will help anyone—from the pastor to the stay-at-home-mom to the CEO to the college student—influence more faithfully in a world groaning for redemption.

Every practice emerges from a story about reality.

The true question is: What story is your leadership influenced by?

<http://www.amazon.com/Storied-Leadership-Leading-Christian-Narrative-ebook/dp/B00TPY1SY4>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/27314624-storied-leadership>

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/storied-leadership-keith-r-martel/1122872873?type=eBook>

<https://store.kobobooks.com/en-ca/search?query=narrative%20leadership%20collection>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/workcited/2015/04/how-to-think-christianly-storied-leadership-by-brian-jensen-and-keith-martel-and-a-long-resource-list-on-forming-a-christian-worldview-too/>

http://www.heartsandmindsbooks.com/booknotes/brand_new_storied_leadership_f/

<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/learning-for-the-love-of-god/281823>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/395376.Brian_Jensen

[Images for Brian Jensen \(Author\) storied leadership](#)

https://www.geneva.edu/faculty-staff/faculty/mhe/faculty_keith_martel

<https://www.amazon.com/Keith-R.-Martel/e/B00TOX5WXY>

Images for Keith R. Martel (Author) storied leadership

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7316560.Donald_Opitz

Images for Donald Opitz, author storied leadership

Images for *Stories of Faith in Action: Living and Leading from the Christian Narrative* by Brian Jensen (Author), Keith R. Martel (Author), Donald Opitz (Foreword)

Stories of Faith in Action - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Stories of Faith in Action is a free, annual publication that highlights how God is changing lives through Mission Support, the percentage of your congregational offering that is shared with your synod and your churchwide organization. Learn or share with other's stories from around this church by ordering free copies of Stories of Faith in Action today! All you have to cover is shipping.

Check out associated resources, including a "How to use" guide, at www.ELCA.org/Resources/Stories-of-Faith-in-Action.

http://resources.elca.org/Products-Stories_of_Faith_in_Action_2016.html?_ga=1.265255627.511880683.1407145725

Images for Stories of Faith in Action - ELCA

Studying Congregations » Cultural Frame

Accounts – What **Stories** the Congregation Tell

History – Each community has commonly-told stories that share the history of the group. They might describe times of great growth or success, or outline times of overcoming communal crises. These stories are passed on from the older generations to the younger generations but are also created in interaction. Not all events that happen are remembered, and the stories that are remembered are based on those who are present to keep remembering them.

<http://studyingcongregations.org/main/frames/cultural-frame> Accounts – What Stories the Congregation Tell

Images for Studying Congregations » Cultural Frame Accounts – What Stories the Congregation Tell

<http://studyingcongregations.org/main/frames/cultural-frame#Accounts>

<http://studyingcongregations.org/thinking-about-congregations/frames-for-studying-congregations/cultural-frame/#Accounts>

<https://studyingcongregations.org/studying-congregations-toolkit/>

https://myluthernet.luthersem.edu/ICS/icsfs/Culture_Identity_in_Cong.pdf?target=ed315f2d-3575-47d8-b70b-bfddfe904020

The Leader's Guide to Storytelling: Mastering the Art and Discipline of Business Narrative [Stephen Denning]

In his best-selling book, *Squirrel Inc.*, former World Bank executive and master storyteller Stephen Denning used a tale to show why storytelling is a critical skill for leaders. Now, in this hands-on guide, Denning explains how you can learn to tell the right story at the right time. Whoever you are in the organization CEO, middle management, or someone on the front lines you can lead by using stories to effect change. Filled with myriad examples, *A Leader's Guide to Storytelling* shows how storytelling is one of the few available ways to handle the principal and most difficult challenges of leadership: sparking action, getting people to work together, and leading people into the future. The right kind of story at the right time can make an organization "stunningly vulnerable" to a new idea.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Leaders-Guide-Storytelling-Discipline/dp/0470548673>

<http://astore.amazon.com/interimini06-20/detail/078797675X>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1131157.The_Leader_s_Guide_to_Storytelling

<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470893907.html>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/leaders-guide-to-storytelling-stephen-denning/1100320102>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1118008782>

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Leader_s_Guide_to_Storytelling.html?id=KrTyUKt9hmQC

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Leader_s_Guide_to_Storytelling.html?id=ZUePrEPNzq0C

<http://www.stevedenning.com/Books/leaders-guide-to-storytelling.aspx>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/stevedenning/2011/06/08/why-leadership-storytelling-is-important/#730b5bf8780f>

<http://www.stevedenning.com/site/Default.aspx>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/steve-denning-3863355>

<https://www.amazon.com/Stephen-Denning/e/B001IOH2NU>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/139360.Stephen_Denning

Images for Stephen Denning, author

Images for *The Leader's Guide to Storytelling: Mastering the Art and Discipline of Business Narrative* [Stephen Denning]

The Power of Story: Change Your Story, Change Your Destiny in Business and in Life [Jim Loehr]

In his groundbreaking new book, Dr. Jim Loehr, *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of *The Power of Full Engagement*, examines the way we tell stories about ourselves to ourselves - and, most important, the way we can change those stories to transform our business and personal lives.

Your story is your life, says Loehr. As human beings, we continually tell ourselves stories - of success or failure; of power or victimhood; stories that endure for an hour, or a day, or an entire lifetime. We have stories about our work, our families and relationships, our health; about what we want and what we're capable of achieving. Yet, while our stories profoundly affect how others see us and we see ourselves, too few of us even recognize that we're telling stories, or what they are, or that we can change them -- and, in turn, transform our very destinies.

Telling ourselves stories provides structure and direction as we navigate life's challenges and opportunities and helps us interpret our goals and skills. Stories make sense of chaos; they organize our many divergent experiences into a coherent thread; they shape our entire reality. And far too many of our stories, says Loehr, are dysfunctional, in need of serious editing. First, he asks

you to answer the question, "In which areas of my life is it clear that I cannot achieve my goals with the story I've got?" He then shows you how to create new, reality-based stories that inspire you to action, and take you where you want to go both in your work and personal life.

For decades, at the Human Performance Institute, Loehr has been examining the power of story to increase engagement and productivity, and Fortune 500 companies have paid millions to send employees to his program, in which he applies the principles and methods that he now offers in this book. Global business leaders, world-class athletes, military special forces, and thousands of individuals from every walk of life have sought out and benefited from his life-altering insight and expertise.

Our capacity to tell stories is one of our profoundest gifts. Loehr's approach to creating deeply engaging stories will give you the tools to wield the power of storytelling and forever change your business and personal life.



<http://www.amazon.com/The-Power-Story-Destiny-Business/dp/0743294688>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1926534.The_Power_of_Story

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/power-of-story-jim-loehr/1100330886>

<http://www.simonandschuster.com/books/The-Power-of-Story/Jim-Loehr/9780743294683>

http://books.google.com/books/about/The_Power_of_Story.html?id=QIVHgIyi_GEC

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Power_of_Story.html?id=XlaloNeISRYC

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCxIORhwg80> Jim Loehr-The Power of Story-Book Video - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_0NngkmVM4 Jim Loehr: The Power of Story – YouTube

[Images for Jim Loehr: The Power of Story - YouTube](#)

<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-7432-9452-2>

<https://www.getabstract.com/en/summary/career-and-self-development/the-power-of-story/9848>

<http://www.ideaconnection.com/books/24-The-Power-of-Story-Rewrite-Your-Destiny-in-Business-a.html>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jim-loehr-97a31715>

<https://www.amazon.com/James-E.-Loehr/e/B000APFJ8I>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/38870.Jim_Loehr

[Images for Jim Loehr, author](#)

[Images for The Power of Story: Change Your Story, Change Your Destiny in Business and in Life \[Jim Loehr\]](#)

The Stories We Don't Tell | Congregational Consulting Group

One of the things I love about consulting is listening to the way congregations describe themselves. The narratives they spin about themselves are usually filled with a great deal of pride and love—problems they have overcome, faithful work they have done together, loving their favorite pastors, surviving their least-favorite pastors, the list goes on. Since I like to start a consultation by having members tell me what they love about their congregation, the dominant, guiding narrative emerges very quickly.

<http://www.congregationalconsulting.org/the-stories-we-dont-tell/>

[Images for The Stories We Don't Tell | Congregational Consulting Group](#)

[Images for way congregations describe themselves](#)

The Wisdom of the Seasons: How the Church Year Helps Us Understand Our Congregational Stories [Charles M. Olsen]

The church year is often seen as a framework for church programs, but well-known Alban author Charles Olsen shows readers how it can be a prism through which congregations more deeply understand their own stories. By weaving together our narratives and those of Christian tradition, a congregation can clarify its identity, grow in wisdom, and discover a new vision and ministry. Olsen draws parallels between the church seasons and practices of spiritual formation - letting go, naming and celebrating God's presence, and taking hold. He shows us how these movements are expressed in the three major cycles of the church year - Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. Focusing on communal narratives, he presents a process for telling a story and forming a corporate memory of the story, and then deepening and reflecting on it by exploring the season of the church year that captures its character.

Readers will appreciate the real stories from congregational life and ministry - each rooted in and illuminated by a season of the church year. Through these stories, readers learn how to claim the treasure of the seasons for communal spiritual formation, church leadership, and governance.

<http://www.amazon.com/Wisdom-Seasons-Understand-Congregational-Stories/dp/1566993962>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566993968/The-Wisdom-of-the-Seasons-How-the-Church-Year-Helps-Us-Understand-Our-Congregational-Stories>

<http://www.christiancentury.org/reviews/2010-02/wisdom-seasons-how-church-year-helps-us-understand-our-congregational-stories>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996775>

[The Wisdom of the Seasons: How the Church Year Helps Us Understand Our Congregational Stories](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/seasons-and-stories/>

<https://alban.org/archive/waltzing-to-the-eternal-rhythms/>

<http://www.elizabethpresbytery.org/Resource%20Center%20ON%20THE%20WEB/Alban%20Institute%20Resources%202012.pdf>

Page 2

http://www.peakspresbytery.org/catalog/Calibre%20Library/ catalog/book/book_762.html

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs163/1108653809350/archive/1119576526640.html> From Our Interim Pastor
<https://www.amazon.com/Charles-M.-Olsen/e/B001K8HE9G>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/310946.Charles_M_Olsen
[Images for charles m. olsen \(author\)](#)
[Images for The Wisdom of the Seasons: How the Church Year Helps Us Understand Our Congregational Stories \[Charles M. Olsen\]](#)

8) Strategic Congregation

Beyond "Corporate": New Insights on Larger Churches | Susan Beaumont and Associates, LLC

Once a congregation has a budget of between \$2,000,000 and \$4,000,000 and/or an average weekly attendance of 800 to 1,200, it requires a more strategic orientation. As congregations grow, they develop complexly layered staffing structures, board structures, and governance practices. There are so many operating cells at work in strategic congregations that it is easy for individual cells to drift out of alignment and for tremendous energies to be wasted. For that reason, the **strategic congregation** must align its leadership energies just as the wheels of a car must be aligned to prevent them from pulling against one another and wasting energy needlessly.

<http://www.susanbeaumont.com/beyond-corporate-new-insights-on-larger-churches/>
[Images for Beyond "Corporate": New Insights on Larger Churches | Susan Beaumont and Associates, LLC](#)
[Images for strategic congregation](#)
<https://alban.org/archive/specialist-or-generalist-the-associate-pastor-role-in-the-large-church/>
<http://www.amazon.com/Inside-Large-Congregation-Susan-Beaumont/dp/1566994195>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995612>
<https://faithandleadership.com/topics/strategy> Susan Beaumont: Leading in an in-between season

9) Structures

Congregation: Stories and Structures by James Hopewell

Is the congregation a kind of machine? This metaphor is implicit in those studies that assume congregations operate by rational cause-effect principles, have certain outcomes given certain inputs, and can be made more "productive" if these principles are understood and the inputs controlled. ... Hopewell proposes that we study congregations under an entirely different metaphor. He says we should think of a congregation as a conversation, a discourse, an exchange of symbols through which meaning is both expressed and created. Hopewell means by this something more intricate than simply that people talk to each other in church and the subject matter of this talk ought to be analyzed. That's part of it, but he suggests that all the interactions that go on in congregations (including the rituals and gestures of both daily and formalized life together as well as the architecture and artifacts of the physical space in which they take place) "say" something, "mean" something, are symbolic expressions. Furthermore, each such expression is responsive to and dependent upon other expressions, to the point that no symbolic expression stands alone. In other words, the symbolic discourse is patterned— and in different ways in different congregations. These patterns are basic to the identities of particular congregations. Hopewell's hunch is that if you can discern the patterns in and through the constant flow of symbolic discourse, you can hear who a congregation is and understand what it is all about.

<http://store.fortresspress.com/store/product/1723/Congregation-Stories-and-Structures>
<http://www.amazon.com/Congregation-Stories-Structures-James-Hopewell/dp/0800619560>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/603700.Congregation_Stories_and_Structures
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1451410352>
<https://books.google.com/books/about/Congregation.html?id=q05wAueodqcC>
<http://www.religion-online.org/showbook.asp?title=491>
<https://www.religion-online.org/book/congregation-stories-and-structures/>
<http://books.google.com/books/about/Congregation.html?id=q05wAueodqcC>
<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/eb4e/626e4f7e1acaea0bb862f1612ec8cf425e3b.pdf>
<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/004057368804500312?journalCode=ttja>
[Religious Education in the Small Membership Church](#) Page 212
[Images of Pastoral Care: Classic Readings](#) Page 238
<http://pitts.emory.edu/archives/text/mss080.html>
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/hopewell-congregation-stories-and-structures.html>
<http://fortresspress.com/author/james-f-hopewell>
<https://www.amazon.com/James-F-Hopewell/e/B001KHQAA6>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/327527.James_F_Hopewell
[Images for James Hopewell, author](#)
[Images for Congregation: Stories and Structures by James Hopewell](#)

Local Church Resources - United Church of Christ – UCC.org

Local church leaders can take time to learn about congregation **structures**, current practices, and available resources in order to strengthen their work and their churches. The **Leaders Box**, a classic resource, provides guidance for many of the "nuts and bolts" of church life. The following list highlights resources for developing, discerning, supporting and uplifting the ministries of local churches.

http://www.ucc.org/ministers_local-church-leaders-2
[Images for congregation structures](#)

Revisiting Interim Tasks:

I have a couple of experiences with “flipping” houses that needed a substantial amount of work to prepare them for their next phase of life. The first task is the evaluation of the house as it is. What is strong? What is crumbling? What is crucial and what expendable? What are the attractive, aesthetically valuable parts and what is just plain ugly? What is the foundation upon which we can work to return the building to a house and a home?

If I apply those experiences to the tasks of Interim Ministry, then the first task of the interim is to explore the whole of the church, to ascertain the spiritual strengths, the organizational **structures** that frame the congregation, the foundational values that guide it, and the places where it is in need of reworking or remodeling. The goal is to create a living house that, with new leadership, can serve as a home for those who are there now, and those who will be attracted to this community in the future. The task of the interim will be to lead the congregation through a parallel process of self-evaluation and preparedness.

Streams of Wisdom LLC - Home

<https://www.streams-of-wisdom.com/news>

[Images for Streams of Wisdom LLC - Home - Consulting and Training for Transitions](#)

[Images for organizational structures that frame the congregation](#)

<https://www.streams-of-wisdom.com/teaching---imti.html>

What Does the Bible Say About Church Structure? - OpenBible.info

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

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/structure>

[Images for Bible and Church Structure](#)

<https://www.gotquestions.org/church-structure.html>

<https://www.compellingtruth.org/church-structure.html>

<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Church-Structure/>

<http://sbcvoices.com/does-the-bible-provide-a-clear-structure-for-church-governance%E2%80%94941/>

[Images for bible-structure-for-church-governance](#)

10) Struggling Congregation

[PDF] A New Initiative for Struggling Churches - Northern Illinois District LCM

Recently a generous bequest came to the district, and part of it has been set aside to specifically provide help for struggling churches, or those uncertain about their future path.

http://nidlcm.org/sites/default/files/PrivatePages/stakeholder_september_2015.pdf

[Images for A New Initiative for Struggling Churches - Northern Illinois District LCM](#)

Coming to grips with struggling congregations | The Lutheran

According to statistics compiled by [ELCA Research and Evaluation](#) from annual congregational report for 2000 to 2008, the number of congregations operating with deficits increased sharply from about 3,000 to more than 4,400. This occurred as the number of congregations on the [ELCA](#) rolls decreased.

Another significant cause for struggles is declining worship attendance, which traditionally has been the yardstick by which a congregation is measured. From 2000 to 2008, 68 percent of [ELCA](#) congregations declined 5 percent or more in worship attendance. Strictly in economic terms, the decline in worshipers in those years more than offset the slight increase in per capita giving (from \$1,236 to \$1,705), leading overall to a slight decline in average income for congregations, with the trend leading downward, while costs for basics like energy rose.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=9772

Page 20

[Images for Coming to grips with struggling congregations | The Lutheran](#)

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

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

Grow It or Close It? Is There a Third Option for Struggling Small Churches?

What are we going to do about all those struggling Small Churches?

<http://newsmallchurch.com/grow-it-or-close-it-is-there-a-third-option-for-struggling-small-churches/>

[Images for Grow It or Close It? Is There a Third Option for Struggling Small Churches?](#)

<http://newsmallchurch.com/grow-it-or-close-it-is-there-a-third-option-for-struggling-small-churches/>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/karl-vaters/2016/july/grow-close-third-option-for-struggling-small-churches.html>

Hope for Struggling Churches | Turnaround Churches

For the past several years, I've been studying effective church governance and organizations. The question on my mind was why some churches seem to struggle, eventually to wither, while others nearby are vibrant members of the faith community.

<https://turnaroundchurches.wordpress.com/hope/>

[Images for Hope for Struggling Churches | Turnaround Churches](#)

MACUCC: Options for Struggling Congregations

Many churches come to a time in their congregational life where the question of sustainability or viability is raised. At this crucial juncture, it is important to look at a wide range of options and to prayerfully discern what direction God is calling the congregation.

<http://www.macucc.org/strugglingcongregations>
[Images for Options for Struggling Congregations](#)

Small Churches Struggle to Grow Because Of The People They Attract – The Barna Group

Based on a study of the church-going habits of 4501 adults randomly sampled from the U.S., the Barna survey discovered that small churches (defined as average weekend attendance of 100 or fewer adults) are more likely than either mid-sized (301-999 adults) or large churches (1000 or more adults) to draw people who are not college graduates and are more likely to appeal to people with lower household incomes. George Barna, director of the study, suggested that a “downscale” demographic profile often correlates with less aggressive growth patterns in organizations and a limited number of effective leaders.

<https://www.barna.com/research/small-churches-struggle-to-grow-because-of-the-people-they-attract/>
[Images for Small Churches Struggle to Grow Because Of The People They Attract – The Barna Group](#)

Small congregations share strengths, struggles - Living Lutheran

These small congregations grapple with aging and dwindling membership, decreased giving, maintaining expensive infrastructure and a leadership vacuum.

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2017/01/small-congregations-share-strengths-struggles/>
[Images for Small congregations share strengths, struggles - Living Lutheran](#)

Small, struggling churches look outside their walls to attract more members

Struggling with dwindling attendance, building maintenance challenges and the task of keep a staff to help fund the future, small churches are looking outside of their own walls to reach people in new ways to grow their congregations.

<http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/article/20140330/NEWS/140339872>
[Images for Small, struggling churches look outside their walls to attract more members](#)

Turning Around a Struggling Church - Dan Reiland

It's true that both church planting and the multi-site model are highly productive strategies to advance the local church, but we can't ignore or dismiss the tens of thousands of struggling churches. There is always hope!

<http://danreiland.com/turning-around-a-struggling-church/>
[Images for Turning Around a Struggling Church - Dan Reiland](#)
<http://ministrytodaymag.com/leadership/pastoring/20354-dan-reiland-big-ministry-in-small-churches-part-2>
https://twitter.com/DanReiland?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor
<http://visionroom.com/tag/dan-reiland/>
<http://www.unseminary.com/danreiland/>
<http://careynieuwhof.com/episode105/> Dan Reiland – 35 Years of Wisdom from an Exceptional Church Leader
<https://www.amazon.com/Amplified-Leadership-Practices-Establish-Influence/dp/1616384727>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/686272.Dan_Reiland
[Images for Dan Reiland, author](#)

What Struggling Congregations Need to Renew Their Churches

They need transformation of life — not pleasant Sunday worship experiences — if they are to stand up to the darkness.

<https://sojo.net/articles/what-struggling-congregations-need-renew-their-churches>
[Images for What Struggling Congregations Need to Renew Their Churches](#)

[PDF] When Your Congregation Is Struggling - The Presbytery of Cayuga Syracuse

What alternatives do congregations have when they find their building maintenance outstrips congregational finances and creates paralysis within the congregation? What alternative do congregations have when they have little or no energy to do anything beyond the minimal effort to attend worship? What alternatives do congregations have when their leadership team is failing to work together in healthy ways due to burnout among the leaders? There are various signs that indicate a congregation is facing hard decisions about its future. The Committee on Ministry and the Board of Trustees recognize the need to engage in conversations with our congregations that are concerned about their future and are facing critical decisions.

http://cayugasyracuse.org/files/6913/2805/0680/When_Your_Church_Is_Struggling_Alban_Presbytery.pdf
[Images for \[PDF\] When Your Congregation Is Struggling - The Presbytery of Cayuga Syracuse](#)

11) Sustainable Congregation

[PDF] A Resource for the Closing of Congregations

Appendix A: Worksheet on Congregational Sustainability Page 15

http://www.lss-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Closing_Congregations.pdf
[Images for Congregational Sustainability](#)

[PDF] Congregational Vitality & Sustainability Quick Check

All congregations want to thrive. A congregation (or any organization) is thriving when it achieves mission goals and is likely to continue doing so into the future. This checklist helps you quickly see how you rate your congregations' vitality and sustainability.

http://www.kcdisciples.org/uploads/8/6/7/1/86717752/congregational_vitality-sustainability_quick_check.pdf
[Images for Congregational Vitality & Sustainability Quick Check](#)

Cultivating Sustainable Missional Ministries | Center for Congregations

It is easy to think only about financial resources and the need for volunteers when creating or maintaining congregational ministries. Workshop facilitators Eric Law and Bill Cruse propose a holistic model to help you think beyond the money and budgeting. This model outlines six distinct “currencies” that, when they are utilized appropriately, allow for the creation of missional and sustainable ministries.

<https://centerforcongregations.org/workshop/cultivating-sustainable-missional-ministries>

[Images for Cultivating Sustainable Missional Ministries | Center for Congregations](#)

Equipping the Saints: Building Healthy, Faithful, Sustainable Congregations

The aim of this training is to facilitate and inspire congregational work that helps faith communities of all sizes and developmental stages to most faithfully carry out God's mission in Oregon.

<http://www.diocese-oregon.org/equipping-the-saints-building-healthy-faithful-sustainable-congregations/>

[Images for Equipping the Saints: Building Healthy, Faithful, Sustainable Congregations](#)

Not Trying Too Hard: New Basics for Sustainable Congregations by Bob Sitze (Author)

The Christian church in America is doing its best to be relevant. Its leaders are trying harder, working longer hours, offering more programs, and trying to solve more problems. Not coincidentally, more clergy than ever before are burning out or “browning out,” losing their edge, becoming lethargic. How do we move beyond this sense of despair and hopelessness? What does it mean to restore the soul of the church? How can it become more relevant unto itself and to people like those with whom I talk in the workplace—those who eagerly seek meaning? In *Not Trying Too Hard*, Bob Sitze has taken the bold first step on this journey of restoring the soul of the church.

<http://www.amazon.com/Not-Trying-Too-Hard-Congregations/dp/1566992559>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/14949346-not-trying-too-hard>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566995931>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995930>

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

https://books.google.com/books/about/Not_Trying_Too_Hard.html?id=kL5dWoLLniUC

[Not Trying Too Hard: New Basics for Sustainable Congregations](#)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/author/bob-sitze/>

<http://www.minnesotavalleys.org/Resource%20Center.html>

<http://www.realepiscopal.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Admin-ERCVestryBiblio-200909.pdf>

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

http://www.presbyteryov.org/resource_center/not-trying-too-hard/

<https://alban.org/archive/spidey-sense/>

<https://alban.org/archive/choices-for-change/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Bob-Sitze/e/B001JS0ZYI>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/list/65728.Bob_Sitze

[Images for Bob Sitze \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Not Trying Too Hard: New Basics for Sustainable Congregations by Bob Sitze \(Author\)](#)

Turn-Around Congregations and Sustainable Institutions

The course will show the eco-system of a congregation and small institution and will engage students in taking another path — turning off the path we are now on and trail blazing sustainable futures. Sustainable futures are experimental, not realized. In this course, we will learn to experiment.

<http://www.hartsem.edu/courses/turn-around-congregations-and-sustainable-institutions/>

[Images for Turn-Around Congregations and Sustainable Institutions](#)

What Makes a Church Sustainable? - Churchwork

What conversation is going on where you are about how to assess a congregation's sustainability?

<http://www.churchwork.com/what-makes-a-church-sustainable/>

[Images for What Makes a Church Sustainable? - Churchwork](#)

<http://adamtrambley.blogspot.com/2014/01/a-church-numbers-game.html>

12) Symbols

Congregation and Community - Page 56 - Google Books Result

They will also sense whether the **symbols** and events out of which this congregation constructs its worship evoke for them any sense of transcendence, of a presence connecting them to something beyond themselves — whether this is a place where they can meet God.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0813523354>

<http://www.amazon.com/Congregation-Community-Nancy-Ammerman/dp/0813523354>

[Images for Nancy Ammerman, author](#)

[Images for Congregation and Community by Nancy Ammerman](#)

Congregation: Stories and Structures - Page 8 - Google Books Result

The transformative power of **symbols** resides in the abundance of meanings stored in them,⁷ so members are quick to champion, but slow to explain the symbols of their identity.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1451410352>

<http://www.amazon.com/Congregation-Stories-Structures-James-Hopewell/dp/0800619560>

[Images for transformative power of symbols](#)

Ritual Practices in Congregational Identity Formation [Timothy D. Son]

(3) **Symbols** are, by definition, signs that convey powerful meaning which often expresses the core substance of a congregation's identity. They help us to focus in times of confusion. But the "multivocality" of symbols also serves as an occasion for change. Since symbols stand for something extraordinary, they direct our association with a reality beyond the specificity of empirical events. We can infer that in a congregation, virtually everything that is said and done symbolically represents matters beyond the realm of ordinary life.

<http://www.amazon.com/Ritual-Practices-Congregational-Identity-Formation/dp/0739183109>

[Images for Ritual Practices in Congregational Identity Foundation](#)

[Images for Symbols are, by definition, signs that convey powerful meaning which often expresses the core substance of a congregation's identity.](#)

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0739183117>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5917635.Timothy_D_Son

What Does the Bible Say About Symbols and Signs? - OpenBible.info

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

[Images for Bible and Symbols and Signs](#)

<https://www.bibleuniverse.com/articles/keys-to-bible-symbols>

<https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/dictionary-of-bible-themes/1670-symbols>

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

www.revelation-today.com/a1bible%20symbols.htm

13) Systems Analysis

Analyzing the System

As the interim pastor begins to join the system, he or she begins a more systematic reflection on the nature of the system that is the congregation. Some issues will be obvious, such as the degree of anxiety among the members, the level of dependence or independence in relationship with the former pastor, ministry staff, interim pastor, and with the lay leadership. The existence of conflict or its absence may also be obvious.

A systematic analysis accepts the obvious, surface patterns of the congregation as a first layer of reality, under which lie further factors which define and govern the relationships in the congregation. This is similar to pastoral counseling in which the "presenting problem" usually leads to more hidden and sometimes more difficult issues. Some deeper levels of congregational reality might include:

- Unresolved relationship issues with the most recent previous pastor,
- Repeating patterns of relating with pastors (leaders) over several previous generations of leadership,
- The extent to which the informal lines of authority and boundaries and rules are in line with the formal, constitutional patterns,
- The existence of secrets and the relative emotional power of those secrets, healthy or unhealthy relationship triangles.

Analysis continues throughout the interim. Early results help formulate a picture of the congregation that is tested and refined as additional information confirms or disconfirms the conclusions. Over time then the results of analysis shift and grow into a stronger sense of the reality of the congregation. This sense of reality forms the basis for the interim pastor's choice of focus and responsibility (the fourth task).

[PDF]Interim Ministry Handbook - Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Mission Area

<https://www.ntnl.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Interim-Ministry-Handbook-Interim-Pastor.pdf>

Section III Interim Ministry Tasks

[Images for Analyzing the Congregation as a System](#)

How Your Church Family Works: Understanding Congregations as Emotional Systems by Peter L. Steinke (Author)

Drawing on the work of Bowen, Friedman, and his own many years' counseling experience, Peter Steinke shows how to recognize and deal with the emotional roots of such issues as church conflict, leadership roles, congregational change, irresponsible behavior, and the effect of family of origin on current relationships. Discover why working relationships may be "stuck" in certain behaviors. Psychologically sound, theologically grounded, and practically illustrated with case studies, *How Your Church Family Works* will help you better understand how your congregation works and how to keep it healthy. Featuring a new preface and a fresh redesign, the book is a classic work by one of the most respected names in congregational consulting.

<http://www.amazon.com/Your-Church-Family-Works-Understanding/dp/1566993296>

<http://www.amazon.com/Your-Church-Family-Works-Understanding/product-reviews/1566993296>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/49292.How_Your_Church_Family_Works

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566993296/How-Your-Church-Family-Works-Understanding-Congregations-as-Emotional-Systems>

<https://imnedu.org/imn-library/how-your-church-family-works-understanding-congregations-as-emotional-systems/>

<https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9781566993296/how-your-church-family-works/>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/how-your-church-family-works-peter-l-steinke/1100893156>

<https://www.christianbook.com/how-your-church-family-works/peter-steinke/9781566993296/pd/993290>
https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/how-your-church-family-works-understanding-congregations-as-emotional-systems_peter-l-steinke/323121/#isbn=1566993296&idq=7383360
https://books.google.com/books/about/How_Your_Church_Family_Works.html?id=6xL1AgAAQBAJ
https://books.google.com/books/about/How_Your_Church_Family_Works.html?id=YETKAQAACAAJ
<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/9-ways-leaders-can-respond-to-conflict-constructively/>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8i_x_y0uQ5w Peter Steinke - Congregations as Emotional Systems - YouTube
[Images for Peter Steinke - Congregations as Emotional Systems - YouTube](#)
<https://vimeo.com/37155033> The Church as an Emotional System Talk 1, Part 1 on Vimeo
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/steinke-how-your-church-family-works-healthy-congregations.html>
[Resilient Ministry: What Pastors Told Us About Surviving and Thriving](#) Page 309
<http://www.elizabethpresbytery.org/Resource%20Center%20ON%20THE%20WEB/Alban%20Institute%20Resources%202012.pdf>
 Page 4
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1203&context=dissertations> Page 204
http://www.episcopalhealthministries.org/files/resources_attachments/clergy.pdf Page 10
https://www.episcopalfoundation.org/uploads/pages/files/Bibliography_-_041513.pdf Page 14
<https://digitalcommons.du.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1832&context=etd> Page 352
<https://scholar.csl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1085&context=dmin> Page 212
[Deepening the Leadership Capacities of Seminarians – Sfu](#) Page 136 Note 17
<https://dspace.sewanee.edu/bitstream/handle/11005/3672/SorvilloMovingAheadSOT2016.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y> Page 102
<http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/adults/harvest/workshop10/workshopplan/handouts/142316.shtml>
<https://www.thepentecostalfamily.org/index-for-churches-are-living-systems.html>
<https://www.uua.org/careers/administrators/reading>
<https://divinitymusings.wordpress.com/2010/10/26/how-your-church-family-works/>
http://educationdocbox.com/Homework_and_Study_Tips/66350385-Family-systems-theory-the-congregation-as-a-system-resource-section.html
<http://gracelutheran.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/GraceNewsletter2017-05.pdf>
<https://repository.westernsem.edu/pkp/index.php/rr/article/view/1520/1752> Utilizing natural family systems theory to foster health in congregations
<https://abramkj.com/2016/04/25/systems-thinking-101-how-your-church-family-works-steinke/>
<https://files.constantcontact.com/fbaed027be/a67cf0e6-4f4c-4211-80b7-f64a5ab32593.pdf> Peter L. Steinke: A Life Well Served
<https://files.constantcontact.com/fbaed027be/a924b9a8-9d74-43d7-ac0c-8a98e3cd871c.pdf> Peter L. Steinke (1938- 2020) Obituary (Facebook posting by Craig Schweitzer)
<https://www.uua.org/directory/people/peter-l-steinke>
<https://www.christiancentury.org/contributor/peter-l-steinke>
<https://lmpeacecenter.org/recommended-reading/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Peter-L.-Steinke/e/B001JS2ZJG>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/27521.Peter_L_Steinke
[Images for Peter L. Steinke, author](#)
[Images for How Your Church Family Works: Understanding Congregations as Emotional Systems by Peter L. Steinke \(Author\)](#)

Anxious Congregations, Responsible Congregation with Peter L. Steinke

In this popular DVD, a congregation is introducing a new form of worship. The first half portrays a segment of the congregation opposing the new service. There is secrecy, sabotage and plenty of triangulating. But the same problem is shown in the second half and this time, instead of reactive behaviors, the people are more responsive and reflective. After several scenes, Dr. Steinke reviews what is happening in terms of anxiety (first half) and responsible behavior (second half). He points out the healthy functioning, and, most importantly, the role of leadership in serving responsible action. It demonstrates that differences alone do not create differing. The emotional factors, whether unbridled or handled well, are the deciding forces in times of turmoil and trouble. The capacity of self-regulation among leaders is essential to healthy group functioning. The leaders supply for the "body politic" an immune function as in the physical body.

<https://newvisionpress.wordpress.com/products/>

Anxious times call for steady leadership. When tensions emerge in a congregation, its leaders cannot be as anxious as the people they serve. To remain effective, congregational leaders must control their own uneasiness. This takes self-awareness and confidence to manage relationships and influence behaviors. Knowing how to deal with anxiety and how to work through complex challenges can lead a congregation to new insights, growth, and vitality. Anxious times hold not only the potential for loss but also for creation, important learnings, and changes that will strengthen the congregation. With this new book, internationally respected consultant Peter Steinke goes deeper into the requirements of effective congregational leadership. Born from the wisdom of Steinke's distinguished career, this new volume will both enlighten and embolden leaders. Steinke inspires courage in leaders to maintain the course, unearth secrets, resist sabotage, withstand fury, and overcome timidity or doubts. His insights, illustrations, and provocations will carry leaders through rough times, provide clarity during confusing times, and uplift them in joyous times.

<https://www.amazon.com/Congregational-Leadership-Anxious-Times-Courageous/dp/1566993288>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Congregational_Leadership_in_Anxious_Tim.html?id=JfIYAwAAQBAJ
<https://www.amazon.com/Healthy-Congregations-Approach-Peter-Steinke/dp/156699330X>
http://rockhay.tripod.com/cohort/Congregational_Leadership_in_Anxious_Times.pdf

<https://alban.org/archive/twenty-observations-about-troubled-congregations/>
<https://waytolead.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Congregational-Leadership-in-Anxious-Times-by-Peter-L-2.pdf>
https://www.selectlearning.org/sites/default/files/study/cl%20leader%20guide_0.pdf
<https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1215&context=dmin>
<https://www.ecfvp.org/vestry-papers/article/496/leadership-in-times-of-change>
<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/2012-01/when-congregations-are-stuck>
https://www.selectlearning.org/sites/default/files/study/cl%20leader%20guide_0.pdf
<https://www.gtfeducation.org/e-tutorials/pastoral-planning-and-church-management.cfm>
[Images for Anxious Congregations, Responsible Congregation with Peter L. Steinke](#)

LEADING CHANGE: CHURCH LEADERSHIP AMID TURMOIL (video) with Dr. Peter Steinke

Dr. Peter Steinke applies **Systems** Theory to the task of leadership, especially leadership during or for change. Change is the new constant and change creates anxiety and resistance. The functioning of leaders during this time is critical to the ability of the organization to maintain its commitment to its mission. Unlike some many theories, which neglect the human emotional processes of an organization, "Leading Change" teaches leaders to expect anxiety and sabotage but to stay calm and committed to advancing the mission. Change can stall the development of an organization through fear of the unknown but courageous leaders can call people to embrace a new adventure in meeting the latest challenge. This course would be very helpful for congregational leaders who are experiencing transitions, conflict, demographic or economic challenges. The "Leading Change" course equips leaders to respond to the expected anxiety in an organization facing change.

<https://newvisionpress.wordpress.com/products/>
<https://squareup.com/store/new-vision-press/>
<http://lutheranmission.blogspot.com/2013/09/dvd-course-leading-change-church.html>
<http://resource.moravian.org/ResourceView/12/180>
[Images for LEADING CHANGE: CHURCH LEADERSHIP AMID TURMOIL \(video\) with Dr. Peter Steinke](#)

TEACHING FISH TO WALK: Church Systems and Adaptive Challenges by Peter Steinke

With massive shifts in society, the American church has come upon adaptive challenges.

<https://squareup.com/store/new-vision-press/>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/32705925-teaching-fish-to-walk>
<https://justalittlebitmorebook.com/2016/01/05/the-just-a-little-bit-more-interview-with-peter-steinke/>
<https://www.imaelca.org/teaching-fish-to-walk/>
<http://imnedu.org/2017-annual-conference/2017-conference-workshops/> Teaching Fish to Walk: Church Systems and Adaptive Challenge Peter L. Steinke
<https://www.bexleyseabury.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2019-Jan-Organizational-Systems-Syllabus-Ott.pdf>
<https://newvisionpress.wordpress.com/products/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Peter-L.-Steinke/e/B001JS2ZJG>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/27521.Peter_L_Steinke
[Images for Peter Steinke, author](#)
[Images for TEACHING FISH TO WALK: Church Systems and Adaptive Challenges by Peter Steinke](#)

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THE BALANCING ACT: THE CONGREGATION AS AN EMOTIONAL SYSTEM (video) with Dr. Peter Steinke

Using cellular biology and brain/mind research alongside Biblical theology, Dr. Peter Steinke empowers viewers to take responsibility for their own functioning in relationships. Blaming, victim behavior, secrets, triangles; all are the result of anxiety that's always present in an organization. Dr. Steinke suggests ways to regulate one's own anxiety, and to deal with the anxiety of others.

This is not a "how-to" but rather a "how-to-see" presentation. Those who use this understanding of organizations see the powerful role mature leaders play in building a healthy congregation. This video is an excellent resource for leadership development.

<https://newvisionpress.wordpress.com/products/>
<https://historeo.com/web/?p=1680>
<https://squareup.com/store/new-vision-press/item/the-balancing-act>
<https://www.seattlepresbytery.org/events-archive/2012/video-lecture-the-balancing-act-the-congregation-as-a-healthy-emotional-system>
http://www.episcopalfoundation.org/uploads/pages/files/FS_3.11_Family_Systems_Theory_Resources_080111_.pdf
<https://www.gtfeducation.org/e-tutorials/pastoral-planning-and-church-management.cfm> Fundamentals of Strategic Pastoral Planning
[Images for THE BALANCING ACT: THE CONGREGATION AS AN EMOTIONAL SYSTEM \(video\) with Dr. Peter Steinke](#)

When Anxiety Strikes: Understanding Church Systems (video) with Dr. Peter Steinke

This program is a summary of systems theory applied to the realities of congregations. Dr. Steinke lists the common triggers of anxiety, and the ways in which anxiety can overwhelm congregations. He describes how the human brain functions with an overload of anxiety and some ways leaders can provide thoughtful and calm response.

This presentation was filmed live during a Bridge Builder network training event.

<https://newvisionpress.wordpress.com/products/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPA8vSO71Bo> Anxious Times - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHdP9G3kg0I> When Anxiety Strikes (Differentiation) with Peter Steinke - YouTube
[Images for Understanding Church Systems \(video\) with Dr. Peter Steinke](#)

Seeing Systems: Unlocking the Mysteries of Organizational Life by Barry Oshry (Author)

In this extensively revised and updated edition of his classic book, Barry Oshry shows how we can transform “system blindness” into “system sight,” enabling us to live and work together in productive partnership. Based on more than thirty years of research and packed with illustrative cases and solid systems theory on human interaction, *Seeing Systems* provides a penetrating look at the dynamics of systems and a unique foundation for revolutionizing our understanding of system life. This new edition features an extensive new section on having the wisdom and courage to face and work with the reality of uncertainty, and a new epilogue describing how Oshry is currently using theater, blogs, and podcasts to extend his multi-pronged revolution aimed at transforming system blindness into system sight.

When breakdowns occur in organizational life, the tendency is to blame them on the personalities, motivations, and abilities of the individuals involved or on the specific characteristics of one's organization. Barry Oshry demonstrates how everyday breakdowns stem from our failure to see how human systems shape our feelings about ourselves and our relationships with other individuals and groups. He shows how we can transform “system blindness” into system sight, enabling us to live and work together in productive partnership.

Based on Oshry's 30+ years of studying human interaction in social system life, *Seeing Systems* is profound in its implications while being easily accessible. In addition to illustrative cases and solid systems theory, the book is populated with pinballs; talking body parts; mysterious “swimmers”; amoebocytes, slugs, and earthworms; dances of blind reflex; and tunnels of limited options. The result is a unique foundation for revolutionizing our understanding of system life.

<https://www.amazon.com/Seeing-Systems-Unlocking-Mysteries-Organizational/dp/1576754553>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1889747.Seeing_Systems

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/574996/seeing-systems-by-barry-oshry/>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1442975687>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Seeing_Systems.html?id=cY29TWDjYRkC

<https://www.bkconnection.com/books/title/seeing-systems>

<https://www.bkconnection.com/static/Oshry%20PR.pdf>

<https://www.bkconnection.com/users/barryoshry>

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/pfi.4140400211> reviewed by Vana Prewitt

<http://www.livingleadership.uk.com/the-organisation-workshop-barry-oshry.php>

<https://www.triarchypress.net/barry-oshry.html>

<https://seeingsystems.blogs.com/about.html>

<https://www.amazon.com/Barry-Oshry/e/B001JRXDHK>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/599969.Barry_Oshry

[Images for Barry Oshry \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Seeing Systems: Unlocking the Mysteries of Organizational Life by Barry Oshry \(Author\)](#)

Systems analysis - Wikipedia

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines system analysis as "the process of studying a procedure or business in order to identify its goals and purposes and create systems and procedures that will achieve them in an efficient way".

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Systems_analysis

[Images for Systems Analysis](#)

The Hidden Lives of Congregations: Discerning Church Dynamics [Israel Galindo]

Faced with crisis, lack of direction, or just plain “stuckness,” many congregations and their leaders are content to deal only with surface issues and symptoms—only to discover that the same problems keep recurring, often in different, and more serious, ways. In *The Hidden Lives of Congregations*, Christian educator and consultant Israel Galindo takes leaders below the surface of congregational life to provide a comprehensive, holistic look at the corporate nature of church relationships and the invisible dynamics at play. Informed by family **systems** theory and grounded in a wide-ranging ecclesiological understanding, Galindo unpacks clearly the factors of congregational lifespan, size, spirituality, and **identity**, and shows how these work together to form the congregation's hidden life. He provides useful tools for diagnosing and understanding how one's congregation fits into the various categories he names and suggests what leadership skills are necessary to get beyond the impasse of surface issues and help the congregation achieve its mission. *The Hidden Lives of Congregations* provides one of the most far-reaching looks into the invisible nature of faith communities written in recent years. For seminaries and divinity schools, it provides a standard text for getting a solid start in congregational practices; for experienced pastors, it provides support for renewing ministry; for lay leaders and committees, it offers insight to deepening mutual ministry. Israel Galindo has written an indispensable manual that leaders will return to repeatedly for new wisdom and guidance.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Hidden-Lives-Congregations-Discerning/dp/1566993075>

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Hidden-Lives-Congregations-Discerning/product-reviews/1566993075>

https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/2143580.The_Hidden_Lives_of_Congregations

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-hidden-lives-of-congregations-israel-galindo/1126650669?ean=9781566993074>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996562>

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Hidden_Lives_of_Congregations.html?id=fl1EAAAACAAJ

[The Hidden Lives of Congregations: Discerning Church Dynamics](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/behind-the-hidden-dynamics-of-congregational-leadership/>

<https://alban.org/archive/what-makes-a-congregation-a-real-faith-community/>
<https://alban.org/archive/imagining-congregational-identity/>
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/galindo-the-hidden-lives-of-congregations.html>
<http://www.belovedspear.org/2010/11/hidden-lives-of-congregations.html>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996562>
<http://restorativevethology.blogspot.com/2010/01/book-critique-hidden-lives-of.html>
http://www.presbyteryoftampabay.com/pdf/PresbyteryOfTampaBayResource_1479157401.pdf
<https://mcec.ca/library-congregational-development>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/israel-galindo-39820555>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israel_Galindo
<http://www.ctsnet.edu/faculty/galindo-israel/>
<http://www.israelgalindo.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/israel.galindo.507>
<http://www.chalicepress.com/Author.aspx?AuthorID=1258>
http://www.judsonpress.com/author.cfm?author_id=62
<https://www.amazon.com/Israel-Galindo/e/B001JS9L0W>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/list/816843.Israel_Galindo
[Images for Israel Galindo, author](#)
[Images for The Hidden Lives of Congregations: Discerning Church Dynamics \[Israel Galindo\]](#)

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14) Teaching Congregation

[PDF]A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper

I. Teaching/Modeling Congregations

- A. Description: Distant congregation with cutting edge ministries
- B. Need: Opportunities to broaden their health and share learnings
- C. Intervention: Helping the congregation to leverage their strengths

<http://www.theparishpaper.com/files/resources/A%20Typology%20of%20Congregational%20Health.pdf>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/A%20Typology%20of%20Congregational%20Health.pdf>
https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/back_issues/PP--2012-04_0.pdf
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> A Typology for Congregational Health
[Images for A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper I. Teaching/Modeling Congregations](#)
<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper> April 2012 - "How Is Your Congregation's Health?" Page 1
<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/>
<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

First-call congregation | The Christian Century

Congregations billed as “teaching congregations” are plentiful these days. Many evangelical churches advertise their teaching role and support seminaries of their own.

<http://www.christiancentury.org/article/2010-11/first-call-congregation>
[Images for First-call congregation | The Christian Century](#) Congregations billed as “teaching congregations”
<https://www.christiancentury.org/magazine>

15) Team-based Congregation

discovering-team-based-leadership - Like A Team

In his book *The Power of Team Leadership*, George Barna notes that to arrive at the best choices of leadership for your congregation it would be good to take an inventory. The inventory would include 12 basic questions.

<http://likeateam.com/discovering-team-based-leadership-for-your-congregation/>
[Images for discovering-team-based-leadership - Like A Team](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/Power-Team-Leadership-Achieving-Responsibility/dp/1578564247>
http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-power-of-team-leadership-george-barna/1103165383?ean=9781578564248&cm_mmc=AFFILIATES-_-Linkshare-_-je6NUbpObpQ-_-10:1&r=1
https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Power_of_Team_Leadership.html?id=vwN1PNRqqn8C
[Images for Power of Team Leadership](#)
<https://www.barna.org/barna-update/5-barna-update/30-unleashing-the-church-through-lay-leadership#.VcAhvPIVhBc>
[Images for unleashing-the-church-through-lay-leadership](#)

Leading the Team-Based Church: How Pastors and Church Staffs Can Grow Together into a Powerful Fellowship of Leaders by George Cladis (Author)

In *Leading the Team-Based Church*, George Cladis issues a clarion call for ministry teams to embrace a fresh leadership model that is not based on hierarchy, but on a process of collaboration that mirrors the relationship of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He reminds us that today's cultural environment--where authority has basis in trust, innovation reaps rewards, and spirituality takes root in life and work--has matured past the need for the hierarchy of traditional church leadership where the pastor had the final

say. Through down-to-earth stories from his own experience and those of clergy in both mainline and evangelical churches, Cladis offers an exciting alternative to the traditional forms of church leadership, enabling pastors, congregational leaders, and staff to breathe new life into their ministries and unleash the full potential of the entire ministry team. Cladis, pastor of a fast-growing mainline congregation, demonstrates how cultural changes affecting all our institutions -not just the church - are making it easier to adopt this new model of leadership. Cladis's practical advice will enable ministry teams to work together in ways that both embody the Christian message and call forth the full creativity and love of the entire team.

<http://www.amazon.com/Leading-Team-Based-Church-Fellowship-Publication/dp/0787941190>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/864093.Leadin_Team_Based_Church
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/leading-the-team-based-church-george-cladis/1130230504>
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/cladis-leading-the-team-based-church.html>
<https://www.wiley.com/en-ag/Leading+the+Team+Based+Church%3A+How+Pastors+and+Church+Staffs+Can+Grow+Together+into+a+Powerful+Fellowship+of+Leaders+A+Leadership+Network+Publication-p-9780787941192>
<https://leadnet.org/product/leading-team-based-church-pastors-church-staffs-can-grow-together-powerful-fellowship-leaders-2/>
<https://www.bookdepository.com/Leading-Team-Based-Church-George-Cladis/9780787941192>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Leading_the_Team_Based_Church.html?id=ue4NAAAACAAJ
<https://www.hartsem.edu/wp-content/uploads/AM-613-Preliminary-Syllabus-Jan-2015.pdf>
<http://likeateam.com/leading-the-team-based-church-a-book-review-by-robert-c-frank/>
<https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1345&context=doctoral>
<https://place.asburyseminary.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1712&context=ecommonsatsdissertations>
<https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1040&context=dmin>
<https://knoxcentre.ac.nz/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Study-Leave-Report-I-Hyslop.pdf>
<https://digitalcommons.fuller.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1152&context=dmin>
<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/58825165.pdf>
<https://live.briercrest.ca/stud/syllabi/370924.pdf>
<https://digitalcommons.acu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1010&context=discernment>
<https://www.bishopkemperschool.org/march-2018-courses.html> Parish Administration
<https://equipper.gci.org/2018/02/on-being-and-building-a-real-team> Cladis on being team-based
<https://web.laidlaw.ac.nz/timetables/textbooks/?campus=3&period=6> 464 Leadership Dynamics
https://www.lifelongfaith.com/uploads/5/1/6/4/5164069/leadership_2.0.pdf Notes 3.
<http://independent.academia.edu/GeorgeCladis/CurriculumVitae>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/georgecladis>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/446271.George_Cladis
[Images for Leading the Team-Based Church: How Pastors and Church Staffs Can Grow Together into a Powerful Fellowship of Leaders by George Cladis \(Author\)](#)

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Page 143
Page 20
Page 141
Page 230
Page 1
Page 5 Footnote 10

16) Technical Congregation

[PDF]A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper

VII. Technical Congregations

- A. Description: Congregation aware of decline and focused on quick fixes
- B. Need: Quick fix, program, solutions to well-defined problems
- C. Intervention: Solutions to their technical problems until they desire more

<http://www.theparishpaper.com/files/resources/A%20Typology%20of%20Congregational%20Health.pdf>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/A%20Typology%20of%20Congregational%20Health.pdf>
https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/back_issues/PP--2012-04_0.pdf
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> A Typology for Congregational Health
[Images for A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper VII. Technical Congregations](#)
[Images for congregation aware of decline and focused on quick fixes](#)
<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>
<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/> April 2012 - "How Is Your Congregation's Health?" Page 2
<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

17) Temperament

Four Temperaments At The Beach

Since the days of the Golden age of Greece the four temperaments have had broad application especially in western cultures. More recently this paradigm became the basis for the MBTI and numerous other organizational temperament inventories. The four temperaments may change name, but they still are four. Originally classified as "Choleric," "Sanguine," "Phlegmatic," and "Melancholy," other instruments such as the Personal Personality Profile use "Dominance," "Influencing," "Steadiness," and "Cautious" to denote the four categories. The trend toward concrete-ness can be seen in both secular and Christian writings. Christian writers such as Tim LaHaye have adopted animals, dogs, and other sources for clarifying the demarcation between temperaments.

http://www.ministryhealth.net/mh_articles/242_four_temperaments_at_beach.html

[Images for Choleric](#)
[Images for Sanguine](#)
[Images for Phlegmatic](#)
[Images for Melancholy](#)
[Images for Personal Personality Profile](#)
[Images for Dominance](#)
[Images for Influencing](#)
[Images for Steadiness](#)
[Images for Cautious](#)

TJTA.com

Taylor Johnson **Temperament** Analysis®

The T-JTA is a widely used personality assessment for individual, marital, premarital, and family counseling. The T-JTA measures 18 dimensions of personality (9 bipolar traits) that are important components of personal adjustment and in interpersonal relationships.

<https://www.tjta.com/asp/index.asp>

[Images for Taylor Johnson Temperament Analysis®](#)

18) Tentmaker

Association of Presbyterian Tentmakers

Tentmakers follow the path of the Apostle Paul, the first "Tentmaker". Making tents as a living, he proclaimed the Gospel in every city and village he visited. Believing that "God has appointed a time for every matter, and for every work (Ecclesiastes 3:17,) tentmakers serve churches and Christian communities across the globe. Rural, urban, suburban, transition, yoked, clustered, or other...Tentmaking is a covenanted ministry of clergy and congregations. With special challenges and opportunities, members of the Association of Presbyterian Tentmakers support one another in this specialized ministry.

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

[Images for Association of Presbyterian Tentmakers](#)

<http://oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/ministers/tentmaking-or-bi-vocational-ministers/>

Tentmaking - Wikipedia

Tentmaking, in general, refers to the activities of any Christian who, while dedicating him or herself to the ministry of the Gospel, receives little or no pay for Church work, but performs other ("tentmaking") jobs to provide support.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tentmaking>

[Images for \("tentmaking"\) jobs to provide support](#)

The New Tent-Makers | CT Pastors - Christianity Today

According to data from the Annual Church Profile, some 8,000 pastors report being bi-vocational. But what are the most common "second jobs" for these pastors?

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2013/winter/new-tent-makers.html>

[Images for The New Tent-Makers | CT Pastors – Christianity Today](#)

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

What Does the Bible Say About Tent Making? - OpenBible.info

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

[Images for bible and tentmaking](#)

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

<http://tentinternational.org/resources/articles/why-did-paul-make-tents>

<https://www.theologyofwork.org/new-testament/acts/a-clash-of-kingdoms-community-and-powerbrokers-acts-13-19/tent-making-and-christian-life-acts-181-4>

[Images for tent-making-and-christian-life-acts-181-4](#)

https://www.bible-history.com/links.php?cat=39&sub=423&cat_name=Manners+%26+Customs&subcat_name=Tentmakers

www.cityvision.edu/courses/coursefiles/406/Vital_Role_Tentmaking_Siemens.pdf

<https://supportraisingsolutions.org/tentmaking-vs-support-raising-which-is-the-biblical-model/#.WvObtlgvyUk>

What is a Tentmaker? - Worldwide Tentmakers

We use the Apostle Paul as our example.

<http://www.worldwidetentmakers.com/education/what-is-a-tentmaker>

[Images for What is a Tentmaker? - Worldwide Tentmakers](#)

[Images for Apostle Paul the tentmaker](#)

19) Terror

Living in a Time of Terrorism - ELCA Resource Repository

"We of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America share with the Church of Jesus Christ in all times and places the calling to be peacemakers." This opening sentence in the ELCA social statement "For Peace in God's World" reminds us that in these times also God calls us "to proclaim the Gospel of God's final peace and to work for earthly peace."² This message draws on that social statement to give a theological perspective on earthly peace, recall the role of governments, call for public vigilance of counterterrorism and for international cooperation, affirm the Gospel's gift of living beyond fear, and highlight the importance of interfaith encounters.

<http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/TerrorismSM.pdf>

Images for Living in a Time of Terrorism - ELCA

https://resources.elca.org/Social_Issues-Living_in_a_Time_of_Terrorism.html

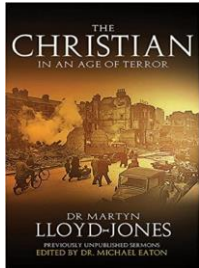
<https://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Messages/Terrorism>

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Responding_to_Terrorism_Anti_Islam_Public_Speech_Dec2015%20FINAL.pdf

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

The Christian in an Age of Terror: Sermons for a Time of War by D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (Author), Michael Eaton (Editor)

At a time when the nations of Europe were engaged in fierce conflict, one of the twentieth century's most influential pastors taught his congregation about the threat of persecution and suffering and how it should be viewed. When the war ended in 1947, D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones sought to refocus the people on the basics of the faith with a series of messages entitled, "What is a Christian?" based on Romans 8. Since the rise of terrorism in the twenty-first century, these previously unpublished sermons have become startlingly relevant to what is happening in our own times. Readers will find hope, encouragement, and a balanced view of how Christians should live during an "age of terror."



<https://www.amazon.com/Christian-Age-Terror-Sermons-Time/dp/082542979X>

https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/1923060.The_Christian_in_an_Age_of_Terror

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-christian-in-an-age-of-terror-d-martyn-lloyd-jones/1123798263>

<https://www.christianbook.com/christian-terror-sermons-for-time-war/d-lloyd-jones/9780825429798/pd/429798>

<https://www.booksamillion.com/p/Christian-Age-Terror/D-Martyn-Lloyd-Jones/9780825429798>

<https://www.preaching.com/book-reviews/the-christian-in-an-age-of-terror/>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7810781.D_Martyn_Lloyd_Jones

Images for D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (Author)

Images for The Christian in an Age of Terror: Sermons for a Time of War by D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (Author), Michael Eaton (Editor)

Theology for an Age of Terror | Christianity Today

Augustine's words after the 'barbarian' destruction of Rome have a remarkably contemporary ring.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2006/september/1.78.html>

Images for Theology for an Age of Terror | Christianity Today

<http://www.logia.org/logia-online/a-bold-church-in-an-age-of-terror2015>

Images for Bold Church in an Age of Terror

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2002/april1/3.46.html> Easter in an Age of Terror | Christianity Today

Images for Easter in an Age of Terror

<http://www.christiantoday.com/article/how.can.we.live.peacefully.in.an.age.of.terror/83827.htm>

<http://lasvegasblackimage.com/2016/07/five-practical-ways-to-be-a-better-leader/>

Images for how to be the church in an age of terror

Thoughts on How to Be the Church in an Age of Terror – Carey Nieuwhof

How do we respond as Christians? As church leaders? As pastors and neighbors? As parents? As citizens?

Clearly, there is no single response that can adequately address the complexity or dark depth of what's happening. There is no one-size-fits-all solution. Nor is there an election result that can fix this once and for all.

But there are some reflections which I hope and pray can be helpful for Christians and church leaders. What you do is important.

And how you respond, in the small and the large things, matters so much.

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2016/06/thoughts-church-age-terror/>

Images for Thoughts on How to Be the Church in an Age of Terror – Carey Nieuwhof

<https://www.facebook.com/cniewwhof/posts/540290359492730>

<http://careynieuwhof.com/tag/age-of-terror/>
<http://careynieuwhof.com/tag/terror/>
<http://careynieuwhof.com/tag/christian-response-to-terror/>
https://twitter.com/cnieuwhof?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor
<http://churchleaders.com/author/careynieuwhof>
<https://www.facebook.com/cnieuwhof/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Carey-Nieuwhof/e/B003GJCLCM>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3396023.Carey_Nieuwhof
[Images for carey nieuwhof \(author\)](#)

War in the Bible and Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century (Bulletin for Biblical Research Supplement) by Richard S. Hess (Editor), Elmer A. Martens (Editor)

In February 2004, Denver Seminary's annual Biblical Studies conference addressed the question of modern war and the teachings of biblical ethics regarding it. The conference was envisioned as a collaborative effort between the Association for Christian Conferences, Teaching, and Service (ACCTS), and the Biblical Studies division of Denver Seminary. A year earlier, the invasion of Iraq had taken place. The questions created by the outbreak of war prompted an urgency in the consideration of the topic. ACCTS, which sponsors international symposia in military ethics with officers from armed forces around the globe, provided ethicists and practitioners from within the military of both the U.S. and Great Britain. Hess and Martens also solicited papers from leading theologians and advocates representing pacifist and just-war views. They have succeeded in bringing together in this fine volume a group of Christians representing a wide range of perspectives to debate and discuss their heritage and biblical roots with regard to questions of war and its ethical dilemmas.

<https://www.amazon.com/Terrorism-Twenty-First-Bulletin-Biblical-Supplement/dp/1575068036>
<https://ua.b-ok2.org/book/2692663/2563c8>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1575068036>
<http://www.directionjournal.org/37/2/war-in-bible-and-terrorism-in-twenty.html>
https://www.eisenbrauns.org/books/series/book_SeriesBulletinforBiblicalSupplement.html
[https://repository.divinity.edu.au/2078/1/War%2C New Testament - Biblical Studies - Oxford Bibliographies.pdf](https://repository.divinity.edu.au/2078/1/War%2C%20New%20Testament%20-%20Biblical%20Studies%20-%20Oxford%20Bibliographies.pdf)
<https://denverseminary.edu/about/faculty/member/13474/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Richard-S.-Hess/e/B001JRX3NE>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/636738.Richard_S_Hess
[Images for Richard S. Hess \(Editor\)](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/E.-A.-Martens/e/B001JRZKVM>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/810762.Elmer_A_Martens
[Images for Elmer A. Martens \(Editor\)](#)
[Images for War in the Bible and Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century \(Bulletin for Biblical Research Supplement\) by Richard S. Hess \(Editor\), Elmer A. Martens \(Editor\)](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Terrorism? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/terrorism>
<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-terrorism.html>
<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/did-god-commission-terrorism-in-the-bible>
<https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/103004/biblical-lessons-modern-terrorism/>
<http://news.americanbible.org/blog/entry/bible-engagement-leadership/what-is-the-biblical-response-to-terrorism>
www.backtothebible.org/how-should-a-christian-respond-to-terrorism

20) The Seven Churches

Seven churches of Asia - Wikipedia

The Seven Churches of Revelation, also known as The Seven Churches of the Apocalypse and The Seven Churches of Asia (referring to the [Roman province of Asia](#), not the entire continent), are seven major [churches](#) of [Early Christianity](#), as mentioned in the [New Testament Book of Revelation](#). In Revelation, on the [Greek island](#) of [Patmos](#), [Jesus Christ](#) instructs his servant [John of Patmos](#) to: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, and to Smyrna, and to Pergamos, and to Thyatira, and to Sardis, and to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."^[1]

"Churches" in this context refers to the community or local congregations of Christians living in each city, and not merely to the building or buildings in which they gathered for worship.^{[2][3]}

The seven churches are located in:

[Ephesus](#) ([Metropolis of Ephesus](#))

[Smyrna](#) ([Metropolis of Smyrna](#))

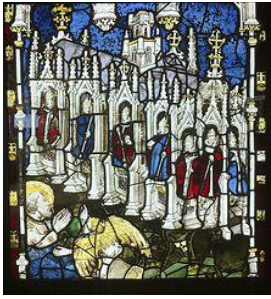
[Pergamon](#) ([Metropolis of Pergamon](#))

[Thyatira](#)

[Sardis](#) ([See of Sardis](#))

[Philadelphia](#) ([Metropolis of Philadelphia](#))

and [Laodicea](#), near [Denizli](#) (see [Laodicean Church](#))



The seven churches of Asia in stained glass in York Minster by John Thornton

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seven_churches_of_Asia

[Images for Seven Churches of Revelation](#)

[Images for Seven Churches of the Apocalypse](#)

[Images for The seven churches are located in: Ephesus \(Metropolis of Ephesus\) Smyrna \(Metropolis of Smyrna\) Pergamon \(Metropolis of Pergamon\) Thyatira Sardis \(See of Sardis\) Philadelphia \(Metropolis of Philadelphia\) and Laodicea, near Denizli \(see Laodicean Church\)](#)

The Eighth Letter [Mark Barnard and Kenneth Quick]

The Eighth Letter offers practical commentary on the Seven Letters to the Churches found in Revelation Two and Three. The authors unpack the messages of these seven epistles to equip today's church leaders and members to "have an ear to hear" what Jesus says to their local church.

These Seven Letters show us how He speaks to local churches and He wants every church leader to learn to hear and respond to what He says to them as a body. The Eighth Letter will prepare you to take this journey, a journey that holds the promise of transforming your church's ministry.

<http://www.amazon.com/Eighth-Letter-Barnard-Kenneth-Quick/dp/1936812053>

<http://blessingpoint.org/2014/05/the-eighth-letter/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27QRCP-i5dg> Eighth Letter Book Trailer | Blessing Point Ministries

<https://www.facebook.com/TheEighthLetter>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/398175.Mark_Barnard

[Images for Mark Barnard, author the eighth letter](#)

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/14606074.Dr_Kenneth_Quick

[Images for kenneth quick, author](#)

[Images for The Eighth Letter \[Mark Barnard and Kenneth Quick\]](#)

The Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia in Their Local Setting (Biblical Resource) [Mr. Colin J. Hemer]

With a new foreword by David E. Aune. This modern classic by Colin Hemer explores the seven letters in the book of Revelation against the historical background of the churches to which they were addressed. Based on literary, epigraphical, and archaeological sources and informed by Hemer's firsthand knowledge of the biblical sites, this superb study presents in the clearest way possible a picture of the New Testament world in the later part of the first century and its significance for broader questions of church history.

<http://www.amazon.com/Letters-Churches-Setting-Biblical-Resource/dp/0802847145>

<https://www.christianbook.com/letters-seven-churches-their-local-setting/colin-%20hemer/9780802847140/pd/47145?event=AFF&p=1011693&>

<http://sevenschurches.org/resources/scholars/hemer/>

<https://www.bookdepository.com/Letters-Seven-Churches-Asia-Their-Local-Setting-C-J-Hemer/9780802847140>

<https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1395&context=doctoral>

<http://sevenschurches.org/scholars/hemer/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Colin-J.-Hemer/e/B001K6T9J6>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/519054.Colin_J_Hemer

[Images for Colin J. Hemer, author](#)

[Images for The Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia in Their Local Setting \(Biblical Resource\) \[Mr. Colin J. Hemer\]](#)

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21) Times

Faithful and Courageous Christians in Unsettling Times (Lutheran Voices) [Mark S. Hanson]

This book engages readers in personal reflection and group discussion of what it means to be a follower of Jesus today. Beginning with the promises of God to be present in everyday life and ending with the Christian commitment to act in private and public ways for peace and justice, Bishop Hanson focuses on essential practices of the faithful Christian life.

<http://www.amazon.com/Faithful-Courageous-Christians-Unsettling-Lutheran/dp/B002SG7WVE>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1317101.Faithful_And_Courageous

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/faithful-and-courageous-christians-in-unsettling-times-mark-s-hanson/1100072415>

<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/7287/Faithful-and-Courageous-Christians-in-Unsettling-Times>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Faithful_and_courageous.html?id=Nd30HaCqHLsC

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0806644745>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kvE49kdbpmc> Why Lutheran? – YouTube
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Hanson
https://www.isbns.tw/author/Mark_S_Hanson
https://day1.org/speakers/5d9b820ef71918cdf20027e8/bishop_mark_hanson
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/author/mark-s-hanson/>
<https://www.elca.org/About/History/Former-Presiding-Bishops/The-Rev-Mark-Hanson>
<https://www.amazon.com/Mark-S.-Hanson/e/B001JS7OW4>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/629649.Mark_S_Hanson
 Images for Mark S. Hanson, author
 Images for Faithful and Courageous Christians in Unsettling Times (Lutheran Voices) [Mark S. Hanson]
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/series/lutheran-voices/82458/>
<https://www.goodreads.com/series/149080-lutheran-voices>
<http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/5045> 'Lutheran Voices' Series Introduced
 Images for Lutheran Voices

Faithful Yet Changing: The Church in Challenging Times [Mark S. Hanson, Karen C. Richards]

"I have a passion for the gospel of Jesus Christ, a love for the people of God, and an ache for the brokenness of the world," declares Mark S. Hanson, newly elected presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Here he sets forth his vision for the church—a church faithful to the Scriptures and its tradition yet changing to meet the new challenges of our diverse, fragmented world. Bishop Hanson issues an urgent call to mission marked by witnessing, worshiping, engaging, equipping, inviting, connecting, changing, and praying. The book invites congregations, pastors, and lay leaders into a "holy conversation" to envision the future of the church and its mission.

<https://www.amazon.com/Faithful-Yet-Changing-Church-Challenging-ebook/dp/B000VABZZI>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/faithful-yet-changing-mark-hanson/1131590487>
<http://store.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/6649/Faithful-yet-Changing-The-Church-in-Challenging-Times>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Faithful_Yet_Changing.html?id=2sOIziOwYugC
 Images for Faithful Yet Changing: The Church in Challenging Times [Mark S. Hanson, Karen C. Richards]

Ministry and Mission in Uncertain Times by the Alban Institute

Ministry and Mission in Uncertain Times gathers 15 articles previously published by the Alban Institute on a range of topics.

Ministry and Mission In Uncertain Times - 9781566994453 – Rowman & Littlefield Publishers/Alban Books

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/.../Ministry-and-Mission-In-Uncertain-Times>
 Images for Ministry and Mission in Uncertain Times by the Alban Institute
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566994453/Ministry-and-Mission-In-Uncertain-Times>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566994454>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Ministry_and_Mission_In_Uncertain_Times.html?id=NozOAwAAQBAJ
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<http://siren-horror.com/bookmark/1fd5wj9/B001N0L6TU/Ministry-and-Mission-in-Uncertain-Times>

What Does the Bible Say About Difficult Times? - OpenBible.info

https://www.openbible.info/topics/difficult_times
 Images for Bible and Difficult Times
https://www.openbible.info/topics/hard_times
 Images for bible and hard times
<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/9-bible-verses-for-hard-times.html>
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/bible-verses-for-faith-in-hard-times/>
<https://bible.org/seriespage/lesson-21-hard-lessons-about-hard-times-1-peter-412-19>
<http://biblereasons.com/hard-times/>
<https://www.theodysseyonline.com/bible-verses-faith-hard-times>
<https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/bible-verses-for-hard-times-21-uplifting-scriptures/>

22) Town and Country

Town and Country Church Institute — Gettysburg Seminary

TCCI is an institute of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg that fosters effective ministry in small town and rural congregational settings. TCCI brings the best people and resources to bear on learning, reflection and field experience for persons preparing for ministry and those continuing their education and sharpening skills for ministry.

<http://www.ltsq.edu/Programs/TCCI>
 Images for Town and Country Church Institute – Gettysburg Seminary

Town and Country Church | Rural Home Missionary Association

Thousands of communities across America lack an evangelical church. This is why we serve as a church-planting agency and why we offer conferences and programs to help town and country churches continue to grow.

<http://www.rhma.org/town-and-country-church/>
[Images for Town and Country Church | Rural Home Missionary Association](#)

Town & Country Ministries - New York Annual Conference

This page is dedicated to helping develop lay and clergy leadership for town and country congregations, to the sharing of information about concerns affecting town and country churches and communities, and to providing information and response to questions about the diverse forms of cooperative ministries operating in rural areas, as well as helping pastors serving in Town & Country churches connect each other and share encouragement and ideas.

<http://www.nyac.com/town-country>
[Images for Town & Country Ministries](#)

Town and Country Ministry – United Methodist Church

A Local Church Action Guide

"Born Again in Every Place",

The National Comprehensive Plan for Town and Country Ministry of The United Methodist Church, extends an INVITATION:

- to view town and country churches as assets, not problems;
- to dream of energized, faithful, effective congregations in every place;
- to yearn for effective lay and clergy leadership for the renewal of effective ministry to communities in every possible place; to envision thousands of United Methodist disciples freed for joyful obedience motivated by the love of God serving in town and country settings,
 - taking up the cross of self-denial
 - committed to *making disciples* and *making a difference in their communities*, rekindling the historic fires of holiness of heart and life.

<http://new.gbqm-umc.org/plan/townandcountry/>
[Images for Town and Country Ministry – United Methodist Church](#)

23) Transforming Congregation

[PDF]A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper

IV. Transforming Congregations

- A. Description: Changing congregation implementing a strategic plan
- B. Need: Encouragement to take the steps toward renewal
- C. Intervention: Coaching assistance for pastors and leaders

<http://www.theparishpaper.com/files/resources/A%20Typology%20of%20Congregational%20Health.pdf>
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/A%20Typology%20of%20Congregational%20Health.pdf>
https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/back_issues/PP--2012-04_0.pdf

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> A Typology for Congregational Health

[Images for A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper IV. Transforming Congregations](#)

<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/> April 2012 - "How Is Your Congregation's Health?" Page 2

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

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

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

Reclaiming the Great Commission: A Practical Model for Transforming Denominations and Congregations by Bishop Claude Payne (Author), Hamilton Beazley (Author)

Reclaiming the Great Commission describes a biblically based model that can restore the missionary power of first-century Christianity to twenty-first century denominations and their congregations. Based on shared vision and mission, the model can guide the members of any congregation or denomination into deeper and broader evangelism, an enhanced experience of community, and a renewed hope of personal and spiritual transformation.

<http://www.amazon.com/Reclaiming-Great-Commission-Denominations-Congregations/dp/0787952680>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/810073.Reclaiming_the_Great_Commission
<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0787952680.html>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/reclaiming-the-great-commission-bishop-claude-payne/1112142485>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Reclaiming_the_Great_Commission.html?id=TOWEAAAACAAJ

[Images for Bishop Claude Payne \(Author\) reclaiming the great commission](#)

<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-302475.html?query=Hamilton+Beazley>

<https://www.amazon.com/Hamilton-Beazley/e/B001ILKHNO>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/114284.Hamilton_Beazley

[Images for Hamilton Beazley \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Reclaiming the Great Commission: A Practical Model for Transforming Denominations and Congregations by Bishop Claude Payne \(Author\), Hamilton Beazley \(Author\)](#)

Transformational Church: Creating a New Scorecard for Congregations [Ed Stetzer, Thom S. Rainer]

How are we doing? The church, that is. And how are we doing it? Congregations have long measured success by "bodies, budget, and buildings" - a certain record of attendance, the offering plate, and square footage. But the scorecard can't stop there. When it does, the deeper emphasis on accountability, discipleship, and spiritual maturity is lost. Ignoring those details, we see fewer lives transformed, Christian influence wane, and churches thin out--a situation that is all too familiar across North America today. It is time to take heart and rework the scorecard.

According to Ed Stetzer and Thom S. Rainer, the authors of *Transformational Church*, "Too often we've highlighted the negative realities of the declining American church but missed the opportunity to magnify the God of hope and transformation."

Based on the most comprehensive study of its kind, including a survey of more than 7,000 churches and hundreds of on-site interviews with pastors, *Transformational Church* takes us to the thriving congregations where truly changing lives is the norm. Stetzer and Rainer clearly confirm the importance of disciple making for all through active biblical engagement and prayerful dependence on God alongside of ever-increasing, intentional participation in mission and ministry activities. As the church engages these issues, the world will see the change: More people following Christ, More believers growing in their faith, More churches making an impact on their communities.

The transformation starts now.

<http://www.amazon.com/Transformational-Church-Creating-Scorecard-Congregations/dp/1433669307>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/transformational-church-ed-stetzer/1115141919>
<https://www.christianbook.com/transformational-church-creating-scorecard-for-congregations/ed-stetzer/9781433669309/pd/669309>
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<http://sowhatfaith.com/2010/08/13/review-of-transformational-church/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VASlz3UyHJE> Transformational Church Short.wmv - YouTube
<http://themelios.thegospelcoalition.org/review/transformational-church-creating-a-new-scorecard-for-congregations>
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<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/stetzer-and-rainer-transformational-church.html>
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http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/25148.Ed_Stetzer
Images for Ed Stetzer, author
<https://www.pinterest.com/richdenningbfc/thom-rainer/>
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<https://www.churchcentral.com/ceditors/thom-rainer/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Thom.S.Rainer/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Thom-S.-Rainer/e/B001IGLMVG>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27470.Thom_S_Rainer
Images for thom s. rainer (author)
Images for Transformational Church: Creating a New Scorecard for Congregations [Ed Stetzer, Thom S. Rainer]

Transforming Congregations for the Future (Once and Future Church Series) [Loren B. Mead]

In this third volume of the Once and Future Church Series Loren Mead focuses on what he sees as the age-old call of the church - living and breathing the good news promise of spiritual transformation for all to see. He explores how we as the church may need to change as institutions and as individuals within institutions. Anyone who has read The Once and Future Church will want to explore the next step as Mead challenges us to examine the transformations inherent in God's call to renew His church.

<http://www.amazon.com/Transforming-Congregations-Future-Church-Series/dp/1566991269>
<https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9781566990509/the-once-and-future-church/>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996821>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996643>
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566991599/The-Once-and-Future-Church-Study-Guide-Transforming-Congregations-for-the-Future>
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<https://alban.org/archive/wisdom-from-loren-mead/>
http://hrr.hartsem.edu/leadership/consultants_mead.html
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/179866.Loren_B_Mead
Images for Loren B. Mead, author
Images for Transforming Congregations for the Future (Once and Future Church Series) [Loren B. Mead]
<http://www.biblio.com/loren-b-mead/author/30530>
<https://www.amazon.com/Once-Future-Church-Collection/dp/1566992486>
<https://rowman.com/Action/SERIES/RL/RL3OFC>
Images for Once and Future Church Series

What Does the Bible Say About Transform? - OpenBible.info

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<https://www.openbible.info/topics/transformation>

Images for Bible and Transform

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

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-transformation.html>

<https://dailyverses.net/transformation>

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/biblestudies/articles/theology/thatisreallylife.html>

<http://blog.biblesforamerica.org/what-is-transformation-in-the-bible/>

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<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Transformation/>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/20-quotes-from-the-gospel-transformation-bible>

24) Transition Task Force Report

[PDF] FINAL REPORT St. Andrew's Lutheran Church Transition Task Force

I. Methodology	4
II. Findings	6
III. Recommendations	17
IV. Appendix	
a. ELCA statistics	20
b. St. Andrew's Pulse questionnaire	22
c. Pulse results and themes	24

<http://www.saintand.org/ttfinal.pdf>

Images for FINAL REPORT Lutheran Church Transition Task Force

[PDF] Transition Task Force Final Report - Salem Lutheran Church

As with any organization experiencing a significant change in leadership, Salem's members are in the process of remembering from where we came, taking stock of where we are today, and prayerfully considering where we want to go together. The Transition Task Force has been asked to help lead the congregation through this process. The task of the Transition Task Force is to help guide the congregation through the transition tasks necessary before a Call Committee is organized.

http://www.salemdwd.org/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Transition-Task-Force-Final-Report.pdf

Images for Transition Task Force Final Report - Lutheran Church

<https://jwwmedia.s3.amazonaws.com/zionsuperior/2015TransitionReport.pdf>

<https://www.zioncloquet.org/council/2018/2018-06%20Zion%20Transition%20Team%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf>

<http://www.grace-andover.org/about-glc/pastoral-transition/>

<http://osclsc.org/transition-time/>

25) Transitional Congregation

The Myth of the 200 Barrier: How to Lead through Transitional Growth [Kevin E Martin]

The common experience of large congregations getting larger and small congregations getting smaller has given rise to the belief that growing congregations tend to hit a barrier at the 150-200 attendance mark. The dividing line in American Church attendance is 150 people on an average Sunday. Churches below this seem to have a harder time growing. Above this, churches seem to have an easier time growing. Trying to grow a smaller church can feel like trying to break through what Martin calls the "200 barrier." Martin explains that there is no barrier; there are just two different ways of being a church—the "Pastoral Size" church and the "Program" church. The "Transitional Church" is really a hybrid of these two cultures, and this dual nature produces stress and tension where the idea of a 200 barrier often becomes a self-fulfilling expectation.

How does the Pastor Size church culture really work? What are the key elements of the larger American Church? How does this create a large church culture that becomes self-supporting? Martin looks at these elements and shows how the Transitional Church can avoid mistakes in their effort to grow "beyond the barrier," and why transformation and change is so difficult.

Drawing on sociological and anthropological studies about the significance of numbers in human organizations, Martin proposes practical steps that leaders of Transitional Churches will want to take.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Myth-200-Barrier-Transitional/dp/0687343240>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/5245213-the-myth-of-the-200-barrier>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-myth-of-the-200-barrier-kevin-martin/1112398144>

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<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/martin-the-myth-of-the-200-barrier.html>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/8-reasons-most-churches-never-break-the-200-attendance-mark/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Kevin-E.-Martin/e/B001IQXGYM>

Images for The Myth of the 200 Barrier: How to Lead through Transitional Growth [Kevin E Martin]

26) Tribes

The Church as Redemptive Tribe: 6 ingredients – Will Mancini

The six ingredients of a redemptive tribe are passion, leadership, movement, communication, focus, and greatness.

<http://www.willmancini.com/2010/12/the-church-as-redemptive-tribe-6-ingredients.html>

Images for The Church as Redemptive Tribe: 6 ingredients – Will Mancini

<http://www.willmancini.com/2009/11/take-seth-godin-to-church.html>

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<http://www.willmancini.com/2010/01/your-church-was-made-to-be-remarkable.html>

<http://www.willmancini.com/about>

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https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/483865.Will_Mancini

Images for Will Mancini, author

The Seven Faith Tribes: Who They Are, What They Believe, and Why They Matter by George Barna (Author)

In this groundbreaking book, now available in softcover, acclaimed researcher and author George Barna identifies, describes, and analyzes seven major “faith tribes” in America—documenting who they are, what they believe, how they vote, and what they are passionate about. Barna provides helpful insight into how these groups influence our economy, politics, and values—and what their potential is to change America. Through his in-depth study of all seven tribes, Barna has identified potential strategies that faith tribes—if they choose to—could employ to facilitate healing and restoration in American culture, and cultures across the world.

<https://www.barna.com/barna-update/culture/262-americas-seven-faith-tribes-hold-the-key-to-national-restoration>

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<http://site.hbchurch.org/articles2/americassevenfaithtribes>

<http://wildhunt.org/2009/05/can-barna-unite-the-tribes-in-time-to-save-america.html>

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Images for George Barna (Author)

Images for The Seven Faith Tribes: Who They Are, What They Believe, and Why They Matter by George Barna (Author)

Tribes: We Need You to Lead Us by Seth Godin

A tribe is any group of people, large or small, who are connected to one another, a leader, and an idea. For millions of years, humans have joined tribes, be they religious, ethnic, political, or even musical (think of the Deadheads). It's our nature. Now the Internet has eliminated the barriers of geography, cost, and time. All those blogs and social networking sites are helping existing tribes get bigger and enabling new tribes to be born—groups of ten or ten million who care about a political campaign, or a new way to fight global warming.

Who is going to lead all these tribes? The Web can do amazing things, but it can't provide leadership. That still has to come from individuals—people just like you who have passion about something. Anyone who wants to make a difference now has the tools at their fingertips.

If you think leadership is for other people, think again—leaders come in surprising packages. Ignore an opportunity to lead and you risk turning into a “sheepwalker”—someone who fights to protect the status quo at all costs, never asking if obedience is doing you (or your organization) any good. Sheepwalkers don't do very well these days.

Tribes will make you think (really think) about the opportunities for leading your fellow employees, customers, investors, believers, hobbyists, readers.... It's not easy, but it's easier than you probably imagine.

<https://www.amazon.com/Tribes-We-Need-You-Lead/dp/1491514736>

<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/3873014-tribes-we-need-you-to-lead-us>
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N22dviNEYvM> Interview with Seth Godin, Author of "Tribes: We Need You to Lead Us" – YouTube
[Images for Seth Godin - YouTube](#)
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[Images for Seth Godin \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Tribes: We Need You to Lead Us by Seth Godin](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Tribes? - OpenBible.info

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[Images for Bible and Tribes](#)
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<https://overviewbible.com/12-tribes-israel/>

27) Troubled Congregation

Facing a Troubled Congregational Past | The Network

Every congregation has a history – even the youngest. Maturity in congregational life requires constant attention. Accepting responsibility for the past is part of the process. Naming the problems, accepting the hurt, and accepting responsibility for our part is included.

<https://network.crcna.org/elders/facing-troubled-congregational-past>
[Images for Facing a Troubled Congregational Past | The Network](#)

Helping Troubled Churches [Brian Nelson]

Dr. Nelson offers one guide to renewing the life of congregations who have experienced conflict. Drawing on more than 40 years pastoral experience, he offers a way to move beyond conflict to renewed ministry.

<http://www.amazon.com/Helping-Troubled-Churches-Brian-Nelson/dp/1300113316>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1300113316>
<http://www.sbts.edu/family/2011/02/14/the-problem-and-the-promise-of-family-ministry-by-brian-nelson-with-timothy-paul-jones/>
[Images for Helping Troubled Churches \[Brian Nelson\]](#)

Revisionist Erikson and Caring for Troubled Congregations - Springer Science + Business Media

This essay proposes that there is a new resource for the ministry of caring for these and other troubled congregations, namely, the recent revision of Erik H. Erikson's life cycle schema by Donald Capps, in which each Erikson life cycle is relocated to a particular decade of life.

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs11089-009-0252-4#page-1>
[Images for Caring for Troubled Congregations](#)

Twenty Observations about Troubled Congregations by Peter Steinke – Alban

I have worked with troubled churches for 20 years. I never cease to learn from these experiences. The list below includes some of what I have learned about congregations in times of conflict.

Alban at Duke Divinity School » Twenty Observations about Troubled Congregations

<https://alban.org/archive/twenty-observations-about-troubled-congregations/>

Images for Twenty Observations about Troubled Congregations by Peter Steinke – Alban

<http://www.amazon.com/Congregational-Leadership-Anxious-Times-Courageous/dp/1566993288>

<https://www.amazon.com/Peter-L.-Steinke/e/B001JS2ZJG>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/27521.Peter_L_Steinke

Images for Peter Steinke

What Does the Bible Say About Troubled Mind? - OpenBible.info

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

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

Images for Bible and Troubled Mind

<https://billygraham.org/story/15-comforting-bible-verses-for-troubled-times/>

<https://bible.org/article/help-troubled-hearts-john-1331-1431>

<https://www.theodysseyonline.com/bible-verses-troubled-mind>

<http://biblereasons.com/troubles/>

28) Trust

A Culture of Trust – Rainer on Leadership #028 – ThomRainer.com

Brad Waggoner joins us this week to discuss the importance of trust to the culture of a church or workplace.

<http://thomrainer.com/2013/10/a-culture-of-trust-rainer-on-leadership-028/>

Images for A Culture of Trust – Rainer on Leadership #028 – ThomRainer.com

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/01/eleven-reasons-pastors-are-trusted-less-today/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/04/nine-ways-gossip-destroys-church-rainer-leadership-212/> #7

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/07/seven-reasons-consider-not-requiring-office-hours-ministerial-staff/> #5

<http://www.pewforum.org/2013/07/11/public-esteem-for-military-still-high/>

<http://www.lifeway.com/leadership/2014/10/16/how-to-shape-your-churchs-culture/>

Images for thom rainer (author)

Building Cultures of Trust – (Emory University Studies in Law and Religion) by Martin E. Marty (Author)

American society is experiencing a profound crisis of trust, from government to mass media to educational and religious institutions. And — whether we realize it or not — this crisis affects us all.

In *Building Cultures of Trust*, Martin Marty proposes ways of improving the conditions for trust at what might be called the “grass roots” level. He suggests that it makes a difference if citizens put energy into inventing, developing, and encouraging “cultures of trust” in all areas of life — families, schools, neighborhoods, workplaces, churches, and more. Marty believes that such efforts at trust-building will do more than trickle up to larger areas of society; it will become a slow spreading of habits of honesty, inspiring trust on a culture-changing scale.

Far from naïve, Marty realizes that the reality of human nature tends towards trust-breaking, not trust-building. All the more reason, he argues, to develop strategies to bring about improvements, one small step at a time.

<https://www.amazon.com/Building-Cultures-University-Studies-Religion/dp/0802865461>

<http://www.eerdmans.com/Products/6546/building-cultures-of-trust.aspx>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0802865461>

<https://www.eerdmans.com/Products/CategoryCenter.aspx?CategoryId=SEIEUSLR>

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/religion/article/43344-religion-in-review.html>

<http://cslr.law.emory.edu/>

<http://cslr.law.emory.edu/scholarship/books-list.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_E._Marty

<https://divinity.uchicago.edu/martin-e-marty>

<https://www.amazon.com/Martin-E.-Marty/e/B001IQXOT4>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/3994.Martin_E_Marty

Images for Martin E. Marty (Author)

Images for Building Cultures of Trust – (Emory University Studies in Law and Religion) by Martin E. Marty (Author)

How to Develop a Culture of Trust: 7 Steps (with Pictures) - wikiHow

Developing a culture of trust is important in environments where people must work and/or live together harmoniously. A family, educational institution and work environment are all examples of places where a well-developed culture of trust can lead to more positive outcomes for all involved.

<https://www.wikihow.com/Develop-a-Culture-of-Trust>

Images for Develop a Culture of Trust

<http://www.ethicsdaily.com/does-your-church-have-a-trusting-leadership-culture--cms-22008>

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/marty-zwilling/8-keys-to-developing-a-hi_b_14306242.html

<https://www.inc.com/ben-peterson/3-keys-to-creating-a-culture-of-trust.html>
<https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/249577> 5 Ways to Create a Culture of Trust - Entrepreneur
<https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/247932> Here Are 4 Ways to Develop a Culture of Respect and Trust
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/4-things-leaders-must-do-develop-culture-trust-marcel-schwantes>
<https://leadchange.org/to-develop-a-culture-of-trust-and-loyalty-try-sharing-your-leadership/>
[Images for develop-a-culture-of-trust-and-loyalty](#)
<https://www.fastcompany.com/3038952/7-essentials-for-leaders-to-develop-trust>
<https://growingpeopleframework.wordpress.com/2015/04/30/12-signs-that-your-church-has-a-culture-of-trust/>
[Images for Church Culture of Trust](#)
<https://smartchurchmanagement.com/church-culture-one-trust-suspicion/>

Interim Lessons from Parker Palmer: Building Right Relations through Circles of Trust

Workshop Leader: Barbara Coeyman

"Circles of **Trust**" is an intentional method of coming together with others to explore the full range of inner wisdom in each of us and how the courage to release that wisdom enables us to live more authentically. Core principles and practices identified by the Center for Courage and Renewal help us align our inner life – our soul – with our outer work in the world – our role. The "Courage" practice can serve as a spiritual practice for clergy, and as a tool for the all-important interim habit of building trust among all components of a congregation. This introductory workshop will be experiential. You will be engaged in a few Courage practices – the "Touchstones," deep listening, open and honest questions, the power of metaphor, and a "third thing." All will take away ideas for next steps in how to engage congregants in applying these principles, particularly in interim settings calling for the healing of conflicted relationships.



2018 Annual Conference | IMN - Interim Ministry Network

<https://imnedu.org/2018-annual-conference/conference-registration/workshop-tuesday-june-19-2018/>
<https://imnedu.org/2018-annual-conference/conference-registration/workshop-descriptions/>
[Images for Parker Palmer: Building Right Relations through Circles of Trust](#)
[Images for Barbara Coeyman](#)

3 Keys to Creating a Culture of Trust | Inc.com

Trust sets the stage for meaningful ideas and contributions that take a company to the next level.

<https://www.inc.com/ben-peterson/3-keys-to-creating-a-culture-of-trust.html>
<https://www.inc.com/magazine/archives/2004.html>
[Images for Creating a Culture of Trust](#)
<https://www.benefitnews.com/slideshow/10-steps-to-creating-a-culture-of-trust>
<https://www.inc.com/marissa-levin/harvard-neuroscience-research-reveals-8-ways-to-build-a-culture-of-trust.html>
<https://trainingindustry.com/articles/leadership/building-a-culture-of-trust/>
<https://www.td.org/magazines/td-magazine/the-science-behind-building-a-culture-of-trust>
<https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/273457> 5 Ways a CEO Can Build a Culture of Trust - Entrepreneur
<http://www.cnbc.com/id/102329997#>. 7 habits of highly successful businesses—commentary #1
<https://www.greatplacetowork.com/resources/blog/how-to-build-a-high-trust-culture>
<http://playbook.amanet.org/5-ways-leaders-can-build-a-culture-of-trust/>
<https://generalassemb.ly/education/building-a-culture-of-trust-and-transparency-in-the-workplace/washington-dc>
[Images for building-a-culture-of-trust-and-transparency-in-the-workplace](#)
https://www.researchgate.net/post/How_do_you_build_a_culture_of_trust_at_work
<https://www.blog.theteamw.com/2018/05/11/how-do-you-build-a-culture-of-trust/>
[Images for build-a-culture-of-trust](#)
<https://leadingwithtrust.com/2011/07/05/four-leadership-practices/>
<https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-management-administration/5-ways-to-cultivate-a-culture-of-trust.html>
[Images for ways-to-cultivate-a-culture-of-trust](#)

29) Turnaround Congregation

Characteristics of Turnaround Pastors - Journals « Biola

While the population of the United States grows, the percentage of people attending church continues to plummet. Much of the drop can be attributed to the 70% to 85% of the churches that have plateaued or declined in attendance. However, bright spots are on the church landscape. Many churches, after decades of plateau or decline, begin to turn around and grow as they are led by "turnaround" pastors. This paper explores the leadership characteristics of turnaround pastors in contradistinction to non-turnaround pastors and argues that church renewal and church planting are critical components needed for a healthy twenty-first century church.

<http://journals.biola.edu/gcr/volumes/3/issues/2/articles/177>
[Images for Characteristics of Turnaround Pastors](#)

Everything Depends on Leadership | Church Growth Network

Someone once said that everything rises and falls on leadership. That really seems to be true when it comes to turning around a plateaued or declining church. The one thing all researchers on **turnaround churches** agree on is the need for assertive pastoral leadership.

<http://churchgrowthnetwork.com/blog/2011/01/10/blog/>
[Images for turnaround churches](#)

Results of the Implementation of Turnaround Strategies for the Maquoketa United Methodist Church Based on Natural Church Development

Christian Schwarz's Natural Church Development (NCD) focuses on eight central quality characteristics. All healthy churches demonstrate these eight at some level. This study used the NCD questionnaire as a tool to evaluate the level of health for the United Methodist Church of Maquoketa, Iowa. Eligible members took the pretest and posttest surveys. Implementation of recommendations from ChurchSmart Resources occurred between surveys to improve the church's greatest weakness, need-oriented evangelism. Worship attendance increased during the treatment period as leadership implemented strategies to improve our minimum factor. The survey results verified Schwarz's connection between health and growth in this local ministry setting.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0549921354>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Results_of_the_Implementation_of_Turnaro.html?id=uwzOep5i8UUC
<http://place.asburyseminary.edu/ecommonsatsdissertations/307/>
[Images for Turnaround Strategies for the Maquoketa United Methodist Church](#)

Six Recent Lessons I Learned from Turnaround Churches - Thom Rainer

All of the pastors had been in the church for at least four years, and all of them had reached points of frustrations. Then their churches began to reverse their declines and stagnations.

<http://thomrainer.com/2013/05/six-recent-lessons-i-learned-from-turnaround-churches/>
[Images for Six Recent Lessons I Learned from Turnaround Churches - Thom Rainer](#)
<https://churchleaders.com/pastors/pastor-articles/168421-thom-rainer-secrets-turnaround-churches.html>
<https://www.amazon.com/Breakout-Churches-Discover-Make-Leap/dp/0310293472>
<http://www.outreachmagazine.com/features/4817-7-traits-of-breakout-churches-2.html/2>
<http://www.christianpost.com/news/7-traits-of-pastors-who-lead-breakout-churches-125274/>
<https://www.preaching.com/articles/preaching-and-the-breakout-church-an-interview-with-thom-rainer/>
<http://www.christianitydaily.com/articles/8965/20170421/five-ways-pastors-reverse-negative-sentiments-church.htm>
<http://www.lifeway.com/pastors/2014/08/04/five-warning-signs-of-declining-church-health/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2013/05/ten-signs-of-hope-for-a-declining-church/> #10
<http://thomrainer.com/2017/05/eight-signs-church-may-closing-soon/>
[Images for thom rainer \(author\)](#)

The Domino's Effect by Nathan Aaseng - Craft of Preaching – Working Preacher

The marketing world ridiculed Domino's ad campaign. You don't admit to your customers that you failed. But it worked so well it has been called "one of the greatest marketing successes of our time."

Domino's strategy, whether they realized it or not, was straight out of the biblical narrative. It worked because, as Christianity has shown, **turnaround** begins with recognition of a need to change, and with repentance.

<https://www.workingpreacher.org/craft.aspx?post=3419>
[Images for Christianity has shown, turnaround begins with recognition of a need to change, and with repentance](#)
<https://www.workingpreacher.org/profile/default.aspx?uid=2-aaseng>
[Images for Nathan Aaseng - Craft of Preaching – Working Preacher](#)

Turnaround Church / Turnaround / Turnaround Pastors

The statistics on pastors in the United States today are grim and sobering.

45% of pastors and 47% of spouses are suffering from burnout, frantic schedules, and/or unrealistic expectations.

45% of pastors' wives say the greatest danger to them and their family is physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual burnout.

57% would leave the pastorate if they had somewhere else to go or some other vocation they could do.

70% don't have any close friends.

75% report severe stress causing anguish, worry, bewilderment, anger, depression, fear, and alienation.

1,500 pastors leave the ministry each month due to burnout, conflict, or moral failure.

This is the climate. Obviously, it is full of potholes.

We want you to be successful. We want you to be a happy, healthy person who happens to be a pastor. And, if you're leading a TURNAROUND effort in your church, we want for you to have key emotional intelligence skills activated in you for you to reach your maximum potential to reverse the trends of a declining or plateaued church.

<http://turnaroundchurch.com/#/turnaround/turnaround-pastors>
<http://www.churchleader.net/Networking/TurnaroundChurches/tabid/78/Default.aspx>
[Images for Turnaround Church / Turnaround / Turnaround Pastors](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Things Turning Around? - OpenBible.info

https://www.openbible.info/topics/things_turning_around
[Images for Bible and Things Turning Around](#)

<https://inspiration.org/christian-articles/god-will-turn-everything-around/>
[Images for god-will-turn-everything-around](#)
<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Turning-round>
<https://www.modernghana.com/news/545077/god-will-turn-your-situation-around.html>
[Images for god-will-turn-your-situation-around](#)
<https://exceedingfaith.com/the-god-who-can-turn-any-situation-around/>
<https://www.charismamag.com/spirit/spiritual-growth/27273-prepare-yourself-for-a-divine-turnaround>
[Images for prepare-yourself-for-a-divine-turnaround](#)

Wisdom from Lyle E. Schaller: The Elder Statesman of Church Leadership by Lyle E. Schaller

20. Why Is It So Hard to Turn a Church that's Plateaued in Attendance? Page 111
<http://www.amazon.com/Wisdom-Lyle-Schaller-Statesman-Leadership/dp/1426749104>
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/14323114-wisdom-from-lyle-e-schaller>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1426761627>
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>
http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/27/us/rev-lyle-e-schaller-dies-at-91-helped-protestant-churches-survive-and-grow.html?_r=0
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyle_E._Schaller
http://www.abingdonpress.com/lyle_e_schaller
<https://www.amazon.com/Lyle-E.-Schaller/e/B0011R1J9K>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/179868.Lyle_E_Schaller
[Images for lyle e schaller author](#)
[Images for Wisdom from Lyle E. Schaller: The Elder Statesman of Church Leadership by Lyle E. Schaller 20. Why Is It So Hard to Turn a Church that's Plateaued in Attendance?](#)

30) Type

Discover Your Spiritual Type: A Guide to Individual and Congregational Growth. Corinne Ware

From Urban T. Holmes's spiritual typology and her own experience as a spiritual director and pastoral counselor, Ware provides a framework for people to name and understand their spiritual experience-in much the same way the Myers-Briggs typology provides a framework for understanding personality types. Readers explore four spiritual types--head, heart, mystic, and Kingdom--and exercises allow individuals and groups to assess their type. Additional information for clergy to use this tool with congregations is included, which will help them gain greater understanding of how members learn about, worship, and celebrate God--and why there may be tension about such issues as the form or content of the worship service.

<http://www.amazon.com/Discover-Your-Spiritual-Type-Corinne/dp/1566991498>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/665574.Discover_Your_Spiritual_Type
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/discover-your-spiritual-type-corinne-ware/1012370384>
https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/discover-your-spiritual-type-a-guide-to-individual-and-congregational-growth_corinne-ware/336592/#isbn=1566991498&idq=5352790
<https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9781566991490/discover-your-spiritual-type/>
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https://books.google.com/books/about/Discover_Your_Spiritual_Type.html?id=aaUCBAAAQBAJ
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/53a91858e4b006b9082369ca/t/58d9aa00c534a5f7a6319b50/1490659841077/Spirituality+Wheel+Questionnaire.pdf>
<http://www.episcopwhat.org/ware-spirituality-type-indicator.html>
<https://www.propofs.com/quiz-school/story.php?title=mtuymjiwoqp1k0>
<http://centraltolife.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/Documents/BibleStudies/Discover-Your-Spiritual-Type.pdf>
<https://blogs.corban.edu/ministry/index.php/2015/07/spiritual-types-among-emerging-adults-in-higher-education/>
<https://metanoia.org/martha/writing/spiritualtype.htm>
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/uniting-knowledge-and-vital-piety-linking-learning-styles-with-our-spiritua>
<http://bigpicturequestions.com/what-is-your-spiritual-type/>
<https://johnfisk.wordpress.com/2013/01/27/the-four-spiritual-types-paths/>
http://carollanfear.weebly.com/uploads/1/0/5/1/10516291/the_ammended_spirituality_wheel.pdf
<http://www.welcometoresurrection.org/Customer-Content/resurrection/CMS/files/Education/WareSpiritualityWheelTool.pdf>
http://www.vmmcc.org/formtest/uploads/Spiritual_Type.pdf
<http://www.hixsonumc.org/pages/Spiritual-Types/>
<http://www.mcctampa.com/spiritual-paths.html>
<http://www.cantoncommunitybaptist.com/blog/the-divine-light>
http://www.vmmcc.org/formtest/uploads/archives/Spiritual_Type.pdf
https://fumcduluth.com/sermons/2302/Spiritual_Type_and_Spiritual_Journey
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/corinne-ware/266634/>
https://www.abingdonpress.com/authors/corinne_ware/
<https://www.biblio.com/corinne-ware/author/102185>
<https://www.amazon.com/Corinne-Ware/e/B001IU4QHO>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/357222.Corinne_Ware

[Images for Corinne Ware, author](#)

[Images for Discover Your Spiritual Type by Corinne Ware](#)

Finding Your Way: Personalized Practices for Spiritual Growth through the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator by John Ackerman (Author)

This is a booklet that takes the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator theory of personality differences and applies it to the classic three 12 step disciplines: prayer, meditation, and inventory. The spirituality is inclusive and contains more hints and affirmation than detailed instruction.

<http://www.amazon.com/Finding-Your-Way-Personalized-Practices/dp/1566991137>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7759386.John_Ackerman

<https://www.bookdepository.com/Finding-Your-Way-John-Ackerman/9781566991131>

<https://www.readings.com.au/products/19058333/finding-your-way-personalized-practices-for-spiritual-growth-through-the-myers-briggs-type-indicator>

<https://epdf.pub/spiritual-awakening-a-guide-to-spiritual-life-in-congregations.html>

<https://place.asburyseminary.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1644&context=ecommonsatsdissertations>

Page 145

[Images for Finding Your Way: Personalized Practices for Spiritual Growth through the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator by John Ackerman](#)

Looking at Type and Spirituality: Sandra Krebs Hirsh, Jane A. G. Kise: Books

Is your spirituality a quiet, reflective experience? Or do you enjoy public celebration and sharing?

An inward vs. outward orientation is just one of many examples of personal differences in spiritual experience. Regardless of what you believe, how you express that belief can take many forms. Finding the right spiritual path...in order to enrich your sense of purpose and meaning in life...is essential for fully experiencing our most profound gifts.

Looking at Type® and Spirituality is a tool to aid you in your quest. Working with the self-understanding gained from the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® instrument, the world's most widely used personality assessment, *Looking at Type® and Spirituality* can illuminate your personal path with key insights and practical applications:

Understand why your response to events in life may differ from others

Find a personally meaningful understanding of those events

Identify religious practices or sacred experiences that resonate with you

Understand why some aspects of spirituality are easy for you... while others are challenging

Recognize kindred spirits and respect differences in spiritual expression

Looking at Type® and Spirituality and the concepts of psychological type will guide you in finding and expressing your true, inherent spiritual nature.

<http://www.amazon.com/Looking-Spirituality-Sandra-Krebs-Hirsh/dp/0935652302>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/342729.Looking_at_Type_and_Spirituality

<http://www.capt.org/catalog/MBTI-Book-60109.htm>

<http://www.psychometrics.com/English/MBTI-SUP/Resources-and-Books/Looking-at-Type-Series/Looking-at-Type-and-Spirituality/Product.aspx?ProductID=274&DeptID=41>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Looking_at_Type_and_Spirituality.html?id=I8uxAAAACAAJ

[SoulTypes: Matching Your Personality and Spiritual Path](#)

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/sandra-krebs-hirsh/225663/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Sandra-Krebs-Hirsh/e/B000APQ63K>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/196586.Sandra_Krebs_Hirsh

[Images for Sandra Krebs Hirsh, author](#)

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/97410.Jane_A_G_Kise

[Images for Jane A. G. Kise, author](#)

[Images for Looking at Type and Spirituality: Sandra Krebs Hirsh, Jane A. G. Kise: Books](#)

Personality Type and Religious Leadership by Roy M. Oswald (Author), Otto Kroeger (Author)

Combining pastoral and behavioral science expertise, the authors spell out ways type and temperament theory illuminate the clergy role. Learn how to use the 16 Myers-Briggs personality types to recognize and affirm your gifts, work with your liabilities, and understand and accept those with whom you minister. "Being a parish pastor is a very complex role. Our mission in this book is to make that task a little less complex and a little more fun by looking at our congregations through the lens of the MBTI." - The authors

<http://www.amazon.com/Personality-Type-Religious-Leadership-Oswald/dp/1566990254>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1016936.Personality_Type_and_Religious_Leadership

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/personality-type-and-religious-leadership-roy-m-oswald/1001604232>

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<https://alban.org/archive/the-case-for-becoming-a-type-watcher/>

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<https://johnmeunier.wordpress.com/2010/09/15/top-3-personality-types-for-clergy/>

<http://www.dts.edu/download/academic/sfl/sf/ltr/ltr.peanutsandpersonality.georgehillman.pdf>

<https://www.amazon.com/Roy-M.-Oswald/e/B001K8KQ1O>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/152452.Roy_M_Oswald

[Images for Roy M. Oswald \(Author\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/roy.oswald>
<https://4b2hrderdaoklyfu2n1ah3eku-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Roy-M-Oswald-bio.pdf>
<http://www.ottokroeger.com/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Otto-Kroeger/e/B000AP71NO>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/80310.Otto_Kroeger
Images for Otto Kroeger (Author)
Images for Personality Type and Religious Leadership by Roy M. Oswald (Author), Otto Kroeger (Author)

Personality Type in Congregations: How to Work with Others More Effectively [Lynne M. Baab]

Lynne Baab's new book *Personality Type in Congregations: How to Work with Others More Effectively* combines two of her passions: her calling as a pastor and her love of psychological type. Through her own spiritual journey and its dynamic interaction with psychological type, Baab offers readers a useful tool to understand both their own spiritual journeys and their role in the life of their chosen spiritual community.

This book offers a rich storehouse of helpful information, examples, and tips for those whose work involves walking alongside others on their faith journey (pastor, spiritual director, counselor, etc.). This book provides a basic understanding of the concepts of psychological type and then builds upon them with applications to real-life issues for those new to type. *brings together the resources of type and the various concerns of congregational life for those who currently know type and are involved in serving congregations.

<http://www.amazon.fr/Personality-Type-Congregations-Others-Effectively/dp/product-description/1566991994>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/550818.Personality_Type_in_Congregations
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The Interim Period in a Congregation - Northern Texas Northern Louisiana Synod

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Soul Types: The Seven Roles in Essence - Personality

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<http://www.quibblo.com/quiz/atufj3C/Discover-Your-Soul-Type>

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The Character of Organizations: Using Jungian Type in Organizational Development [William Bridges]

Shows how to maximize the effectiveness of an organization based on its character.

An enormous consulting industry has sprung up promising to help organizations overhaul themselves to meet today's competitive pressures. Yet far too often, such change efforts fail. The solution, according to best-selling management author William Bridges, lies in identifying, understanding and working with what he calls organizational character. Just as people have personalities,

Bridges explains, organizations - as well as their departments and teams - have characters. An organization's character shapes how decisions get made and new ideas are received, how employees are treated, and change is accepted or rejected - all factors that affect company performance. Using examples from McDonald's, Hewlett-Packard, GE and other companies, Bridges identifies 16 organizational character types using the framework of MBTI® personality types and shows how these influence an organization's growth and development. With a foreword by Sandra Krebs Hirsh and a new preface by the author, this updated edition of the time-tested classic includes the Organizational Character Index, Bridges' popular tool for assessing the character of your own organization or team.

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Images for William Bridges, author

Images for The Character of Organizations: Using Jungian Type in Organizational Development [William Bridges]

31) Unaffiliated

Irreligion - Wikipedia

Irreligion (adjective form: *non-religious* or *irreligious*) is the absence, indifference to, or rejection of religion.^[1] According to the Pew Research Center's 2012 global study of 230 countries and territories, 16% of the world's population is **not affiliated** with a religion, while 84% are affiliated.^[2]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irreligion>

Images for Irreligion

Surveys show that Americans **without a religious affiliation** (which include 'nothing particular', agnostic, and atheist), sometimes referred to as "Nones", range around 23.8%,^[3] 26%,^[2] 24.8%,^[4] 33%,^[5] 21%,^{[6][7]} and 31.4%^[8] of the population, with 'nothing in particulars' making up the majority of this demographic. Since the early 1990s, independent polls have shown the rapid growth of those without a religious affiliation.^{[9][10][11]}

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irreligion_in_the_United_States

Images for Irreligion in the United States

Religiously Unaffiliated - Huffington Post

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/news/religiously-unaffiliated/>

Images for Religiously Unaffiliated - Huffington Post

Religiously Unaffiliated - Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life

<http://www.pewforum.org/topics/religiously-unaffiliated/>

Images for Religiously Unaffiliated - Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life

<http://www.pewforum.org/2015/05/12/americas-changing-religious-landscape/>

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<http://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/>

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<http://www.pewforum.org/2015/04/02/religious-projections-2010-2050/>

<http://www.pewforum.org/2013/08/19/event-transcript-religion-trends-in-the-u-s/>

<http://www.pewforum.org/2013/07/02/growth-of-the-nonreligious-many-say-trend-is-bad-for-american-society/>

<http://www.globalreligiousfutures.org/religions/unaffiliated>

<http://religiondispatches.org/theyre-not-coming-back-the-religiously-unaffiliated-and-the-post-religious-era/>

Images for theyre-not-coming-back-the-religiously-unaffiliated-and-the-post-religious-era

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/07/14/the-non-religious-are-now-the-countrys-largest-religious-voting-bloc/?utm_term=.5c6dac7fccc

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<https://www.infoplease.com/world/religion/top-world-religions-religiously-unaffiliated>

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<http://www.npr.org/2017/01/03/508037656/non-religious-americans-remain-far-underrepresented-in-congress>

Why Americans are Leaving Religion - PRRI

Contents

- 2 The Rise of the **Unaffiliated**
- 6 Why Are Americans Leaving Religion?
- 10 Perceptions of Religion and God Among the Religiously Unaffiliated
- 13 Understanding the Religiously Unaffiliated: Rejectionists, Atheists, and Unattached Believers
- 18 The Politics and Political Influence of the Unaffiliated
- 21 Appendix 1: Survey Methodology
- 23 Appendix 2: Subgroups Within the Religiously Unaffiliated
- 24 Appendix 3: About PRRI and the Authors

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<https://www.prri.org/spotlight/what-religiously-unaffiliated-americans-really-believe-about-faith-groups-today/>

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[Images for nones-leaving-religion](#)

32) Unified Congregation

A Unified Church

Surely, every person here would agree that unity in the Church is very important. What I hope to demonstrate from the Scriptures this morning, is *the nature of the unity we are called to*.

<http://www.reformedtheology.ca/ephesians4a.htm>

[Images for Unified Church](#)

Seven Distinguishing Characteristics of Unified Churches – ThomRainer.com

From that point I began to answer my own questions: What makes this church look like it's unified? What makes this other church look like it's fragmented?

<http://thomrainer.com/2013/04/seven-distinguishing-characteristics-of-unified-churches/>

[Images for Seven Distinguishing Characteristics of Unified Churches – ThomRainer.com](#)

<http://thomrainer.com/2013/01/the-perfectly-unified-church/>

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[Images for thom rainer \(author\)](#)

What Does the Bible Say About Unity in The Church? - OpenBible.info

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

[Images for Bible and Unity in The Church](#)

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<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Church,-unity-of>

<https://bible.org/seriespage/lesson-4-unity-church-john-1722-23-1-cor-1213-eph-41-6-13>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/church-unity.html>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-is-christian-unity>

[Images for what-is-christian-unity](#)

33) Urban

A Disturbing Approach to Social Justice Ministry: Challenging What's Comfortable

Creating and sustaining **urban** ministry can be daunting and—says Doug Bailey—it should be. Urging the church to balance pastoral ministry with prophetic ministry, Bailey invokes the 16th century prayer by Sir Francis Drake to “disturb us” from our comfort zone into bold ministry. This call comes as the church has lost its prophetic voice—in deference to consumer-based, inward-looking ministries.

<http://www.centerforurbanministry.org/storage/AlbanInterview.pdf>

[Images for Creating and sustaining urban ministry](#)

Congregations in Transition: A Guide for Analyzing, Assessing, and Adapting in Changing Communities - by Carl S. Dudley, Nancy T. Ammerman.

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.

<http://www.amazon.com/Congregations-Transition-Analyzing-Assessing-Communities/dp/0787954225>

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Images for Carl S. Dudley, author

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Images for Nancy T. Ammerman, author

Images for *Congregations in Transition: A Guide for Analyzing, Assessing, and Adapting in Changing Communities* - by Carl S. Dudley, Nancy T. Ammerman.

ELCA Hosts Convocations on Urban Ministry in U.S. Cities

CHICAGO (ELCA) - The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is hosting urban convocations to introduce the church's 10-year emphasis, "In the City for Good," and its theme of transforming lives, congregations and communities in U.S. cities. One event was held Sept. 11 at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

<http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/3664>

Images for Urban Ministry in U.S. Cities

Ministry Resource Guides Index - LifeandLeadership.com

Urban Ministry

[Urban Ministry](#)

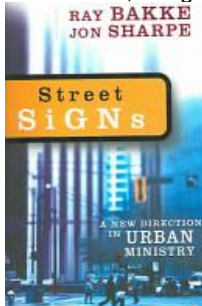
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resource-guide-index/>

Images for Urban Ministry Ministry Resource Guides Index - LifeandLeadership.com

Street Signs: A New Direction in Urban Ministry: Ray Bakke, Jon Sharpe

It's a world in motion. Across the globe people are moving in unprecedented proportions from rural communities to urban centers. This explosion of growth and all the complexities it brings is not to be seen as a problem for churches, but as a gift—an opportunity to work with God within the city to see His purposes worked out.

Street Signs is a guide for church missions leaders and community ministry leaders seeking to bring spiritual and practical transformation to the city. Ray Bakke and Jon Sharpe offer transferable models that come from consultations held in over 200 world cities with church, business, government, and other leaders that provide approaches for God's people who want to love their own cities from the inside out. They also provide a practical and inspirational guide to enable leaders to become volunteer consultants, bringing together church and city leaders to mobilize resources for the transformation of the city.



<http://www.amazon.com/Street-Signs-Direction-Urban-Ministry/dp/1596690046>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15895862-street-signs>

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<https://www.amazon.com/Raymond-J.-Bakke/e/B001K82R5M>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3512044.Ray_Bakke

[Images for Ray Bakke, author](#)

[Images for Street Signs: A New Direction in Urban Ministry: Ray Bakke, Jon Sharpe](#)

The Urban Christian by Raymond J. Bakke (Author), Jim Hart (Author)

An *Eternity* 1988 Book of the Year! There are millions of opportunities for the gospel. With half of the world's five billion people in cities, there is almost no end to the exciting challenges that await us. Ray Bakke has been there. For over twenty years he and his family have worked with and love the people of today's cities, bringing a message of faith and hope. He knows how the city works and how it can be used to the advantage of the gospel. He knows how people hurt too, and he knows how Christianity can heal and make whole. Now he offers us the basic building blocks we need to live this young, rootless, mobile, media-tuned population. Here is practical, time-tested wisdom on what the church can and is doing in worship, work and witness. Bakke's biblical perspective is enriched by years of study and worldwide travel. He believes the church can and must train people to live with and minister to the hurting rich and the hurting poor of the city. The opportunities are ours for the taking.

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[Images for The Urban Christian by Raymond J. Bakke \(Author\), Jim Hart \(Author\)](#)

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The Return of the Urban Congregation | Congregational Consulting

From the striking changes taking place in urban America, there are a number of implications for congregations and denominations moving forward:

<http://www.congregationalconsulting.org/the-return-of-the-urban-congregation/>

[Images for Return of the Urban Congregation | Congregational Consulting](#)

Toward a theological basis for urban ministry - Ministry Magazine

A biblical theology of urban mission is a reflection on the nature and attributes of God, the biblical text being its point of departure. In seeking to understand God and God's ways, it ponders such great themes as God's love, mercy, justice, sovereignty, and power. Were God not the centrifugal force of theology, the God-talk would not be theology, only pretentious chatter. In the context of the city such talk would be sociology, cultural anthropology, urbanology, and economics, but not theology. Again, for a biblical theology of urban mission to be appropriate, it must commence, continue, and be consummated in God.

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/2004/05/toward-a-theological-basis-for-urban-ministry.html>

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[Images for Theology of Cities](#)

<http://urban.sbts.edu/resources/>

Urban Ministry Initiatives - Princeton Theological Seminary

The Urban Ministry Initiatives are collaborative ventures. These multi-layered efforts have a three-pronged dimensional framework.

<https://www.ptsem.edu/about/urban-ministry-initiatives>

[Images for Urban Ministry Initiatives – Princeton Theological Seminary](#)

Urban Ministry | Saint Paul Area Synod

Many congregations in the Saint Paul Area Synod that are located in the urban core of St. Paul face the challenge of declining membership and limited resources, even as the opportunities for ministry and mission increase because of changing neighborhoods and growing immigrant populations.

The synod is committed to providing vital ministry in the city and believes the most effective is supported by the synod as a whole.

The Saint Paul Area Synod works in collaboration with [ISAIAH](#)—a coalition of congregation-based community organizations through which Minnesota congregations can become stronger, deal with local community issues, and address sprawl, affordable housing, and other regional issues—in carrying out its urban ministry.

<http://www.spas-elca.org/urban-ministry>

Urban Ministry: The Kingdom, the City & the People of God by Harvie M. Conn (Author), Manuel Ortiz (Author)

No. 3 in the 2002 Academy of Parish Clergy Top Ten Books of the Year! The city presents serious challenges that cry out for answers: poverty, racism, human exploitation and government corruption. How can the church move ahead in the midst of these demands with the gospel of hope? Here, in one comprehensive volume, Harvie Conn and Manuel Ortiz, two noted scholars and proven practitioners of urban ministry, address the vital work of the church in the city. Their dual goal: to understand the city and God's work in it. Through four great waves of development, Conn and Ortiz trace the history of the city around the world. Then they tackle the critical issue of a biblical basis for urban mission. How does the Bible view the city? Are we closer to God in the country than the city? Does the Bible have an anti-urban bias? These questions are given a thorough analysis that unveils God's urban mandate as reflected in both Old and New Testaments. From this foundation, the authors unpack the multifaceted nature of the city as place, as process, as center, as power, and as a place of change and stability. They move us beyond fragmented stereotypes to a new way of seeing that is holistic enough for a fully biblical ministry to develop. In addition, Conn and Ortiz lay out what the social sciences have to offer urban mission, including ethnographic and demographic studies and they focus on the particular issues and needs of urban leadership, including a plan for developing and mentoring leaders while equipping the laity for ministry in the city. This is the essential text for bringing God's kingdom to the city through the people of God.

<http://www.amazon.com/Urban-Ministry-Kingdom-City-People/dp/0830838708>

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[Images for Manuel Ortiz \(Author\) urban ministry](#)

[Images for Urban Ministry: The Kingdom, the City & the People of God by Harvie M. Conn \(Author\), Manuel Ortiz \(Author\)](#)

UrbanMinistry.org: Christian Social Justice Podcasts, MP3s

A Christian online community and resource center for volunteers and ministries serving the poor, offering articles, audio sermons, podcasts, and videos.

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

[Images for UrbanMinistry.org: Christian Social Justice](#)

Urban - Wikipedia

Urban means "related to cities."

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urban>

[Images for urban](#)

34) Values

A 5 Step Guide on How to Create an Amazing Church Culture – Carey Nieuwhof

Two years ago, we finally wrote down six cultural **values** at Connexus Church, where I serve.

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2016/03/guide-on-how-to-create-an-amazing-church-culture/>

[Images for A 5 Step Guide on How to Create an Amazing Church Culture – Carey Nieuwhof - six cultural values at Connexus Church](#)

<http://connexuschurch.com/about-us/#our-team>

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<http://connexuschurch.com/sermon/build-alignment/>

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

ELCA Message and Values - SlideShare

We are a church that belongs to Christ. There is a place for you here. We believe God calls each of us by name. Christ's church is not ours to control, nor it is our job to sort, divide, categorize, or exclude. Whenever we feel compelled to "draw the line" in our lives, we must acknowledge as Lutherans that Jesus always stands on both sides of that line.

We are a church whose unity is in Jesus Christ, who gathers us around word and water, wine and bread. Because we are grounded in God's love and forgiveness, we are equipped to live and serve here and now, in the world with all its complexities, tensions, and ambiguities. We have the courage to explore the world as saints and sinners, knowing we will never take God somewhere God has not already been.

We are a church that believes Jesus is God's "Yes" to us. Our lives can be a "Yes" to others. The "Yes" of Jesus Christ compels and empowers us to be open and accessible within any community, within any context.

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. We don't have to do it alone, and we don't have to do everything. Each of us has a unique story, and we are part of a larger story that makes up the ELCA. We work through our congregations, synods and partners, and the churchwide organization. Together we achieve things on a scale and scope that we could never do otherwise.

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. We do God's work in the world – restoring and reconciling communities. We pursue justice and seek peace no matter how long the journey or wide the chasm.

We are a church that is a catalyst, convener, and bridge builder. Our faith calls us to see the world as interdependent. The ELCA has become a force for connection, working across denominations, faiths, organizations and sectors, locally and globally. We're a welcome partner because we respect the perspectives and strengths of others and share a common vision to uphold human dignity.

We are a church that is energized by lively engagement in our faith and life. "Our faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing," said Martin Luther. We continually strive for a deeper understanding of what the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ means for the world. Doing so puts us right where God wants us to be: in the thick of life.

We are a church that is deeply rooted – and always being made new. Our roots are in Scripture, tradition, and the Lutheran Confessions, as well as in the vibrant communities and rich histories of our congregations. These roots are an ongoing source of nourishment; they enable us to be a church guided by the Holy Spirit that is both resilient and always being reformed.

<http://www.slideshare.net/kevinstillson/elca-25th-anniversary-marketing>

[Images for ELCA Message and Values](#)

How To Define Your Organization's Values - Forbes

So, the best way to define values that will stick is to focus on choices rather than beliefs.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/gregsatell/2015/11/27/how-to-define-your-organizations-values/#303cf45d4054>

[Images for How To Define Your Organization's Values - Forbes](#)

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/kathryndill/2014/08/22/the-top-companies-for-culture-and-values/#414d68563b7c>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/chrisccialosi/2015/07/20/2-ways-to-ensure-your-corporate-culture-and-values-align/#782dcdbd6e31>

[Images for corporate-culture-and-values](#)

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/lesliepeters/2018/08/09/organizational-values-are-important-what-about-personal-values/#ae5cc05df934>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbescoachescouncil/2018/04/12/organizational-values-the-most-underutilized-corporate-asset/#1c4ecfb552a3>

[Images for organizational-values-corporate-asset](#)

<https://www.forbes.com/2010/02/01/brand-reputation-value-leadership-managing-ethisphere.html#638fa49f3790>

[Images for brand-reputation-value-leadership-managing-ethisphere](#)

Make Your Values Mean Something - Harvard Business Review

Core values are the deeply ingrained principles that guide all of a company's actions; they serve as its cultural cornerstones.

<https://hbr.org/2002/07/make-your-values-mean-something>

[Images for Make Your Values Mean Something - Harvard Business Review](#)

<https://hbr.org/2018/04/how-to-establish-values-on-a-small-team>

[Images for how-to-establish-values-on-a-small-team](#)

<https://hbr.org/2017/05/how-corporate-values-get-hijacked-and-misused>

[Images for how-corporate-values-get-hijacked-and-misused](#)

<https://hbr.org/1965/09/personal-values-and-corporate-strategy>

[Images for personal-values-and-corporate-strategy](#)

<https://hbr.org/2010/06/ten-essentials-for-getting-val.html>

Value - Wikipedia

Value or values may refer to: Value (ethics), it may be described as treating actions themselves as abstract objects, putting value to them. Social imaginary is the set of values, institutions, laws, and symbols common to a particular social group .

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Value>

[Images for set of values, institutions, laws, and symbols common to a particular social group](#)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Core_values

Values Quotes - BrainyQuote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/values>

[Images for Values Quotes](#)

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/values>
<https://celebrationsoflife.net/ethicalwills/quotes-about-values/>
<https://www.forbes.com/quotes/theme/values/>

Vikings counting on selfless veterans - Minnesota Vikings Blog

Zimmer's culture has become intricately linked with general manager Rick Spielman's scouting process, and more often than not, the players who wind up in Minnesota are the ones the Vikings think can grasp their core **values**: grit, intelligence and the suppression of personal accolades for a team goal.

http://espn.go.com/blog/minnesota-vikings/post/_/id/18955/cant-spell-minnesota-without-team-vikings-counting-on-selfless-veterans

Images for Vikings counting on selfless veterans - Minnesota Vikings Blog

Images for core values: grit, intelligence and the suppression of personal accolades for a team goal

What Does the Bible Say About Values? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/values>

Images for Bible and Values

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

www.christianbiblereference.org/faq_ChristianValues.htm

<https://www.amazingfacts.org/news-and-features/news/item/id/13320/t/10-bible-verses-that-show-your-true-value>

<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Values/>

www.bible-teaching-about.com/leadershipcorevalues.html

35) Values Statement

Ban These 5 Words From Your Corporate Values Statement – Harvard Business Review

Here are the five terms I ban from every core values list I work on:

<https://hbr.org/2018/02/ban-these-5-words-from-your-corporate-values-statement>

Images for Values Statement - Harvard Business Review

Basics of Developing Mission, Vision and Values Statements

Developing a Values Statement

<http://managementhelp.org/strategicplanning/mission-vision-values.htm>

Images for Developing a Values Statement

7 core values statements that inspire - Fortune

In just a few words, these companies on the 100 Best Companies to Work For list set out the passions and commitments that define them.

<http://fortune.com/2015/03/13/company-slogans/>

Images for 7 core values statements that inspire - Fortune

value statement - Wiktionary

2. (*business*) An organization's statement of its ethical values, complementary to [mission statement](#) and [vision statement](#).

https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/value_statement

Images for values statement

What Is an Organizational Value Statement? | Chron.com

Every organization has a set of values, whether or not they are written down. The values guide the perspective of the organization as well as its actions. Writing down a set of commonly-held values can help an organization define its culture and beliefs. When members of the organization subscribe to a common set of values, the organization appears united when it deals with various issues.

<http://smallbusiness.chron.com/organizational-value-statement-23848.html>

Images for What Is an Organizational Value Statement? | Chron.com

36) Village

18 Bible verses about Villages - Knowing Jesus

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

Images for bible and village

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/words/Village>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/village/>

The Benedict Option's Vision for a Christian Village ROD DREHER| FEBRUARY 17, 2017 | Christianity Today

How to conserve and strengthen the American church.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2017/march/benedict-options-vision-for-christian-village.html>

Images for The Benedict Option's Vision for a Christian Village ROD DREHER| FEBRUARY 17, 2017 | Christianity Today

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

In this controversial bestseller, Rod Dreher calls on American Christians to prepare for the coming Dark Age by embracing an ancient Christian way of life.

From the inside, American churches have been hollowed out by the departure of young people and by an insipid pseudo-Christianity. From the outside, they are beset by challenges to religious liberty in a rapidly secularizing culture. Keeping Hillary Clinton out of the White House may have bought a brief reprieve from the state's assault, but it will not stop the West's slide into decadence and dissolution.

Rod Dreher argues that the way forward is actually the way back—all the way to St. Benedict of Nursia. This sixth-century monk, horrified by the moral chaos following Rome's fall, retreated to the forest and created a new way of life for Christians. He built enduring communities based on principles of order, hospitality, stability, and prayer. His spiritual centers of hope were strongholds of light throughout the Dark Ages, and saved not just Christianity but Western civilization.

Today, a new form of barbarism reigns. Many believers are blind to it, and their churches are too weak to resist. Politics offers little help in this spiritual crisis. What is needed is the Benedict Option, a strategy that draws on the authority of Scripture and the wisdom of the ancient church. The goal: to embrace exile from mainstream culture and construct a resilient counterculture.

The Benedict Option is both manifesto and rallying cry for Christians who, if they are not to be conquered, must learn how to fight on culture war battlefields like none the West has seen for fifteen hundred years. It's for all mere Christians—Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox—who can read the signs of the times. Neither false optimism nor fatalistic despair will do. Only faith, hope, and love, embodied in a renewed church, can sustain believers in the dark age that has overtaken us. These are the days for building strong arks for the long journey across a sea of night.

<https://www.amazon.com/Benedict-Option-Strategy-Christians-Post-Christian/dp/0735213291>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-benedict-option-rod-dreher/1124485979>

<http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/547188/the-benedict-option-by-rod-dreher/9780735213296>

<http://www.conundrumbooks.com/shop/the-benedict-option-by-rod-dreher>

<http://www.theamericanconservative.com/dreher/new-ideas-of-the-village-clear-creek-benedict-option/>

<https://bookstore.ctsfw.edu/category/christian-living-0>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/02/benedict-option/517290/>

<http://www.breakpoint.org/2017/03/the-benedict-option/>

<http://contrapauli.blogspot.com/2017/03/early-returns-for-new-christian-paradigm.html>

A survival guide for our 'post-Christian' nation – The Washington Post

<https://www.facebook.com/conundrumbooks/posts/easter-weekend-is-the-perfect-time-to-think-about-our-faith-what-is-the-current-/62766777429540/>

<http://thewartburgwatch.com/2017/03/20/the-benedict-option-an-overview/>

<https://lawandreligionforum.org/tag/christianity/page/3/>

<https://blogs.spectator.co.uk/2017/04/secularism-part-gods-cunning-plan/>

<https://international.la-croix.com/news/the-benedict-option-at-the-dawn-of-a-new-dark-age/4856#>

<https://www.bible.com/events/218962>

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<http://www.newstatesman.com/politics/religion/2017/05/benedict-option-new-monasticism-21st-century>

<http://www.ncregister.com/blog/steven-greydanus/justin-option>

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/05/01/rod-dreher-monastic-vision>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rod_Dreher

<https://www.theamericanconservative.com/author/rod-dreher/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Rod-Dreher-157966111026857/>

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/rod-dreher/211609/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Rod-Dreher/e/B00JV2IX3O>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/125790.Rod_Dreher/blog

Images for Rod Dreher (Author)

37) Villager

Christianity for the Rest of Us Small Group: Study Guide

Villager: Lifelong members of a church or denomination. People who have never left.

<http://aprilmallgroup.blogspot.com/2008/04/study-guide-for-session-1.html>

Images for Villager: Lifelong members of a church or denomination. People who have never left.

38) Viral Congregation

Viral Churches: Helping Church Planters Become Movement Makers by Ed Stetzer (Author), Warren Bird (Author)

A groundbreaking guide for multiplying the impact of church plants

Based on a study that was commissioned by the Leadership Network, this book reveals the best practices in church planting and uncovers the common threads among them. A much-needed resource, this book will inform, guide, and even catalyze today's many church planting leaders. The authors clearly show leaders how to plant churches that create a multiplication movement and offer inspiration for them to do so. The book addresses their questions about what to do next in their church planting strategies, in light of research on what's actually working best.

<https://www.amazon.com/Viral-Churches-Helping-Planters-Movement/dp/0470550457>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/7779319-viral-churches>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/viral-churches-ed-stetzer/1100297912>
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<http://www.lifeway.com/Product/viral-churches-P005339770>
<https://edstetzer.com/books/viral-churches/>
<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470590327.html>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0470550457>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Viral_Churches.html?id=WZ-aa38c8AcC
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKNYLbqp9g> 'Viral Churches: Helping Church Planters Become Movement Makers' by Ed Stetzer & Warren Bird - YouTube
<http://marccortez.com/2010/08/12/viral-churches-multiplying-church-growth-through-church-planting-networks/>
<http://www.catholicbooksreview.org/2010/stetzer.htm>
<https://www.jdpayne.org/2010/05/interview-with-ed-stetzer-on-viral-churches/>
<http://www.joshhunt.com/mail344.htm>
<http://goba.org/ed-stetzer-viral-churches>
<https://vimeo.com/11123285> Ed Stetzer on Viral Churches
<https://chuckwarnockblog.wordpress.com/2010/04/12/two-words-about-stetzer-and-birds-new-book-viral-churches-get-it/>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/february/viral-churches-thinking-about-church-multiplication.html>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/february/multiply-everything-viral-churches-part-2.html>
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<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/march/viral-churches-factors-leading-to-church-multiplication.html>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/march/include-planting-in-your-missional-purpose-viral-churches.html>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/march/plant-by-multiplication-not-funding-viral-churches-part-6.html>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/march/be-born-pregnant-viral-churches-part-7.html>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/april/open-more-lanes-viral-churches-part-8.html>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/april/you-must-overcoming-fear-to-see-movement-viral-churches.html>
<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/browse/>
<https://warrenbird.com/books-2>
<https://www.amazon.com/Ed-Stetzer/e/B001JP8EUI>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/25148.Ed_Stetzer
[Images for Ed Stetzer \(Author\)](#)
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/wbird/de>
<https://www.amazon.com/Warren-Bird/e/B002BLN1V6>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/85146.Warren_Bird
[Images for warren bird \(author\)](#)
[Images for Viral Churches: Helping Church Planters Become Movement Makers by Ed Stetzer \(Author\), Warren Bird \(Author\)](#)

39) Wizard of Oz

The Wizard of Oz - Wikiquote

Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore.

http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/The_Wizard_of_Oz

[Images for Wizard of Oz](#)

Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore. | philosiblog

What does that mean?

This saying has become a cultural metaphor in English speaking countries (and perhaps other places as well) which means we are not in a place with which we are familiar. It implies different rules, different customs, and few, if any familiar objects or activities.

<http://philosiblog.com/2012/05/15/toto-i-have-a-feeling-were-not-in-kansas-anymore/>

[Images for toto i have a feeling we're not in kansas anymore](#)

40) Work

Creating an Individual Work Identity - Core

Individual work identity refers to a work-based self-concept, constituted of a combination of organizational, occupational, and other identities, that shapes the roles individuals adopt and the corresponding ways they behave when performing their work in the context of their jobs and/or careers.

<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/145015339.pdf>

[Images for Creating an Individual Work Identity - Core](#)

Crossing the Unknown Sea: Work as a Pilgrimage of Identity by David Whyte (Author)

Crossing the Unknown Sea is about reuniting the imagination with our day to day lives. It shows how poetry and practicality, far from being mutually exclusive, reinforce each other to give every aspect of our lives meaning and direction. For anyone who wants to deepen their connection to their life's work—or find out what their life's work is—this book can help navigate the way.

Whyte encourages readers to take risks at work that will enhance their personal growth and shows how burnout can actually be beneficial and used to renew professional interest. He asserts that too many people blindly trudge through a mediocre work life

because so many “busy” tasks prevent significant reflection and analysis of job satisfaction. People often turn to spiritual practice or religion to nurture their souls but overlook how work can actually be our greatest opportunity for discovery and growth. *Crossing the Unknown Sea* combines poetry, gifted storytelling and Whyte’s personal experience to reveal work’s potential to fulfill us and bring us closer to ultimate freedom and happiness.



<http://www.amazon.com/Crossing-Sea-Work-Pilgrimage-Identity/dp/1573229148>
<http://www.davidwhyte.com/crossing.html>
<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/books/reviews/view/2734>
<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/book-reviews/excerpts/view/13609>
<http://wcu.edu/20040115.pdf>
<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-1-57322-178-8> Nonfiction Book Review
<http://www.friendsofsilence.net/quote/author/david-whyte>
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Whyte_\(poet\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Whyte_(poet))
<https://www.facebook.com/PoetDavidWhyte/>
<https://www.amazon.com/David-Whyte/e/B000AQ8TB6>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/87686.David_Whyte
[Images for David Whyte \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Crossing the Unknown Sea: Work as a Pilgrimage of Identity by David Whyte \(Author\)](#)

41) World View

Christian worldview - Wikipedia

Christian worldview (also called Biblical worldview) refers to the framework of ideas and beliefs through which a Christian individual, group or culture interprets the world and interacts with it. Various [denominations of Christianity](#) have differing [worldviews](#) on some issues based on biblical interpretation, but many thematic elements are commonly agreed-upon within the Christian worldview. A common theme is the distrust of secular authority.^[1]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_worldview
[Images for Christian worldview](#)

Congregation: Stories and Structures by James F. Hopewell - Religion Online

Chapter 6: Exploring [World View](#)

Certain correlations appear between a member’s world view position and other church activities.

<http://www.religion-online.org/showbook.asp?title=491>
<https://www.amazon.com/Congregation-Stories-Structures-James-Hopewell/dp/0800619560>
<https://books.google.com/books/about/Congregation.html?id=q05wAueodqcC>
<http://fortresspress.com/author/james-f-hopewell>
<http://pitts.emory.edu/archives/text/mss080.html>
<https://www.amazon.com/James-F.-Hopewell/e/B001KHQAA6>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/327527.James_F_Hopewell
[Images for James F. Hopewell, author congregation stories and structures](#)
[Images for Congregation: Stories and Structures by James F. Hopewell - Religion Online Chapter 6: Exploring World View](#)

Down with unhelpful, imprecise “worldview” talk | A Wee Blether

Here’s some reasons I avoid worldview rhetoric, and I invite you to do the same:

- “Worldview” use tends to suggest a static understanding of how one sees reality and interacts with others. I’d argue instead that the way we see the world is constantly changing.
- Most use of an adjective before “worldview” simplifies the phrase in such a way that it’s practically meaningless. Of course, there is not one such thing as a “Christian worldview,” or a “Presbyterian worldview,” or a “millennial worldview.”
- When we use “worldview” language we tend to forget we participate in creating how we look at things.
- “Worldview” also tends to neglect how the things of the world shape our perspectives. To quote Thomas Rickert’s book *Ambient Rhetoric*, “Worldviews, then, as ways of seeing an already preexistent world, are not ordinary but drive from this more fundamental weddedness to the world.” In other words: rather than claiming a worldview, consider how our experiences in the world have already shaped our experience of it.

<http://www.adamjcopeland.com/2015/06/04/down-with-unhelpful-imprecise-sometimes-lazy-language-of-worldview/>
https://www.luthersem.edu/faculty/fac_home.aspx?contact_id=acopeland001
<https://www.christiancentury.org/contributor/adam-j-copeland>
[Images for Wee Blether by Adam J. Copeland](#)

Increase your congregation's Worldview IQ

WORLDVIEW RESOURCES

[Understanding Worldview](#)
[The Christian Worldview](#)
[Implications of Worldview](#)
[Non-Christian Worldviews](#)
[Fighting the Culture War](#)
[Worldview & Devotional Life](#)
[Worldview & Witness](#)
[Worldview Dialogs](#)
[Worldview Videos](#)
[Worldview Made Practical Podcasts](#)
[Interviews](#)
[Worldview Training Videos](#)

<http://www.marketfaith.org/2011/05/increase-your-congregations-worldview-iq-have-freddy-davis-or-tal-davis-speak-at-your-church/>

<http://www.marketfaith.org/worldview-resources/>

[Images for Increase your congregation's Worldview IQ](#)

Transitional Ministry Today: Successful Strategies for Churches and Pastors edited by Norman B. Bendroth

A New **World View**

Since the heyday of mainline churches, there has been a global shift in how our culture makes sense of and interprets reality.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566997518>

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[Images for Transitional Ministry Today: Successful Strategies for Churches and Pastors edited by Norman B. Bendroth A New World View](#)

[Images for global shift in how our culture makes sense of and interprets reality](#)

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<https://alban.org/2015/03/06/norman-bendroth-transitional-ministry-today/>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/23811442-transitional-ministry-today>

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<https://www.christiancentury.org/contributor/norman-b-bendroth>

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What Does the Bible Say About Worldview? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/worldview>

[Images for Bible and Worldview](#)

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<https://thinkingonscripture.com/a-biblical-worldview/>

<https://insider.pureflix.com/prayer-faith/bible-verses-about-biblical-worldview>

Worldview and the Mission of the Local Congregation - ppt video

<https://slideplayer.com/slide/264111/>

[Images for Worldview and Mission of the Local Congregation](#)

worldview - definition of worldview by The Free Dictionary

1. The overall perspective from which one sees and interprets the world.

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/worldview>

[Images for worldview - definition of worldview](#)

Worldview - Wikipedia

A worldview or world-view is the fundamental [cognitive](#) orientation of an individual or society encompassing the whole of the individual's or society's knowledge and [point of view](#).^{[1][2][3][4]} A worldview can include [natural philosophy](#); fundamental, existential, and [normative](#) postulates; or themes, values, emotions, and ethics.^[5]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worldview>

[Images for worldview fundamental cognitive orientation of an individual](#)

https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/World_view

https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Exploring_Worldviews