

Interim Ministry Resources

Chapter 13 Identity

Contents 1

Resources (9)

#	Page	Topic
1)	2	Mainline
2)	7	Marketplace Pastor
3)	7	Mean Church
4)	7	Measure
5)	8	Mediocrity
6)	9	Medium-Sized Congregation
7)	10	Megachurch
8)	12	Megatrends
9)	13	Midsized Congregation
10)	15	Millennials
11)	17	Mini-denomination Size
12)	18	Mission Orientation
13)	18	Mosaics
14)	18	Motto Statement
15)	19	Movers and Shakers
16)	19	Multi-celled Congregation
17)	20	Multicultural Congregation
18)	22	Multigenerational Congregation
19)	23	Multiple Point Parish
20)	26	Multiple Site Congregation
21)	33	Networking Congregation
22)	34	Next Church
23)	35	Nomads
24)	35	Nominals
25)	36	Organic Church
26)	38	Organizational Intelligence
27)	39	Outreach Congregation
28)	40	Outwardly Focused Congregation
29)	41	Paradigm
30)	41	Pastoral Size Congregation
31)	44	Personality
32)	45	Personality Driven Congregation
33)	46	Pillar Congregation
34)	46	Place
35)	47	Plateaued Congregation
36)	49	Pluralism
37)	51	Popular Culture
38)	55	Post-anxiety Church
39)	55	Postmodern

Resources

1) Mainline

A Tale of Two Churches – Alban at Duke Divinity School

Because of its innate creativity, resonance with tradition, and insistence upon Christian distinctiveness, the intentional, or practicing, pattern may be the richest resource for **mainline** Protestants who seek to revitalize congregations and move ahead in mission. But to draw upon it, we need to see it, name it, and continually commit ourselves to the way of life given through our baptism. We must teach and nurture this vision and be willing to change as God's spirit directs. When we really live in community—as if our very lives depended on practicing our faith—I can guarantee that our congregations will be more vital.

<https://alban.org/archive/a-tale-of-two-churches/>

[Images for mainline Protestants](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/a-new-story-for-the-church-in-the-21st-century/>

<https://alban.org/2014/09/25/loren-mead-still-stuck-on-the-importance-of-the-local-church/>

<https://www.faithandleadership.com/move-part-time-clergy-sparks-innovation-congregations>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/alban-institute-a-resource-for-mainline-institutions-to-shutter/2014/03/20/ac6bfa1a-b065-11e3-b8b3-44b1d1cd4c1f_story.html?utm_term=.dff37aec86d1

Be Not Afraid! Building Your Church on Faith and Knowledge by Fredric M. Roberts (Author)

In this in-depth study of eight diverse **mainline** Protestant congregations, anthropologist Fredric Roberts finds that when local congregations are evaluated by spiritual and religious standards instead of corporate- or pop-culture-based values there remains much to celebrate. Roberts recommends that congregations work to discover their own uniqueness and to build upon the strength that already exist among its own members. *Be Not Afraid!* is a guide to help congregations rediscover their true calling to be nurturing faith communities, committed to spreading the good news and making disciples.

<https://www.amazon.com/Be-Not-Afraid-Building-Knowledge-ebook/dp/B00LWXKJJG>

<http://www.alibris.com/Be-Not-Afraid-Building-Your-Church-on-Faith-and-Knowledge-Fredric-M-Roberts/book/8751677>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566994683>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Be_Not_Afraid.html?id=beYLBAAQBAJ

http://presbyteryov.org/resource_center/authors/roberts-fredric-m/

<https://alban.org/archive/discovering-your-core/>

www.interministries-abc.org/Current/documents/7-12-07MAINLISTING.doc

<https://alban.org/archive/using-resources-well/>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/787338.Fredric_M_Roberts

[Images for Fredric M. Roberts \(Author\) building your church](#)

[Images for Be Not Afraid! Building Your Church on Faith and Knowledge by Fredric M. Roberts \(Author\)](#)

[Images for mainline Protestant congregations](#)

Christianity for the Rest of Us Small Group: Study Guide

Mainstream or **mainline** church: Bass has referred to mainstream or mainline churches as “brand name” churches where the name of the denomination appears in the church name. The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life uses mainline church to differentiate between two other major Protestant branches, Evangelical Protestant Churches and Historically Black Churches, Mainline Protestant Churches would include American Baptists, United Methodists, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Presbyterian Church USA, Episcopal Church, Disciples of Christ, and the United Church of Christ among others.

<http://aprilmallgroup.blogspot.com/2008/04/study-guide-for-session-1.html>

[Images for Christianity for the Rest of Us](#)

[Images for mainstream or mainline churches](#)

For decades the accepted wisdom has been that America's mainline Protestant churches are in decline, eclipsed by evangelical mega-churches. Church and religion expert Diana Butler Bass wondered if this was true, and this book is the result of her extensive, three-year study of centrist and progressive churches across the country. Her surprising findings reveal just the opposite—that many of the churches are flourishing, and they are doing so without resorting to mimicking the mega-church, evangelical style.

Christianity for the Rest of Us describes this phenomenon and offers a how-to approach for Protestants eager to remain faithful to their tradition while becoming a vital spiritual community. As Butler Bass delved into the rich spiritual life of various Episcopal, United Methodist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, and Lutheran churches, certain consistent practices—such as hospitality, contemplation, diversity, justice, discernment, and worship—emerged as core expressions of congregations seeking to rediscover authentic Christian faith and witness today.

This hopeful book, which includes a study guide for groups and individuals, reveals the practical steps that leaders and laypeople alike are taking to proclaim an alternative message about an emerging Christianity that strives for greater spiritual depth and proactively engages the needs of the world.

<https://www.amazon.com/Christianity-Rest-Us-Neighborhood-Transforming/dp/0060859490>

[Images for Christianity-Rest-Us-Neighborhood-Transforming](#)

Journey in the Wilderness: New Life for Mainline Churches by Gil Rendle (Author), Robert Schnase (Foreword)

The last forty years have seen transitions in mainline churches that feel, for many, like a journey into the wilderness. Yet God is calling us in this moment, not to grieve over the changes we have experienced but to hear the call to a new mission, and a new

faithfulness. In *Journey in the Wilderness*, Gil Rendle draws on decades as a pastor and church consultant to point a way into a hopeful future. The key to embracing the wilderness is to learn new skills in leading change, to reach beyond a position of privilege and power to become churches that serve God's hurting people.

<https://www.amazon.com/Journey-Wilderness-Life-Mainline-Churches/dp/1426710658>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/20883021-journey-in-the-wilderness>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1426729936>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Journey_in_the_Wilderness.html?id=MecYD5G-Cb0C

<https://books.google.com/books?id=N3uDvBCdDNsC>

<http://www.bishoponabike.com/blog/2014/8/1/a-journey-in-the-wilderness.html>

<https://www.layman.org/changing-denominational-landscape/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAYypRuwBw> Interview with author Gil Rendle – YouTube

<http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/author/gil-rendle>

http://www.abingdonpress.com/gil_rendle

<https://www.amazon.com/Gilbert-R.-Rendle/e/B001JRXDES>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/190111.Gil_Rendle

Images for Gil Rendle (Author)

<https://www.faihandleadership.com/gil-rendle-leadership-means-pushing-people-purpose>

<http://www.umc.org/bishops/robert-c-schnase>

<https://methodistthinker.com/2009/01/14/bishop-robert-schnase-on-the-five-practices/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-Schnase/e/B001H6PXGC>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/6759139.Robert_Schnase

Images for Robert Schnase, author

Images for *Journey in the Wilderness: New Life for Mainline Churches* by Gil Rendle (Author), Robert Schnase (Foreword)

"Mainline" churches are emptying. The political effects could be huge.

How much of the cultural and political change we have observed in the past 20 years can be explained by the quiet death of the "mainlines"?

<https://www.vox.com/the-big-idea/2017/7/14/15959682/evangelical-mainline-voting-patterns-trump>

<https://www.schwartzreport.net/mainline-churches-emptying-political-effects-huge/>

Images for "Mainline" churches are emptying. The political effects could be huge.

Mainline Churches: Past, Present, Future | HuffPost

Many people, young and old alike, do not know what is meant by the term "Mainline churches." There are seven primary Protestant denominations that make up what is popularly referred to as the Mainline churches. The seven are, in order of their membership size, the first being the largest: United Methodist Church; Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA); Presbyterian Church (U.S.A); Episcopal Church; American Baptist Churches USA; United Church of Christ; and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Many churches lost their identities in mergers; for example, the Congregational Christian Churches merged with the Evangelical and Reformed Church to form the United Church of Christ.

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/william-b-bradshaw/mainline-churches-past-pr_b_4087407.html

Images for Mainline Churches: Past, Present, Future | HuffPost

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/news/mainline-churches/>

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/david-briggs/the-1-percent-in-mainline_b_9119218.html

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/frederick-w-schmidt/4-choices-boomers-made-th_b_12588088.html

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/rev-peter-m-wallace/the-mainline-church-a-con_b_660877.html

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/02/15/report-us-churches-contin_n_823701.html

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/steve-mcswain/why-nobody-wants-to-go-to_b_4086016.html

Mainline decline: Understanding membership drop - The Lutheran Magazine

Mainline denominations matter. America needs them. Our country is polarized: Conservative religious groups are synonymous with political conservatism, while more liberal groups seem out-of-touch. But mainline denominations—if they hold true to their heritage—provide a place where all kinds of people can live together and learn from each other as Christians.

Black and white, rich and poor, biblical literalists and modernists, political conservatives and liberals—all come together in one body to worship each week. This is critical to the well-being of society. It's time that mainline denominations celebrate this gift.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=5806&key=33709634

Images for Mainline decline: Understanding membership drop - The Lutheran Magazine

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

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

Mainline Protestant - Wikipedia

The mainline Protestant churches (also called mainstream Protestant^[1] and sometimes oldline Protestant^{[2][3][4]}) are a group of Protestant denominations in the United States that contrast in history and practice with evangelical, fundamentalist, and charismatic Protestant denominations. Some make a distinction between "mainline" and "oldline", with the former referring only to denominational ties and the latter referring to church lineage, prestige and influence.^[5] However, this distinction has largely been lost to history and the terms are now nearly synonymous. These terms are also increasingly used in other countries for the same purpose of distinguishing between the so-called oldline and neo-Protestants.^[citation needed]

Mainline Protestants were a majority of Protestants in the United States until the mid-20th century. A dip in membership across all Christian denominations was more pronounced among mainline groups, with the result that mainline groups no longer comprise the majority.^[6]

Mainline churches include the so-called "Seven Sisters of American Protestantism"—the [United Methodist Church](#), the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#), the [Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](#), the [Episcopal Church](#), the [American Baptist Churches](#), the [United Church of Christ](#), and the [Disciples of Christ](#)—as well as the [Quakers](#), [Reformed Church in America](#), [African Methodist Episcopal church](#) and other churches. The term 'mainline' has also been applied to Canadian Protestant churches that share common origins with their US counterparts.^[7] In Mexico, the Anglican Church is historically tied to and formed from the US Episcopal Church.^[8] The term is also occasionally used to refer to historic Protestant churches in Europe, Latin America, and South Africa.^{[9][10][11]}

Mainline churches share an active approach to social issues that often leads to cooperation in organizations such as the [National Council of Churches](#).^[12] Because of their involvement with the [ecumenical movement](#), mainline churches are sometimes (especially outside the United States) given the alternative label of ecumenical Protestantism.^[13] These churches played a leading role in the [Social Gospel](#) movement and were active in social causes such as the [civil rights movement](#) and [women's movement](#).^[14] As a group, the mainline churches have maintained religious doctrine that stresses [social justice](#) and personal [salvation](#).^[15] Members of mainline denominations have played leadership roles in politics, business, science, the arts, and education. They were involved in the founding of leading institutes of higher education.^[16] Marsden argues that in the 1950s, "Mainline Protestant leaders were part of the liberal-moderate cultural mainstream, and their leading spokespersons were respected participants in the national conversation."^[17]

Some mainline Protestant denominations have the highest proportion of graduate and post-graduate degrees of any other denomination in the United States.^[18] Some also include the highest proportion of those with some college education, such as the [Episcopal Church](#) (76%),^[18] the [Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#) (64%),^[18] and the [United Church of Christ](#) (46%),^[19] as well as the most of the [American upper class](#).^[18] compared with the nationwide average of 50%.^[18] Episcopalians and Presbyterians also tend to be considerably wealthier^[20] and better educated than most other religious groups,^[21] and they were disproportionately represented in the upper reaches of US business and law until the 1950s.^[22] However, in the 21st Century, the majority of Episcopalians earn less than \$100,000 per year.^[23]

In the 1990's four of the US Supreme Court Justices were Mainline Protestants: [Sandra Day O'Connor](#), [John Paul Stevens](#), [William Rehnquist](#) and [David Souter](#).

From 1854 until at least 1964, Mainline Protestants and their descendants were heavily [Republican](#).^[24] In recent decades, Republicans slightly outnumber Democrats.^[25]

From 1965 to 1988, mainline church membership declined from 31 million to 25 million, then fell to 21 million in 2005.^[26] While in 1970 the mainline churches claimed most Protestants and more than 30 percent of the population as members,^[27] today they are a minority among Protestants; in 2009, only 15 percent of Americans were adherents.^[28] A [Pew Forum](#) statistic revealed the same share in 2014.^[29]

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

[Images for mainline protestant](#)

Mainline Protestants - Religion in America: U.S. Religious Data

<http://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/religious-tradition/mainline-protestant/>

[Images for Mainline Protestants - Religion in America: U.S. Religious Data](#)

<http://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/>

[Images for pewforum/religious-landscape-study](#)

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/05/18/mainline-protestants-make-up-shrinking-number-of-u-s-adults/>

<http://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/political-ideology/conservative/religious-tradition/mainline-protestant/>

<http://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/compare/racial-and-ethnic-composition/by/religious-denomination/among/religious-tradition/mainline-protestant/>

<http://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/compare/racial-and-ethnic-composition/by/religious-denomination/among/religious-tradition/mainline-protestant/>

Rekindling the Mainline: New Life Through New Churches by [Stephen C. Compton](#) (Author), [Jackson W. Carroll](#) (Foreword)

Not only do new church starts in significant numbers bring systemic change and renewal to mainline denominations, but new church development brings similar change to individual aging congregations in their vicinity. Author Stephen Compton argues that a decline in new church starts in the last half of the 20th century was the major contributor to the decline of mainline church groups—not liberalism or lack of faith, as is often cited. He shows in this book how introducing considerable numbers of new congregations into these old denominations can cause these venerable institutions to revisit the meaning of "church" and "congregation," develop a clearer vision of their collective mission, and grow in their ability to bring about positive change in the world. In effect, he contends, new churches in an aging organization do not merely make it grow. They make it change in ways that make it more effective in its mission and ministries. This book will appeal to leaders across denominational lines, including those not ordinarily called "mainline," and especially to pastors and leaders of older congregations.

<https://www.amazon.com/Rekindling-Mainline-Life-Through-Churches/dp/1566992796>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/312388.Rekindling_the_Mainline

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566992794/Rekindling-the-Mainline-New-Life-Through-New-Churches>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996201>

<https://archive.org/details/rekindlingmainli0000comp/page/n203>

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

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/stephen-c-compton/354103/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Stephen-C.-Compton/e/B001HMNOVC>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/179869.Stephen_C_Compton
Images for Stephen C. Compton (Author) rekindling the mainline
<http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/author/jackson-w-carroll>
<https://www.amazon.com/Jackson-W.-Carroll/e/B001IZRERS>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/176284.Jackson_W_Carroll
Images for Jackson W. Carroll, author
Images for Rekindling the Mainline: New Life Through New Churches by Stephen C. Compton (Author), Jackson W. Carroll (Foreword)

Revive Your Mainline Congregation: Prescriptions for Vital Church Life by Robert D. Schieler

Why are mainline churches in such dire stress? Schieler meets that it is because most churches are doing the same things in the same ways they were doing them 35 to 50 years ago, and this lack of change has caused declines in mainline churches. For example, the United Church of Christ has lost more than 700,000 members and more than 1,000 churches since 1965. Schilder delineates distinguishing characteristics of living versus dying churches and shares what needs to be done to turn churches around, and how mainline churches are surviving in this current age. He also contends that there are some basic biblical theological understandings of the nature and mission of the church—many things that churches have ignored or rebelled against, and reviews the following areas, authority, which mission church designates, worship, stewardship, Christian education, pastoral congregational care, wider rotation, and building and property.

<https://www.amazon.com/Revive-Your-Mainline-Congregation-Prescriptions/dp/1608992284>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/turning-around-the-mainline-thomas-c-oden/1112629528>
<https://www.cokesbury.com/9781608992287-Revive-Your-Mainline-Congregation?req=Revival>
<https://wipfandstock.com/revive-your-mainline-congregation.html>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1608992284>
<http://archives.lincolndailynews.com/2006/Apr/22/Features/spirit2.shtml>
<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-D.-Schieler/e/B001K19SJO>
Images for Robert D. Schieler, author

Images for Revive Your Mainline Congregation: Prescriptions for Vital Church Life by Robert D. Schieler

The Death of Protestant America: A Political Theory of the Protestant Theory of the Protestant Mainline – First Things

And that leaves us in an odd situation, unlike any before. The death of the Mainline is the central historical fact of our time: the event that distinguishes the past several decades from every other period in American history. Almost every one of our current political and cultural oddities, our contradictions and obscurities, derives from this fact: **The Mainline has lost the capacity to set, or even significantly influence, the national vocabulary or the national self-understanding.**

<https://www.firstthings.com/article/2008/08/001-the-death-of-protestant-america-a-political-theory-of-the-protestant-mainline>
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Bottum_\(author\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Bottum_(author))
<https://www.firstthings.com/author/joseph-bottum>

Images for The Death of Protestant America: A Political Theory of the Protestant Theory of the Protestant Mainline – First Things

The Mainline Church's Funding Crisis: Issues and Possibilities by Ronald E. Vallet, Charles E. Zech

This study documents the continuing decline in mission funding throughout the mainline denominations in North America and Australia and offers sound, biblically-based recommendations for turning the situation around. The authors argue that the churches are fatally enmeshed in the presuppositions of modernity and that real solutions can be found in renewed Bible study and reflection.

<https://www.amazon.com/Mainline-Churchs-Funding-Crisis-Possibilities/dp/0802841163>
<https://www.amazon.com/Ronald-E.-Vallet/e/B001KHH2VC>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/990080.Ronald_E_Vallet
Images for Ronald E. Vallet, author
<https://www.amazon.com/Charles-E.-Zech/e/B001JPCDRS>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/53770.Charles_E_Zech

Images for Charles E. Zech, author

Images for The Mainline Church's Funding Crisis: Issues and Possibilities by Ronald E. Vallet, Charles E. Zech

Transitional Ministry Today: Successful Strategies for Churches and Pastors edited by Norman B. Bendroth

Mainline Decline

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566997518>

Page 11

Images for Transitional Ministry Today: Successful Strategies for Churches and Pastors edited by Norman B. Bendroth Mainline Decline

Transitional ministry can be tremendously helpful for congregations in times of change, and yet, to be successful today transitional ministers and churches need to take into account the major changes in the religious landscape. From the decline of mainline churches to the rise of those who don't identify with any religious tradition, the religious scene has changed dramatically since transitional ministry began three decades ago, and to remain vital today, the practice of transitional ministry must change as well. This book provides transitional ministers and congregations with essential information on re-thinking transitional ministry in ways that take the current religious climate into account. Ten experienced authors—including seasoned practitioners of transitional ministry and those who oversee transitional ministry denomination-wide—propose new ways to approach transitional ministry

today. Chapters address practical theology, leadership, specialized interim situations, renewal during interim time, alternative models of transitional ministry, and more. Essays address a range of diverse churches in size, racial/ethnic background, and location.

Transitional Ministry Today highlights how creative and cutting-edge ministry can be done during the “in-between-time” through creative thinking and practice in the face of new realities.

<https://www.amazon.com/Transitional-Ministry-Today-Successful-Strategies/dp/156699750X>
<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/transitional-ministry-today-norman-b-bendroth/1120409955>
<https://rowman.com/isbn/9781566997669/transitional-ministry-today-successful-strategies-for-churches-and-pastors>
<https://imnedu.org/imn-library/transitional-ministry-today-successful-strategies-for-churches-and-pastors/>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566997518>
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/23811442-transitional-ministry-today>
<https://alban.org/2015/03/06/norman-bendroth-transitional-ministry-today/>
http://macucc.s3.amazonaws.com/71BBE2C7B9B049B0883D51809D9A1E82_Rethinking%20Transitional%20Ministry.pdf
<https://louisville-institute.org/interviews/norman-bendroth/>
[Images for Norman B. Bendroth](#)

Turning Around the Mainline: How Renewal Movements Are Changing the Church by Thomas C. Oden (Author)

Today's mainline Protestant denominations are more theologically liberal than ever before. So, it may come as a surprise that renewal movements are a growing trend, together crossing denominational lines to reshape worship and revitalize evangelicalism. *Turning Around the Mainline* brings together for the first time an introduction to the issues, themes, and documents of the mainline churches and renewal movements, and a practical case study of the most relevant issue of the day: the property rights of churches. For pastors, church leaders, and anyone wanting a better understanding of the changing dynamics of evangelicalism, this comprehensive study will articulate the worldviews of confessing Christians and survey the workings of the renewal movements to provide clarity, civil discourse, and charity in further dialogue.

<https://www.amazon.com/Turning-Around-Mainline-Movements-Changing/dp/0801065763>
https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/312384.Turning_Around_the_Mainline
https://books.google.com/books/about/Turning_Around_the_Mainline.html?id=lzkQAQAIAAJ
<https://www.amazon.com/Thomas-C.-Oden/e/B001HCWV9I>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/50371.Thomas_C_Oden
[Images for Thomas C. Oden \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Turning Around the Mainline: How Renewal Movements Are Changing the Church by Thomas C. Oden \(Author\)](#)

US Lifestyles and Mainline Churches: A Key to Reaching People in the 90s by Tex Sample (Author)

In this book, Tex Sample provides the church with the information it needs to attract and keep members. Sample discusses common lifestyles, including what he calls the cultural middle, cultural right, and cultural left. Sample explores the characteristics of people in each of these groups-- their worldview and their needs as church members. His goal is to help mainline churches learn about and respond to the diverse groups that make up our society.

<https://www.amazon.com/U-S-Lifestyles-Mainline-Churches-Reaching/dp/0664250998>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/u-s-lifestyles-and-mainline-churches-tex-sample/1112946584>
<https://www.pcusastore.com/Products/Default.aspx?bookid=0664250998>
<https://www.amazon.com/Tex-Sample/e/B001IXQGME>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/16932.Tex_Sample
[Images for Tex Sample \(Author\)](#)

[Images for US Lifestyles and Mainline Churches: A Key to Reaching People in the 90s by Tex Sample \(Author\)](#)

What are the mainline denominations? | GotQuestions.org

Question: “What are the mainline denominations?”

Answer: When people speak of “mainline denominations,” they are usually referring to the historic, established Protestant groups.

In 2009, George Barna published a list of the churches that are commonly considered “mainline”: American [Baptist Churches](#) in the USA, the [Episcopal Church](#), the Evangelical [Lutheran Church](#) in America, the [Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](#), the United Church of Christ, and the United [Methodist Church](#). Other sources add the United Church of Christ, the Christian Church ([Disciples of Christ](#)), Friends ([Quakers](#)), and some other churches to the list.

<http://www.gotquestions.org/mainline-denominations.html>
[Images for What are the mainline denominations? - GotQuestions.org](#)

Why I refuse to use "mainline" any longer Sep 18, 2013 by Carol Howard Merritt – Christian Century

It's an exciting time, and it is an important moment for us to name who we want to be. And I, for one, am tired of pretending that we want to hang out at the Country Club and eat cucumber sandwiches in fancy hats. We are not some sort of upper-crust elite society. Now, it's time to discard that tired label that ties us too closely with a particular race and class. It's time to call forth another name.

<http://www.christiancentury.org/blogs/archive/2013-09/why-i-refuse-use-mainline-any-longer>
[Images for Why I refuse to use "mainline" any longer Sep 18, 2013 by Carol Howard Merritt – Christian Century](#)
<https://www.christiancentury.org/blog/merritt>
<http://www.carolhowardmerritt.org/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Carol-Howard-Merritt/e/B001JRXF9Q>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/948561.Carol_Howard_Merritt
<https://twitter.com/carolhoward?lang=en>
<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/carol-howard-merritt>
<https://www.faithandleadership.com/carol-howard-merritt>
[Images for Carol Howard Merritt](#)

2) Marketplace Pastor

Pastors in the Marketplace | Theology of Work

He has five perks he sees from keeping one foot in the marketplace, while still serving a church.

<https://www.theologyofwork.org/the-high-calling/blog/pastors-marketplace-benefits-bi-vocational-ministry>
[Images for Pastors in the Marketplace | Theology of Work](#)
<https://www.theologyofwork.org/about/tow-partners>
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2013/january-online-only/five-perks-to-being-bi-vocational.html>

The New Marketplace Pastor – Rainer on Leadership #193 – ThomRainer.com

Many pastors are choosing to serve in secular vocations even when a church can afford to pay them for full-time work.

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/01/the-new-marketplace-pastor-rainer-on-leadership-193/>
[Images for The New Marketplace Pastor – Rainer on Leadership #193 – ThomRainer.com](#)
<https://thomrainer.com/category/leadership/>

3) Mean Church

How to deal with mean church people - YouTube

Carlton Burgess interviews Pastor Keith Bolton who shares great insight of why church folk can be so mean.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UWcwHQ9MhJU>
[Images for How to deal with mean church people - YouTube](#)

Mean Church People by M.S.G Acoustic Blues Trio - YouTube

"Mean Church People" an original song performed at the Bristol Rhythm and Roots Reunion 2008. 9/20/08 at the Theatre Bristol. Jackie, Miles and Resa.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t1Gr0Jmi6CE>
[Images for Mean Church People by M.S.G Acoustic Blues Trio - YouTube](#)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NAxvLax7hB8> MSG Acoustic Blues Trio performing "Mean Church People" - YouTube

Nine Traits of Mean Churches - ThomRainer.com

"My church is a mean church!" I received two emails this week from church members who made that very statement. The members are from two different churches in two different states.

<http://thomrainer.com/2015/03/nine-traits-mean-churches/>
[Images for Nine Traits of Mean Churches - ThomRainer.com](#)
<http://thomrainer.com/2015/03/nine-traits-church-bullies/>
<http://blessingpoint.org/2015/03/mean-churches/>
<http://nathancherry.com/2015/04/15/mean-churches-how-to-spot-them-and-avoid-them/>
https://disqus.com/home/discussion/churchleaders/do_you_know_the_9_devastating_traits_of_mean_churches/

4) Measure

Church Metrics 101: The Top 20 Things to Measure about Your Church - Will Mancini

I have told pastors for a long time I wouldn't consider pastoring again unless I had the congregation's commitment to measure these 20 things at least every two years. I believe these are essential church metrics.

<http://www.willmancini.com/2013/10/church-metrics-101-the-top-20-things-to-measure-about-your-church.html>
[Images for Church Metrics 101: The Top 20 Things to Measure about Your Church - Will Mancini](#)
<http://www.willmancini.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/RealTime-Survey.pdf>
<http://www.willmancini.com/2008/12/changing-metrics.html>
<http://www.willmancini.com/2012/06/the-measure-of-our-success-an-impassioned-plea-to-pastors.html>
<http://www.willmancini.com/2010/12/the-5-defining-questions-for-every-visionary-church-planter.html>
<http://www.willmancini.com/2011/02/5-organizational-hazards-of-leading-a-growing-church.html>
<http://www.willmancini.com/2010/09/what-makes-1-in-6-methodist-churches-vital.html>
<https://www.churchmetrics.com/>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/clarityevangelist> Will Mancini - YouTube
<http://pastors.com/the-top-20-things-to-measure-at-your-church-about-your-church/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Will-Mancini/e/B001JS7R3K>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/483865.Will_Mancini
[Images for Will Mancini, author](#)

Measuring What Matters | CT Pastors | Christianity Today

Pastoral ministry is fraught with difficulties, risks, and temptations. If you're a shepherd, you're a leader. That means defining the realities your group is facing, knowing what resources you have, determining what direction to go, and helping the group know what steps to take. The articles below offer key concepts and skills needed for your role as a leader.

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2012/spring/measuringmatters.html>

[Images for Measuring What Matters | CT Pastors | Christianity Today](#)

Measuring What Matters 100 Meaningful Church Measurements

Finding the right measurements and defining the results to be measured is a significant challenge for the church. The things that matter most – transformed lives, spiritual growth, fruits of the spirit, congregational health – are the most difficult to measure.

<https://sacredstructures.org/measurement/measuring-what-matters-100-meaningful-church-measurements/>

[Images for Measuring What Matters 100 Meaningful Church Measurements](#)

9 Areas Your Church Must Consistently Measure

There are as many approaches and lines of thinking around the idea of 'measurement' as there are church leaders out there. Every leader has a different perspective on what measurements mean their ministry efforts are truly making a difference in the lives of people in their churches. But based on the hundreds (if not thousands) of conversations we've had with our church partners over the years, there are a handful of areas where consistently measuring progress can empower you and your leadership team to make even more ministry progress.

Here are nine areas to think about measuring consistently:

<https://www.churchcommunitybuilder.com/blog/9-areas-your-church-must-consistently-measure>

[Images for 9 Areas Your Church Must Consistently Measure](#)

5) Mediocrity

Mediocrity - SermonCentral

Summary: A splash of cold water for **mediocre Christians**...

<http://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/mediocrity-brad-froese-sermon-on-church-discipline-92595.asp?Page=5>

[Images for mediocre Christians](#)

mediocrity - Wiktionary

Noun[edit]

mediocrity (*countable and uncountable, plural mediocrities*)

1. (*now rare*) The quality of being **intermediate** between two extremes; a **mean**.
2. (*obsolete*) A middle course of action; **moderation**, **balance**. quotations ▼
3. (*uncountable*) The condition of being **mediocre**; having only an average degree of quality, skills etc.; no better than standard.
4. An individual with mediocre abilities or achievements.

<https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/mediocrity>

[Images for mediocrity](#)

9 Surefire Ways to Make Your Church Completely Ineffective – Carey Nieuwhof

5. Make **mediocrity** your standard

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2015/01/9-sure-fire-ways-make-church-completely-ineffective/>

[Images for 9 Surefire Ways to Make Your Church Completely Ineffective – Carey Nieuwhof 5. Make mediocrity your standard](#)

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2016/07/5-mistakes-churches-make/>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/the-truth-about-how-consensus-kills-courage/>

<http://connexuschurch.com/sermon/battle-mediocrity/>

The sure sign of a **mediocre** or poor leader is that their leadership is about them.

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

Many leaders suffer from a chronic shortage, high turnover and **mediocre** or poor morale ...

<https://www.facebook.com/cniewhof/posts/643859019135863>

<http://www.amen.org/2862/Battle-Mediocrity-Carey-Nieuwhof-AMEN.ORG>

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

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3396023.Carey_Nieuwhof

[Images for Carey Nieuwhof](#)

Reject mediocrity, Pope encourages young pilgrims

Pope Francis on Saturday evening made a phone call to a group of young Italians who were on pilgrimage, encouraging them to embrace hope in God and reject mediocrity.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/reject-mediocrity-pope-encourages-young-pilgrims>

[Images for Reject mediocrity, Pope encourages young pilgrims](#)

12 Signs of Mediocrity in a Church – ThomRainer.com

As a church consultant, I've learned that these signs are often an indicator that the church overall does not strive for excellence:

<http://thomrainer.com/2015/06/12-signs-of-mediocrity-in-a-church/>

Images for 12 Signs of Mediocrity in a Church – ThomRainer.com

<http://thomrainer.com/2015/07/what-does-mediocrity-look-like-in-the-church-rainer-on-leadership-138/>

http://thomrainer.com/2011/02/say_goodbye_to_mediocrity/

<http://thomrainer.com/tag/mediocrity/>

http://thomrainer.com/2012/04/seven_common_traits_of_breakout_churches/ #1

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/03/ten-dangers-of-denial-in-a-declining-church/> #9

https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/27470.Thom_S_Rainer

<https://www.amazon.com/Breakout-Churches-Discover-Make-Leap/dp/0310293472>

<http://www.fellowshipatlantic.com/bookreviews.cfm?posts=1&threadid=1126>

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

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

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

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

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

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

Images for Bible and Mediocrity

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2016/06/29/top-7-bible-verses-about-mediocrity/>

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

<https://theworddetective.wordpress.com/2011/07/11/what-does-the-bible-say-about-mediocrity/>

<https://www.charismamag.com/life/women/9822-break-out-of-mediocrity>

Images for break out of mediocrity

www.biblescholars.org/2013/05/no-time-for-mediocrity.html

www.geeksundergrace.com/christian-living/god-not-glorified-mediocrity/

6) Medium-Sized Congregation

[PDF]Leadership and Church Size Dynamics - Senior Pastor Central

Medium-Sized Church, 200-450 Attendance

http://theresurgence.com/files/2011/02/14/Leadership_and_Church_Size_Dynamics.pdf Page 9

[Images for Leadership and Church Size Dynamics - Senior Pastor Central Medium-Sized Church, 200-450 Attendance](#)

The Everychurch Guide to Growth: How Any Plateaued Church Can Grow [Thom S. Rainer, C. Peter Wagner, Elmer L. Towns]

A growing church is a living church, but much of the attention in church growth today is focused on making big churches bigger.

This encouraging new book shows members of small and medium-sized congregations how to revive and expand their ministries as well. Churches of every size tend to plateau in attendance and never break free of their self-imposed limitations or 'growth barriers'. This book gives detailed, practical instructions for breaking through those barriers to new levels of impact and service in the community. *The Every Church Guide to Growth* rallies church leaders and members to develop plans for strength and solid growth in the future.

<http://www.amazon.com/Everychurch-Guide-Growth-Plateaued-Church/dp/080540192X>

<https://www.christianbook.com/everychurch-guide-growth-plateaued-church-ebook/elmer-towns/9781433674945/pd/16857EB>

http://elmertowns.com/books/preview/everychurch/The_Everychurch_Guide_to_Growth%5BETown%5D.PDF

<https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1060&context=doctoral> Page 229

<https://www.amazon.com/C.-Peter-Wagner/e/B000AP9EY8>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/53097.C_Peter_Wagner

Images for C. Peter Wagner, author

<https://www.amazon.com/Elmer-L.-Towns/e/B001IU2HKW>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/44325.Elmer_L_Towns

Images for Elmer L. Towns, author

[Images for The Everychurch Guide to Growth: How Any Plateaued Church Can Grow \[Thom S. Rainer, C. Peter Wagner, Elmer L. Towns\]](#)

The Incredible Future of the Medium-to-Small-Sized Church | Facts & Trends

The reality that we have over 400,000 churches in the U.S. and just over 1,600 megachurches (churches of 2,000 or more) means that 398,400 of us are never going to be that! But don't be discouraged. You can still change your city and the world (and you may actually be better at changing it than a huge church).

<https://factsandtrends.net/2015/07/09/the-incredible-future-of-the-medium-to-small-sized-church/>

[Images for The Incredible Future of the Medium-to-Small-Sized Church | Facts & Trends](#)

Wisdom from Lyle E. Schaller: The Elder Statesman of Church Leadership by Lyle E. Schaller (Author), Warren Bird (Editor)

11. How Do I Build on the Strengths of a Medium-Sized Church?

Page 69

<http://www.amazon.com/Wisdom-Lyle-Schaller-Statesman-Leadership/dp/1426749104>

http://books.google.com/books/about/Wisdom_from_Lyle_E_Schaller.html?id=I7BgIFGKG50C

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.ministryhealth.net/mh_articles/198_44_lessons_schaller.html
<https://www.willmancini.com/blog/powerful-quotes-on-vision-and-leadership-by-lyle-schaller-church-consultant-lylelearnings>
<http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/5884/remember-lyle-e-schaller-the-interventionist>
<http://warrenbird.com/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/wbird>
<http://leadnet.org/staff/warren-bird/>
http://leadnet.org/author_insights_with_warren_bird/
Images for Warren Bird, author
Images for Wisdom from Lyle E. Schaller: The Elder Statesman of Church Leadership by Lyle E. Schaller (Author), Warren Bird (Editor)
Images for How Do I Build on the Strengths of a Medium-Sized Church?

7) Megachurch

Adam Weber on Planting A Megachurch As a Young Leader in A Mainline Denomination – Carey Nieuwhof

He pastors one of the fastest growing churches in America and in one of the most unlikely places: South Dakota. And he did all this as a young United Methodist pastor.

<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode135/>
<https://play.acast.com/s/thecareynieuwhofleadershippodcast/cnlp-135-adam-weber-on-planting-a-megachurch-as-a-young-leader-in-a-mainline-denomination>

Images for Adam Weber on Planting A Megachurch As a Young Leader in A Mainline Denomination – Carey Nieuwhof

<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode131/> Kyle Idleman On Starting a Church At 22, Leading In A Megachurch And On Being A Writer
<https://careynieuwhof.com/tag/adam-weber/>
<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-unfair-myths-about-megachurches-its-time-to-bust/>
<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-reasons-you-shouldnt-copy-a-mega-church/>
<https://careynieuwhof.com/some-thoughts-about-the-recent-exit-of-two-megachurch-pastors/>
<https://careynieuwhof.com/tag/megachurches/>
Images for carey nieuwhof (author)

America's Biggest Megachurches - Forbes

Churches across America—like shopping malls, houses, corporations, hospitals, schools and just about everything else—have erupted in size in the last few decades. The number of megachurches in the U.S. has leaped to more than 1,300 today—from just 50 in 1970.

Featuring huge stages, rock bands, jumbotron screens, buckets of tears and oodles of money, as well as the enormity of the facilities, pastor personalities and income—over \$8.5 billion a year all told—these churches are impressive forces flourishing at staggering rates.

<http://www.forbes.com/2009/06/26/americas-biggest-megachurches-business-megachurches.html>
Images for America's Biggest Megachurches - Forbes
https://www.forbes.com/2003/09/17/cz_1k_0917megachurch.html#4f342a097489
https://www.forbes.com/2009/06/26/americas-biggest-megachurches-business-megachurches_slide/
https://www.forbes.com/2009/06/26/americas-biggest-megachurches-business-megachurches_slide/#721e0f884575
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/chrisladd/2017/03/30/organized-religion-is-being-replaced-by-disorganized-religion/#39c54278489c>

Beyond Megachurch Myths: What We Can Learn from America's Largest Churches [Scott Thumma, Dave Travis, Rick Warren]

Drawing on extensive, broad-based, and well-designed research, as well as stories and anecdotes, *Beyond Megachurch Myths* dispels popular myths about megachurches while highlighting the diversity within the megachurch phenomenon. Defining a megachurch as a Protestant church that averages at least 2,000 total attendees in their weekend services, Scott Thumma and Dave Travis reveal what these churches are and are not, why they are thriving, what their members say about their experiences, and why they have many valuable lessons to teach smaller churches.

<http://www.amazon.com/Beyond-Megachurch-Myths-Americas-Churches/dp/0787994677>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1670501.Beyond_Megachurch_Myths
<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/beyond-megachurch-myths-dave-travis/1122976630>
<https://www.wiley.com/en-us/Beyond+Megachurch+Myths%3A+What+We+Can+Learn+from+America%27s+Largest+Churches-p-9780787994679>
<http://www.megachurchmyths.com/>
http://books.google.com/books/about/Beyond_Megachurch_Myths.html?id=s3Yt6log2loC
<http://hrr.hartsem.edu/megachurch/BeyondMegachurchMyths.html>
http://www.hartfordinstitute.org/megachurch/megachurches_research.html
<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-7879-9467-9> Nonfiction Book Review
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SiStx75FzCE> Beyond Megachurch Myths - Scott Thumma & Dave Travis – YouTube
Images for Beyond Megachurch Myths - Scott Thumma & Dave Travis - YouTube
<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/144149118.pdf>
<http://www.christianchronicle.org/article/a-conversation-with-scott-thumma>
<https://www.amazon.com/Scott-Thumma/e/B001H6GMI0>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/771069.Scott_Thumma
Images for Scott Thumma, author

<http://www.hartsem.edu/faculty/scott-thumma/>
http://hrr.hartsem.edu/about/thumma_vitae.htm
http://hrr.hartsem.edu/about/thumma_writings.htm
<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/scott-thumma-phd>
<http://reflections.yale.edu/article/new-voyages-church-today-and-tomorrow/learning-megachurches-interview-scott-thumma>
<http://www.christianchronicle.org/article/a-conversation-with-scott-thumma>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/scottthumma>
<http://leadnet.org/staff/dave-travis/>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/637996.Dave_Travis
Images for Dave Travis, author
https://twitter.com/RickWarren?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rick_Warren
<http://saddleback.com/visit/about/pastors/our-pastor>
https://www.ted.com/talks/rick_warren_on_a_life_of_purpose
<https://www.amazon.com/Rick-Warren/e/B000APD9C6>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/711.Rick_Warren
Images for Rick Warren, author
Images for Beyond Megachurch Myths: What We Can Learn from America's Largest Churches [Scott Thumma, Dave Travis, Rick Warren]

Megachurches - Hartford Institute for Religion Research

The term megachurch is the name given to a cluster of very large, Protestant congregations that share several distinctive characteristics. These churches generally have:

- 2,000 or more persons in attendance at weekly worship
- A charismatic, authoritative senior minister
- A very active 7 day a week congregational community
- A multitude of social and outreach ministries, and a complex differentiated organizational structure

<http://hrr.hartsem.edu/megachurch/megachurches.html>

Images for Megachurches - Hartford Institute for Religion Research

http://hrr.hartsem.edu/bookshelf/thumma_article2.html

Images for Megachurch Phenomena

<http://www.hartsem.edu/courses/what-churches-of-all-sizes-can-learn-from-megachurches-a-travel-seminar-2/>

Images for Learn from Megachurches

Mega Churches - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BFC-9xO1a7o>

Images for Mega Churches - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCL2THRenp0> 10 Largest Mega Churches in the US - YouTube

Images for 10 Largest Mega Churches in the US

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLtczT70adU> Megachurches: where Faith, show and Business meet - YouTube

Images for Megachurches: where Faith, show and Business meet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pY9v5E3J3TA> Megachurches Continue To Grow As More Traditional Church Numbers Decline

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TXFet1RBCs> Multi-Site Megachurches Multiply in America - YouTube

Images for Multi-Site Megachurches Multiply in America

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXd3CQy634A> Thousands pack the pews at NYC's Hillsong megachurch - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Oq21iaHkt0 Inside Hillsong, New York City's Hippest Mega Church - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q3CuauPpjgo> Mega Church Money - YouTube

Images for Mega Church Money

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyZx_SSOyfl Why Francis Chan Left His Megachurch - YouTube

Images for Why Francis Chan Left His Megachurch

More Americans Flock to Mega-Churches - ABC News

Megachurches, giant houses of worship that draw congregations of up to 20,000 to weekend services, are thriving, and super-sized houses of worship have become fixtures of America's religious landscape, in spite of criticism from some traditionalists that they are a sort of "religion lite."

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=93111>

Images for Americans Flock to Mega-Churches

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/americans-flock-to-mega-churches/>

<http://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2015/December/Americans-Flock-to-Megachurches-But-Theres-a-Catch>

Seven Updated Trends on Megachurches in America – ThomRainer.com

The fascination with megachurches is, at least to some extent, related to the sociological impact on the community in which it resides.

<http://thomrainer.com/2012/09/seven-updated-trends-on-megachurches-in-america/>

Images for Seven Updated Trends on Megachurches in America – ThomRainer.com

<http://thomrainer.com/2015/12/12-megachurch-trends-to-watch/>
<http://thomrainer.com/2013/08/megachurches-in-the-sbc-rainer-on-leadership-019/>
<http://www.internetmonk.com/archive/thom-rainer-on-megachurch-trends>
[Images for thom rainer \(author\)](#)

10 Mega-Tips for Ministries of Any Size - ChurchLeaders.com

I've found that one of the biggest keys to most **megachurches** success is their ability to minister in and adapt to an ever-changing contemporary world. A vital church reaches out to both its members and non-Christians in relevant ways, and megachurches seem to do this both accidentally and intentionally.

Here are 10 basic principles gleaned from megachurches that I believe churches of all sizes can apply:

<http://www.churchleaders.com/outreach-missions/outreach-missions-articles/156871-10-tips-from-large-churches-for-ministries-of-any-size.html>

[Images for 10 Mega-Tips for Ministries of Any Size - ChurchLeaders.com](#)

8) Megatrends

ChurchMorph: How Megatrends Are Reshaping Christian Communities (Allelon Missional Series) by Eddie Gibbs (Author)

It is estimated that 80 percent of churches are either stalled or in decline. In Church Morph, internationally known church observer Eddie Gibbs goes beyond an analysis of causes to show how many churches and faith communities are actually breaking the downward trend. He expertly maps current converging church movements emerging and missional churches, mainline renewal groups, megachurches, urban mission, new monasticism, alternative worship, and expanding networks and offers a positive assessment of the reshaping of today's church. The core of the book identifies trends and movements that provide signs of the kingdom and reveals how different faith communities are working out what it means to be "church" in a changing world. This stimulating and encouraging book will appeal to pastors, church leaders, and students interested in ministry, the emerging church, Christianity and culture, and mission. Excerpt The morphing of the church relates to the church transitioning to a new identity as a missional presence in the West. There is a growing realization among leaders committed to mission that the challenge will not be adequately met by adding new programs to ensure the local church, or a denomination's, institutional survival. Such leaders are talking about an unfettered reimagining of the church, resulting in a comprehensive change in its self-understanding and its reconfiguration. Frequently the term "deconstruction" is used by radical voices within the emergent church. But this technical term is often misunderstood, being perceived as too threatening and confrontational. It is heard to imply demolition and destruction, which is not what is intended. Deconstruction refers to a particular method of literary criticism that seeks to get behind the text to reveal the embedded assumptions. Among Emerging Church leaders, "deconstruction" signifies, not destruction, but a breakthrough.

<https://www.amazon.com/ChurchMorph-Megatrends-Reshaping-Christian-Communities/dp/080103762X>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/5368400-churchmorph>

<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/churchmorph/315460>

<https://www.logos.com/product/43248/churchmorph-how-megatrends-are-reshaping-christian-communities>

https://www.ivpress.com/cgi-ivpress/author.pl/author_id=1010

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/81598.Eddie_Gibbs

<https://www.amazon.com/Eddie-Gibbs/e/B001K8KMMM>

[Images for Eddie Gibbs \(Author\)](#)

[Images for ChurchMorph: How Megatrends Are Reshaping Christian Communities \(Allelon Missional Series\) by Eddie Gibbs \(Author\)](#)

<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/authors/eddie-gibbs/445>

<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/series/allelon-missional-series>

<https://www.logos.com/product/31212/allelon-missional-series>

<http://www.lifeway.com/n/Product-Family/Allelon-Missional-Series>

[Images for Allelon Missional Series](#)

Congregational Megatrends (Once and Future Church Series) by Charles Jeffrey Woods (Author)

This book is written as a resource to help pastors and laity (1) talk about the changes transpiring in congregations and (2) shape a new congregation for the future.

This book explains how megatrends define how we do evangelism, discipleship, and ministry and how we view spirituality, leadership, programming, and planning.

<https://www.amazon.com/Congregational-Megatrends-Once-Future-Church/dp/156699165X>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566994958/Congregational-Megatrends>

<http://www.ucrdstore.ca/congregational-megatrends.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566994950>

<http://rockhay.tripod.com/sermons/1996/96-09-series.htm>

<https://www.amazon.com/Charles-Jeffrey-Woods/e/B001K8IXS2>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/358703.Charles_Jeffrey_Woods

[Images for Charles Jeffrey Woods \(Author\) congregational megatrends](#)

[Images for Congregational Megatrends \(Once and Future Church Series\) by Charles Jeffrey Woods \(Author\)](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Once-Future-Church-Collection/dp/1566992486>

<https://rowman.com/Action/SERIES/RL/RL3OFC>

<https://www.cokesbury.com/product/9781566990509/the-once-and-future-church/>

Images for Once and Future Church Series

6 Megatrends impacting the church today – Everyday Theology

1. The Christian Church is becoming less theologically literate.
2. Christians are becoming more ingrown and less outreach-oriented.
3. Growing numbers of people are less interested in spiritual principles and more desirous of learning pragmatic solutions for life.
4. Among Christians, interest in participating in community action is escalating.
5. The postmodern insistence on tolerance is winning over the Christian Church.
6. The influence of Christianity on culture and individual lives is largely invisible.

<http://marccortez.com/2011/01/22/6-megatrends-impacting-the-church-today/>
Images for 6 Megatrends impacting the church today – Everyday Theology

7 Mega-Trends Facing the Church | Church Planting Novice

1. The Collapse of Christendom
2. The Rise of Postmodernism
3. The Collapse of the West Reaches the West Paradigm
4. The Challenging Face of Global Christianity
5. The Emergence of a Fourth Branch of Christianity
6. Globalization
7. A Deeper Ecumenism

<https://churchplantingnovice.wordpress.com/2009/08/08/7-mega-trends-facing-the-church/>
Images for 7 Mega-Trends Facing the Church | Church Planting Novice
<https://churchplantingnovice.wordpress.com/tools-for-missional-church/>

9) Midsize Congregation

[PDF]Coaching Midsize Congregations Toward Positive Change – The Parish Paper	
How to Use this Resource	Page 2
Study/Discussion Session #1	
A. Different types of change require different approaches	Page 4
B. Recognize the six invisible change blockades	Page 5
C. Understand the anatomy of change resistance	Page 6
D. Practice safe-change principles	Page 7
E. Use effective motivation procedures	Page 8
F. Exert spiritual, not just organizational and psychological, leadership	Page 9
G. Provide a balanced theological perspective	Page 11
Study/Discussion Session #2	
A. Understand the differences between midsize and small churches	Page 12
B. Perfect pastoral leadership skills that fit midsize churches	Page 19
Study/Discussion Session #3	
A. Use initial weeks in the parish to set a change-receptive climate	Page 33
B. Roadmap for an informal change process	Page 35
C. Formal change process options	Page 45
Study/Discussion Session #4	
A. What are the most rewarding feelings in midsize-church ministry?	Page 46
B. What are the greatest points of pain in midsize-church ministry?	Page 47
C. What are the greatest needs of pastors in midsize-church ministry?	Page 48
D. What books and resources are helpful in midsize-church ministry?	Page 49
Appendix: How can we increase the number of people who engage in daily prayer	Page 51

[PDF]Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 28—Coaching Midsize Congregations Toward Positive Change - The Parish Paper

<http://www.theparishpaper.com/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2028.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 28: Coaching Midsize Congregations toward Positive Change

Images for Coaching Midsize Congregations Toward Positive Change – The Parish Paper

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

<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

5 Things Every Small to Mid-Sized Church Struggles With – Carey Nieuwhof

Overcome these tensions and you're closer to progress. Avoid them or fail to deal with them and you can stay stuck a long time.

So, here are 5 problems every small to mid-sized church encounters.

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2015/11/5-things-every-small-to-mid-sized-church-struggles-with/>

Images for 5 Things Every Small to Mid-Sized Church Struggles With – Carey Nieuwhof

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/519743613225840783/>

<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-very-real-tensions-every-small-to-mid-sized-church-leader-feels/>
<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode30/> CNLP 030: Small Church, Mid-sized Church or Megachurch, Which Is Better? An Interview with Karl Vaters - Carey Nieuwhof
<https://careynieuwhof.com/how-pastoral-care-stunts-the-growth-of-most-churches/>
<https://careynieuwhof.com/the-8-most-common-reasons-most-churches-never-break-the-200-attendance-mark/>
<https://careynieuwhof.com/5-hard-truths-about-healthy-church-growth/>
[Images for carey nieuwhof \(author\)](#)

[PDF]How to Strengthen Clergy/Staff Leadership & Relationship Skills - The Parish Paper

When the small-church pastor moves to a **midsize** church. In most midsize churches, part of the members grew up in a small church. Many such members, especially those with pre-1946 birth dates, expect the pastor to drop by for a home visit every few months. Such members are usually disappointed. Pastors in midsize churches do not have sufficient time for those home visits. However, some midsize church members grew up in a large church. They often expect a variety and quality of programming not possible in a midsize church. Some such members therefore tend to assume that their pastor needs more administrative leadership skill. Because of these mixed expectations, midsize-church pastors must focus on role effectiveness, while keeping in perspective the opinions of members who have small-church relationship expectations. Page 7

[PDF] Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 22--How to Strengthen Clergy/Staff Leadership & Relationship Skills - The Parish Paper

<http://www.theparishpaper.com/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2022.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 22: How to Strengthen Clergy/Staff Leadership & Relationship Skills

[Images for How to Strengthen Clergy/Staff Leadership & Relationship Skills - The Parish Paper](#)

[Images for small-church pastor moves to a midsize church](#)

Midsize Congregations - UUA

Midsize Congregations (those with 150 to 550 members) need specific resources on a wide range of issues. For those of you from congregations of size 150-350 members, here are some resources that you may find helpful.

At the UUA we encourage those in larger midsize congregations (350-550 adult members) to work with our Director for Large Congregations and to use resources geared for larger congregations, as the larger midsize congregation's dynamics and functioning more closely resemble those of a large congregation.

Please get in touch with [midsizecongregations @ uua.org](mailto:midsizecongregations@uua.org) if you have any questions. You can do it; we can help.

<http://www.uua.org/growth/midsize/index.shtml>

<http://www.uua.org/growth/midsize/128310.shtml>

<http://www.uua.org/documents/congservices/midcongs/growthresources.pdf> [PDF]Mid-size Congregations Growth Resources List – Unitarian Universalist Association [growthresources @ uua.org](mailto:growthresources@uua.org)

<http://www.uua.org/growth/ga/44009.shtml> Navigating Size Transitions in the Midsize Congregation

[Images for Navigating Size Transitions in the Midsize Congregation](#)

[PDF]Navigating Toward Maximum Effectiveness in Midsize Churches- The Parish Paper

Purpose of this Volume: Provides in-depth answers to questions that readers of The Parish Paper ask regarding principles and procedures help 100-350 average-worship-attendance congregations move toward their full potential for health and mission/ministry effectiveness.

Clergy, staff, and lay leadership in midsize churches face vastly different challenges than do leaders in small churches (fewer than 100 in average worship attendance) or large congregations (more than 350 in average worship attendance).

How to Use this Resource Page 2

Study/Discussion/Planning Session #1

I. Are Midsize Churches an Endangered Species? Page 3

II. Five Unique Characteristics Endanger Midsize Churches Page 3

III. Unique Leadership Configurations Challenge Midsize-Church Health Page 3

IV. Unique Organizational Dynamics Challenge Midsize-Church Health Page 8

V. Unique Behavior Patterns Challenge Midsize-Church Health Page 10

VI. Unique Sociological Pressures Challenge Midsize-Church Health Page 16

VII. Unique Growth Obstacles Challenge Midsize-Church Health Page 17

Study/Discussion/Planning Sessions #2, 3, 4, 5, & 6

VIII. How Can Midsize Churches Move Toward Their Full Potential? Page 20

IX. Twenty-five Enrichment Strategies for Midsize Churches Page 21-55

X. The Bottom Line Page 55

Church Effective Nugget, Volume 18 - The Parish Paper

<http://www.theparishpaper.com/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2018.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2018.pdf>

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/free-resources> Church Effective Nugget, Volume 18: Navigating toward Maximum Effectiveness in Midsize Churches

[Images for Navigating Toward Maximum Effectiveness in Midsize Churches- The Parish Paper](#)

Organizing Principles of MidSize Congregations. Source: George Bullard. Identifying the Three Factors of Core Congregational Ideology.

1. Eternal Kingdom Mission. Theology What is the purpose of church?
2. Everlasting Congregational Purpose. DNA via History Why was this church first founded? A past-to-present statement
Core Congregational Ideology
3. Enduring Core Values. Culture What's the Point?

<http://documentslide.com/documents/organizing-principles-of-midsize-congregations-source-george-bullard.html>

[Images for Organizing Principles of MidSize Congregations. Source: George Bullard. Identifying the Three Factors of Core Congregational Ideology.](#)

<http://slideplayer.com/slide/7603568/>

<http://docslide.us/documents/organizing-principles-of-midsize-congregations-source-george-bullard.html>

Perils of the Mid-Sized Church

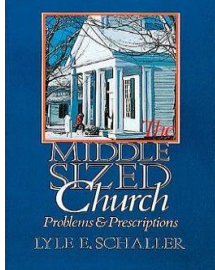
It seems to me that many more books and articles are written about the challenges of the small church and of the large church than of the mid-size church (100-300 average worship attendance.) It's about time we recognize the unique struggles of the mid-size church in the following areas: priorities, pastoring, programming, personnel, participation, procedures, property.

<http://manonaswing.blogspot.com/2009/02/seven-struggles-of-mid-sized-church.html>

[Images for perils of the mid-sized church](#)

The Middle-Sized Church: Problems and Prescriptions [Lyle E. Schaller]

Middle-sized church (100-200 worshippers) have always been unwieldy and difficult to grapple with. These are not close-knit families, like small churches. They are not staff-centered and as highly structured as large churches.



http://books.google.com/books/about/The_middle_sized_church.html?id=mefbgBMe7wEC

<http://www.amazon.com/Middle-Sized-Church-Lyle-Schaller/dp/0687269482>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/schaller-the-middle-sized-church.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1426749104>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyle_E._Schaller

www.abingdonpress.com/lyle_e_schaller

<https://www.amazon.com/Lyle-E.-Schaller/e/B0011R1J9K>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/179868.Lyle_E_Schaller

[Images for lyle e schaller author](#)

[Images for The Middle-Sized Church: Problems and Prescriptions \[Lyle E. Schaller\]](#)

10) Millennials

42 best Millennials images on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/leecaraher/millennials/>

[Images for millennials on pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/daynnarichelle/quotes-for-millennials/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/PassedPawnAdv/millennials/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/genYmoneyman/millennials/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/motivatedgeny/millennials/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/nextmovearizona/millennials/>

Millennials - Barna Group

Over the past 10 years, Barna Group has interviewed 27,140 Millennials in 206 studies. Each month, we are adding to this body of knowledge in order to bring you the latest knowledge and research on teenagers and young adults.

<https://www.barna.org/barna-update/millennials>

[Images for Millennials - Barna Group](#)

https://www.barna.org/barna-update/millennials/635-5-reasons-millennials-stay-connected-to-church#.VHUDblvF_eJ

<https://www.barna.com/research/what-millennials-want-when-they-visit-church/>

<https://www.barna.com/category/millennials-generations/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDvh31HUuMQ> Millennials and the Church (by Barna Group 2017) – YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N61m34mkw_k Barna Presents: State Of Pastors 2017 - YouTube

<https://prochurchtools.com/millennials-stop-attending-church/>

[Images for millennials-stop-attending-church](https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2016/may/what-latest-bible-research-reveals-about-millennials.html)

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2016/may/what-latest-bible-research-reveals-about-millennials.html>

Millennials in Adulthood | Pew Research Center - Pew Social Trends

Detached from Institutions, Networked with Friends

The Millennial generation is forging a distinctive path into adulthood. Now ranging in age from 18 to 33¹, they are relatively unattached to organized politics and religion, linked by social media, burdened by debt, distrustful of people, in no rush to marry—and optimistic about the future.

<http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2014/03/07/millennials-in-adulthood/>

[Images for Millennials in Adulthood | Pew Research Center - Pew Social Trends](http://www.pewresearch.org/topics/millennials/)

<http://www.pewresearch.org/topics/millennials/>

<http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2017/04/30/ten-reasons-millennials-are-backing-away-from-god-and-christianity.html>

Millennials Quotes - BrainyQuote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/millennials>

[Images for millennials quotes](https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/millennials)

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/millennials>

<https://www.inc.com/kevin-daum/21-quotes-that-prove-millennials-are-anything-but-lazy.html>

<https://www.yourtango.com/2017303563/10-inspirational-quotes-millennials-who-are-unsure-about-their-future>

[Images for quotes millennials unsure about future](https://www.thetalko.com/15-quotes-that-sum-up-the-millennial-lifestyle/)

<https://www.thetalko.com/15-quotes-that-sum-up-the-millennial-lifestyle/>

[Images for quotes millennial lifestyle](http://www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/millennials.html)

www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/millennials.html

http://social.diply.com/funny-inspirational-quotes?utm_medium=dipinterest&config=25

<https://beinspiredchannel.com/en/millennials-workplace-speech/>

<https://www.bustle.com/p/the-best-millennial-a-quote-tweets-to-make-you-laugh-uncontrollably-8581038>

www.ellensmithwrites.com/blog/2017/5/17/10-inspirational-quotes-from-millennials

[Images for inspirational-quotes-from-millennials](https://thoughtcatalog.com/morgan-aitken-young/2014/11/10-quotes-for-millennials-entering-the-work-force/)

<https://thoughtcatalog.com/morgan-aitken-young/2014/11/10-quotes-for-millennials-entering-the-work-force/>

[Images for quotes-for-millennials-entering-the-work-force](https://thoughtcatalog.com/morgan-aitken-young/2014/11/10-quotes-for-millennials-entering-the-work-force/)

Millennials Rising: The Next Great Generation by Neil Howe (Author), William Strauss (Author), R.J. Matson (Illustrator)

In this remarkable account, certain to stir the interest of educators, counselors, parents, and people in all types of business as well as young people themselves, Neil Howe and William Strauss introduce the nation to a powerful new generation: the Millennials.

They will also explain:

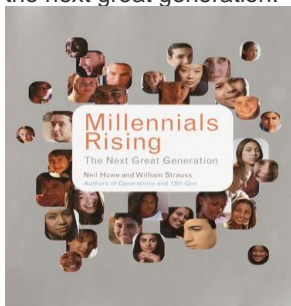
Why today's teens are smart, well-behaved, and optimistic, and why you won't hear older people say that.

Why they get along so well with their Boomer and Xer parents.

Why Millennial collegians will bring a new youth revolution to America's campuses.

Why names like "Generation Y" and "Echo Boom" just don't work for today's kids.

Having looked at oceans of data, taken their own polls, and talked to hundreds of kids, parents, and teachers, Howe and Strauss explain how Millennials are turning out to be so dramatically different from Xers and boomers and how, in time, they will become the next great generation.



<https://www.amazon.com/Millennials-Rising-Next-Great-Generation/dp/0375707190>

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/280652.Millennials_Rising

https://books.google.com/books/about/Millennials_Rising.html?id=To_Eu9HCNqIC

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/millennials-rising-neil-howe/1100619841>

<http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/83625/millennials-rising-by-neil-howe-and-william-strauss/9780375707193/>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Millennials_Rising.html?id=To_Eu9HCNqIC

<https://socalledmillennial.com/generational-cycles/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strauss%E2%80%93Howe_generational_theory *Millennials Rising*

<http://www.nytimes.com/books/00/11/05/reviews/001105.05brookst.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E9nzQaRDjM0> Neil Howe talks about 'The Millennial Generation' on CNN Dialogues | 2012

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTT05hne9rc> Neil Howe on Millennials – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TandqclXVik&feature=youtu.be> Neil Howe on Millennials at Montgomery College (Part 1) | 2005

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvL2_YdwpLg&feature=youtu.be Neil Howe on Millennials at Montgomery College (Part 2) | 2005
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMxMY_OJ13Q&feature=youtu.be William Strauss discusses Millennials on CSPAN2's BookTV | 2001 - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4WPrcTFTw> Neil Howe | Speaking.com - YouTube
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?161021-1/millennials-rising>
http://depts.washington.edu/apac/roundtable/12-05-05_millennial_generation.pdf
<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-375-70719-3> Nonfiction Book Review
<http://download.2164.net/PDF-newsletters/next20years.pdf> The Next 20 Years: How Customer and Workforce Attitudes Will Evolve
<http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2012/05/millennials-the-greatest-generation-or-the-most-narcissistic/256638/>
http://www.fcg.gov/documents/millennials_rising_bkreview.pdf
<http://www.lifecourse.com/about/strauss.html>
<http://www.lifecourse.com/about/leadership-team/howe.html>
<http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/winr/hower24.3.htm>
<http://insurancethoughtleadership.com/author/neilhowe/#sthash.TZM1PWAb.dpbs>
<https://outdoorindustry.org/resource/industry-breakfast-millennials-rising-the-next-great-generation-with-neil-howe/>
<https://www.vox.com/2014/7/26/5936723/millennials-rising-predictions-stereotypes-millennials>
http://depts.washington.edu/apac/roundtable/12-05-05_millennial_generation.pdf
https://www.case.org/Publications_and_Products/2007/February_2007/Dispelling_the_Millennial_Myth.html
<https://www.buffalolib.org/vufind/Record/1079004/Reviews>
<http://27gen.com/2011/07/25/the-next-great-generation/>
<http://download.2164.net/PDF-newsletters/next20years.pdf>
<http://www.bookrags.com/studyguide-millennials-rising/#gsc.tab=0>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Howe
<https://www.amazon.com/Neil-Howe/e/B000AP9K4W>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/29703.Neil_Howe
Images for Neil Howe (Author)
<http://www.apbspeakers.com/speaker/neil-howe>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Strauss
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strauss%E2%80%93Howe_generational_theory
<https://www.amazon.com/William-Strauss/e/B000AP9K06>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/107130.William_Strauss
https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/107130.William_Strauss
Images for William Strauss (Author)
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/107130.William_Strauss
Images for Millennials Rising: The Next Great Generation by Neil Howe (Author), William Strauss (Author), R.J. Matson (Illustrator)

Millennials - Wikipedia

Millennials are the generational demographic cohort following Generation X. There are no precise dates for when this cohort starts or ends; demographers and researchers typically use the early 1980s as starting birth years and the mid-1990s to early 2000s as ending birth years.

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

[Images for Millennials](#)

11) Mini-denomination Size

Fourteen Predictions for American Churches for 2014 - part two – ThomRainer.com

8. More large churches will function like **mini-denominations**. These churches will have multiple locations. They will have one senior or lead pastor, and several other campus pastors. They are likely to fund their own mission's priorities, even if they are also contributing to a denominational missions fund. Many of them will write their own small group literature. Some will have their own church planting strategies. (70% confidence factor)

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/01/fourteen-predictions-for-american-churches-for-2014-part-two/>

[Images for Fourteen Predictions for American Churches for 2014 - part two – ThomRainer.com 8. More large churches will function like mini-denominations.](#)

Size Really Does Make a Difference - Unitarian Universalist

The Corporate Church, averaging more than 350 people attending each week, is the most varied category of the four. Some can be characterized as super-program churches while others look more like **mini-denominations**.

<http://www.uua.org/documents/jonassonstefan/sizedoesmakedifference.pdf>

[Images for Size Really Does Make a Difference - Unitarian Universalist](#)

[Images for churches that look more like mini-denominations](#)

3 Trends Church Leaders Should Assess in 2016 - FaithSearch

Now more than ever, the church landscape is ever-changing, shifting into various shapes and sizes. Though megachurches continue to thrive, many have begun the transition into a multi-site model, allowing for smaller worship gatherings. Facilities are being downsized in favor of more intimate services, despite total church size. This can also create a sort of **mini-denomination**, with a **church taking on its own denomination-like qualities**. [1]

<http://faithsearchpartners.com/3-trends-church-leaders-should-assess-in-2016/>
[Images for church taking on its own denomination-like qualities](#)

12) Mission Orientation

How is your congregation oriented to the community?: Mission Orientation

4 Mission Orientations

Sanctuary – the congregation’s presence is for providing a sacred space and safe haven for the world

Evangelistic – the congregation’s role is to seek individuals who need salvation, changing the world one person at a time

Civic – the congregation’s task is to promote and preserve what is good in the world

Activist – the congregation’s mission is to change the structures of the world that cause suffering and injustice

[More](#)

<http://studyingcongregations.org/category/analyze/cultural-frame/page/4/>

[Images for How is your congregation oriented to the community?: Mission Orientation](#)

Mission Orientation | The Four Lenses Strategic Framework

Social enterprises can be classified based on their mission orientation.

<http://www.4lenses.org/setypology/sem0>

[Images for Mission Orientation | The Four Lenses Strategic Framework](#)

What it means to be Mission Oriented

Most workplaces have an explicit or implicit mission statement that is used to guide the company in a successful direction. It orients employees and provides an overall focus. The same is true for the military and its personnel. However, the strength of the mission orientation is distinctive both in its emphasis and in the way that it is built into the culture.

http://va.gov/vetsinworkplace/docs/em_missionOriented.html

[Images for What it means to be Mission Oriented](#)

13) Mosaics

[PDF]the mosaic generation - Regent University

Although it is difficult to identify the precise beginning and end of the **Mosaic Generation, also known as the Millennial Generation**, scholars generally agree that it began with those born in 1982, and has ended with those born around 2002. The Mosaic Generation is currently the youngest generation and has distinct characteristics that differentiate it from previous generations.

https://www.regent.edu/acad/global/publications/lao/issue_7/pdf/mosaic_generation_oppel.pdf

[Images for Mosaic Generation, also known as the Millennial Generation](#)

The Mosaic Generation: The Mystifying New World Of Youth Culture

Ministry to teenagers has never been easy. But it has rarely, if ever, been as challenging as it is today. The teen world has traditionally perplexed adults. But Mosaics — the generation that includes today’s teenagers — represent an increasingly tough-to-influence and confusing audience. With Mosaics, what you see is rarely what you get. Mosaics take the perspectives of previous generations and then blend in their own unique experiences and ideas about life. Because of this — and other things, such as the pace of technology change and the entertainment culture — Mosaics are hard to pin down.

http://enrichmentjournal.ag.org/200604/200604_028_mosaicgen.cfm

<https://worldtrend.churchnews.info/2012/08/17/11552/>

http://enrichmentjournal.ag.org/201203/201203_104_next_generation.cfm

[Images for Mosaic Generation David Kinnaman](#)

<http://www.bu.edu/cpt/2013/10/18/unchristian-by-david-kinnaman/>

<https://shanevanderhart.wordpress.com/category/christianity-and-culture/unchristian-book-summary/> #3

[Images for UnChristian, by David Kinnaman](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jitHsBPGtUY> You Lost Me by David Kinnaman - YouTube

<http://acu.today/2014/08/05/kinnaman-to-share-research-about-mosaics/>

<https://www.bu.edu/cpt/2013/10/18/unchristian-by-david-kinnaman/>

<https://www.barna.com/research/new-research-explores-how-different-generations-view-and-use-the-bible/>

<http://christian.dwaynephillips.net/unchristian/index.html>

<https://www.amazon.com/unChristian-Generation-Really-Christianity-Matters/dp/0801072719>

14) Motto Statement

A Vision Statement for Your Congregation/Ministry – Writers: Dorothy Henderson and Jim Czeglédi

A **motto** is a “snippet” of the mission statement and is useful on an outside board, in a newspaper ad, on radio/TV spots or in the Sunday worship bulletin. A motto might sound like this: “The little church with a big heart”, “A community of faith and care,” “Living and growing together.”

[PDF] August/2005 - The Presbyterian Church in Canada

http://presbyterian.ca/wp-content/uploads/cmv_elder_for_elders_aug_2005.pdf

[Images for motto is a “snippet” of the mission statement](#)

Page 5

Church Mottos - PoetPatriot.com

A motto, synonymous with slogan, is a phrase selected to provide and identity for an organization.

<http://www.poetpatriot.com/pp-church-mottos.htm>

[Images for Church Mottos](#)

Difference between Motto and Quote | Motto vs Quote

The term 'motto' is similar to a slogan and is a phrase that is used to provide an identity to the principle or ideals of a person or an organization.

<http://www.differencebetween.info/difference-between-motto-and-quote>

[Images for Difference between Motto and Quote | Motto vs Quote](#)

Healthy congregations: questions to ponder - Salem Presbytery

Do the mission statement and/or **motto** describe the church with some degree of accuracy, or is it all just wishful thinking?

<http://www.salempresbytery.org/healthy-ministry-conversations-a-blog/healthy-congregations-questions-to-ponder>

[Images for Healthy congregations: questions to ponder - Salem Presbytery](#)

Revive Your Mainline Congregation: Prescriptions for Vital Church Life by Robert D. Schieler

If your mission statement will not work for effective evangelism, you might want to derive a **motto** from the mission statement that is more appropriate for external use.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1608992284>

Page 30

<https://www.amazon.com/Revive-Your-Mainline-Congregation-Prescriptions/dp/1608992284>

<http://wipfandstock.com/author/view/detail/id/11754/>

[Images for Robert D. Schieler, author](#)

[Images for Revive Your Mainline Congregation: Prescriptions for Vital Church Life by Robert D. Schieler](#)

What is the United Church of Christ? - United Church of Christ

This **motto** of the United Church of Christ reflects the spirit of unity.

http://www.ucc.org/about-us_what-is-the-united-church-of-christ

[Images for This motto of the United Church of Christ reflects the spirit of unity.](#)

15) Movers and Shakers

Size Transitions in Congregations - Page 90 - Google Books Result. Beth Ann Gaede - 2001 - Religion

... the "**movers and shakers**" of the congregation. This group carries out much of the ministry of the church. They are the planners and goal setters. They are the people who coordinate ministries and oversee programs, and they are the people who will make a church growth program work.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996317>

[Images for "movers and shakers" of the congregation](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Size-Transitions-Congregations-Harvesting-Learnings/dp/156699246X>

[Images for Size-Transitions-Congregations-Harvesting-Learnings](#)

Working in God's Diamond - Page 44 - Google Books Result. Jere W. Patterson - 2011 - Religion

"It means," responded Dr. Wainright, "he must learn the tacit, unwritten rules of the congregation; know the values of the patriarchs, matriarchs, and other **movers and shakers** of the congregation; and discover the family ties and relational ties that bind the congregation."

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1462700640>

[Images for family ties and relational ties that bind the congregation](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Working-Gods-Diamond-Member-Minister/dp/1615077723>

[Images for Working-Gods-Diamond-Member-Minister](#)

16) Multi-celled Congregation

Beyond "Corporate": New Insights on Larger Churches – Alban Institute

Congregations with annual operating budgets of between \$400,000 and \$1,000,000 often have between 250 and 400 people in worship attendance. This is the congregation that is learning to behave like a complex, **multi-celled** church, and the organizing principle that drives much of its decision making and attention is leadership development. In the multi-celled church, there are never enough leaders to do the work that needs to be done to generate consistently excellent programs. This congregation is largely guided by lay leadership, and the staff team exists to support and coordinate the laity in their ministry.

<https://alban.org/archive/beyond-corporate-new-insights-on-larger-churches-3/>

<http://www.susanbeaumont.com/beyond-corporate-new-insights-on-larger-churches/>

[Images for Beyond "Corporate:" New Insights on Larger Churches - Alban Institute](#)

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995612>

<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://centralpreschurch.wordpress.com/2008/10/03/multi-celled/>

[Images for Multi-celled Congregations](#)

Inside the Large Congregation - Page 50 - Google Books Result

It can no longer think of itself as a single-celled organism with a single clergy leader. The congregation is learning to behave like a complex, **multicelled** church, and the organizational challenge that drives much of its decision making and attention is leadership development.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995612>

[Images for multi celled church](#)

Missional Choice #10 -- Family or Clan? | The Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church

Every congregation makes these choices deliberately or by default. The question is: which way are you, as a church leader, going to choose in faithfulness to Christ and for the sake of his mission? The first choice is whether to be a single-cell family or a **multi-cell** clan.

<https://www.flumc.org/blogdetail/653174>

[Images for multi-cell clan](#)

Multi-Celled! | Central Presbyterian Church

A multi-celled church is complex, with lots of groups (cells) performing a wide variety of ministry tasks. It's like there are multiple congregations within the same corporate body. A multi-celled church is primarily guided by lay leaders, with a staff team that supports and coordinates the ministry of the laity. Finding enough leaders for all the cells is a continual challenge. Leadership development is one of the most important tasks of a multi-celled church.

<https://centralpreschurch.wordpress.com/2008/10/03/multi-celled/>

[Images for Multi-Celled! | Central Presbyterian Church](#)

Natural Church Development and Cell Church: Leslie H. Brickman

As the Spirit's giftings are manifested in cell, the Christ in you touches me, and the Christ in me touches you. The Corporate Congregation - The Large Group In the natural, a single-celled organism has to perform all of its life functions by itself. Cells in a **multi-celled** organism do not work alone. Each cell depends on the other cells to carry out the appropriate function.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1594679207>

[Images for Natural Church Development and Cell Church: Leslie H. Brickman](#)

[Images for multi-celled organism](#)

[PDF]Overview of Church Size Theory

Multi-cell. • Group-centered. • Governance: committees have power; Vestry moves to oversight/direction; more relational and less task-focused. • Pastor is administrator/delegator (danger of micromanaging). • Fights are over resources and priorities.

www.ecfvp.org/files/uploads/Overview_of_Church_Size_Theory1.pdf

[Images for Overview of Church Size Theory Multi-cell.](#)

[PDF]Size Theory chart expanded 2 - Center for Vitality of the Arkansas

Program (**Multi-celled**)

<http://vitality.arumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Size-Theory-chart-expanded-2.pdf>

[Images for Program \(Multi-celled\) Congregation](#)

Your Role as Pastor Must Change as Your Church Grows

In order to grow to the next level – a **multiple-cell** church - the pastor must be willing to change from owner/operator to manager/supervisor. At this level, you add staff members. Your role becomes managing and supervising people under you.

<http://globalchristiancenter.com/church-resources/church-planting/25057-your-role-as-pastor-must-change-as-your-church-grows>

[Images for Your Role as Pastor Must Change as Your Church Grows](#)

17) Multicultural Congregation

A House of Prayer for All Peoples: Congregations Building Multiracial Community [Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook]

Contrary to the oft-repeated truism, there are churches in America where Sunday is not the “most segregated day of the week,” as Sheryl Kujawa-Holbrook convincingly demonstrates in her compelling exploration of congregations tackling racial justice issues. Yet the truism continues to haunt many congregations, and Kujawa-Holbrook reveals, through story and thoughtful analysis, what it means to create and live out multiracial community. Focusing on six congregations from different denominations, geographical regions, and settings, the author shows us the joys and struggles in their intentional pursuits of a more diverse and just community. The stories in *A House of Prayer for All Peoples* will inspire leaders to explore their congregation's history, study their community's demographics, and, most of all, search their souls for ways they can develop and celebrate the diversity in their midst. The book is capped by an extensive annotated resource list for readers who want to explore the topic further.

<http://www.amazon.com/House-Prayer-All-Peoples-Congregations/dp/1566992826>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/4327690-a-house-of-prayer-for-all-peoples>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-house-of-prayer-for-all-peoples-sheryl-a-kujawa-holbrook/1123957656>

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566992824/A-House-of-Prayer-for-All-Peoples-Congregations-Building-Multiracial-Community>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566994578>

https://books.google.com/books/about/A_House_of_Prayer_for_All_Peoples.html?id=crMwAAAACAAJ

A House of Prayer for All Peoples: Congregations Building Multiracial Community

<https://ethicsdaily.com/a-house-of-prayer-for-all-peoples-congregations-building-multiracial-community-cms-3304/>

<https://episcopalchurch.org/library/article/sheryl-kujawa-holbrook-deliver-fourth-annual-st-margarets-lecture-cdsp>

<https://www.questia.com/read/1P3-985132491/a-house-of-prayer-for-all-peoples-congregations-building>

<https://www.churchpublishing.org/siteassets/pdf/radical-welcome--embracing-god-the-other/bibliography.pdf>

<https://www.asanet.org/sites/default/files/attach/journals/jan19srefeature.pdf>

<https://www.province1.org/anti-racism-training> Recommended Bibliography

<https://www.cst.edu/academics/faculty/profile/sheryl-kujawa-holbrook/>

<https://www.cst.edu/academics/faculty/sheryl-a-kujawa-holbrook/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Sheryl-A.-Kujawa-Holbrook/e/B001K8HP0Y>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/list/777100.Sheryl_A_Kujawa_Holbrook

[Images for Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook, author](#)

[Images for A House of Prayer for All Peoples: Congregations Building Multiracial Community \[Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook\]](#)

Page 2

Page 113

Embracing Diversity: Leadership in Multicultural Congregations [Charles R. Foster]

Explore a variety of approaches congregations have taken to embrace differences; identify leadership issues diversity creates in congregations; and discover programmatic suggestions drawn from the experience of multicultural congregations to address these issues. This book helps readers to understand their own experience with racial and cultural differences and is a guide for gathering diverse people into the life and mission of the congregation.

<http://www.amazon.com/Embracing-Diversity-Leadership-Multicultural-Congregations/dp/1566991811>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1643850.Embracing_Diversity

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566995139/Embracing-Diversity-Leadership-in-Multicultural-Congregations>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/embracing-diversity-charles-foster/1115044480>

<https://www.christianbook.com/embracing-diversity-leadership-in-multicultural-congregations/charles-foster/9781566991810/pd/991810>

<http://www.resourcingchristianity.org/grant-product/embracing-diversity-leadership-in-multicultural-congregations>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995132>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Embracing_Diversity.html?id=I4GXAwwAAQBAJ

[Embracing Diversity: Leadership in Multicultural Congregations](#)

http://www.taibot.edu/ce20/educators/protestant/charles_foster/

<http://www.urbanministry.org/charles-r-foster-embracing-diversity-leadership-multicultural-congregations>

<https://www.amazon.com/Charles-R.-Foster/e/B00A6T4RJ0>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/157072.Charles_R_Foster

[Images for Charles R. Foster, author](#)

[Images for Embracing Diversity: Leadership in Multicultural Congregations \[Charles R. Foster\]](#)

Multiculturalism - Wikipedia

Multiculturalism is a term with a range of meanings in the contexts of sociology, political philosophy, and in colloquial use. In sociology and everyday usage, it is a synonym for "pluralism" with the two terms often used interchangeably, for example a cultural pluralism in which various ethnic groups collaborate and enter into a dialogue with one another without having to sacrifice their particular identities. It can describe a mixed ethnic community area where multiple cultural traditions exist, or a single country within which they do. Groups associated with an aboriginal ethnic group and foreigner ethnic groups are often the focus.

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

[Images for multiculturalism](#)

[PDF]Seven Roads to a Multicultural Congregation – Parish Paper

We see the relevance of those assumptions when we observe seven effective multicultural-congregation models in contemporary America:

http://www.abcgrr.org/Current_PM/nov09/P.P.--11-2009--Seven%20Roads%20to%20a%20Multicultural%20Congregation.pdf

[PDF]Seven Roads to a Multicultural Congregation - American Baptist Convention

<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper> November 2009 - "Seven Roads to a Multicultural Congregation"

<https://kocucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/P-P-8-2016-Multiple-Roads-to-a-Multicultural-Congregation.pdf> Multiple Roads to a Multicultural Congregation

[Images for Seven Roads to a Multicultural Congregation – Parish Paper](#)

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

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

<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/>

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

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

The Word at the Crossings: Living the Good News in a Multi-contextual Community [Rev. Eric Law]

Eric Law believes that we are called by God to actively seek encounters with people who are different from us because at the crossings of our differences of race, culture, gender, sexual orientations, ability, economic class, and theology, lies the opportunity to widen our understanding of the gospel. But how do we open our hearts and our minds to such pluralism and live as God intends

us to live? How can we be transformed by our differences as we seek to align ourselves with God? Eric Law invites readers to follow him on a journey of discovery, a path to connect with Christ's way, truth, and life. He encourages us to stop denying the conflicts that arise out of the differences within us and between us and to name these conflicts, allowing differing perspectives to affirm, enrich, or challenge one another. He proposes practical disciplines, models, and techniques to help us communicate openly, honestly, and without judgment with ourselves, with others, and with nature. Law shares his personal stories and experiences and calls us to explore our own stories, frameworks, and God-concepts that we may grow in and live the Good News. For those called to serve in God's church, *The Word at the Crossings* includes appendices with specific exercises and techniques for Christian educators and pastors, including a sermon preparation model.

<http://www.amazon.com/books/dp/0827242441>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1081312.The_Word_at_the_Crossings

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

<http://ehflaw.typepad.com/>

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/mjtm/5-3.htm> Leadership Requirements for the Multi-Cultural Congregation

<http://www.chalicepress.com/Author.aspx?AuthorID=22>

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

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

Images for Rev. Eric Law, author

Images for *The Word at the Crossings: Living the Good News in a Multi-contextual Community* [Rev. Eric Law]

To Remember Well Together: Preaching and the Formation of Ethnically Diverse Congregations by Lisa Washington Lamb (Author)

The dissertation addresses the challenge of forming ethnically diverse congregations, looking at the role preaching can play in furthering unity. The presence of diversity adds complexity to the preaching task, offering both risk and opportunity. This dissertation studies ethnicity and reconciliation through the lens of social memory, drawing on the theoretical framework of sociologist Maurice Halbwachs. It considers theological dimensions of memory as it constructs a homiletic that may foster truthful practices of remembering among listeners. The dissertation argues that the New Homiletic has done much to recover a turn toward the listener in preaching practices. However, few homileticians have specifically applied their theory to the challenges of preaching in settings of ethnic diversity, and fewer still have considered the role of social memory in shaping the hearing capacities of congregants. The dissertation argues that churches have great potential to serve as transformative communities of memory.

<https://www.amazon.in/Remember-Well-Together-Ethnically-Congregations/dp/124349297X>

<http://gradworks.umi.com/33/08/3308926.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=054955498X>

http://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/content/pdfs/28-4_A_Cloud_of_Witnesses/28-4_Lamb.pdf

<https://www.amazon.com/Blessed-Beautiful-Multiethnic-Preaching-Institute/dp/1620328127>

https://www.amazon.in/s?i=stripbooks&rh=p_27%3ALisa+Washington+Lamb&ref=dp_byline_sr_book_1

Images for *To Remember Well Together: Preaching and the Formation of Ethnically Diverse Congregations* by Lisa Washington Lamb

18) Multigenerational Congregation

Creating a Multigenerational Congregation - Dr. Anne Wimberly - YouTube

Dr. Anne Wimberly explains the importance of creating a congregation of peers and integrating them into the greater body of the church, following her YMI lecture, "Keep It Real: Demands and Promises of Ministry with Black Youth."

Dr. Anne Wimberly is a Professor of Christian Ethics at Interdenominational Theological Center and the Director of the Hope Youth-Builders Academy.

For updates on future lectures and interviews you can like us on Facebook (<http://facebook.com/youthministrynow>) or follow us on Twitter (@YM_Initiative)



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_RhtX0Otbs

Images for *Creating a Multigenerational Congregation - Dr. Anne Wimberly - YouTube*

http://www.talbot.edu/ce20/educators/protestant/Anne_Streaty_Wimberly/

<https://www.amazon.com/Anne-Streaty-Wimberly/e/B001IR3OE8>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/414435.Anne_E_Streaty_Wimberly

Images for Dr. Anne Wimberly, author

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLKZx9LxdbU> LEAD Workshop - Multi-Generational Diversity - YouTube

Images for *Multi-Generational Diversity - YouTube*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fiNpPLYK3hk> Multi-generational discipleship - YouTube

Images for *Multi-generational discipleship - YouTube*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VhwTljz_WM The family parish: Selecting songs for a multigenerational congregation - YouTube

Images for *The family parish: Selecting songs for a multigenerational congregation - YouTube*

Multigenerational Congregations - UUA

What does a multigenerational congregation look like? Read [thoughts from Judith A. Frediani](#), UUA Curriculum Director, or an [essay by the Rev. Linda Olson Peebles](#).

<http://www.uua.org/re/multigenerational/>

[Images for Multigenerational Congregations - UUA](#)

The Multigenerational Congregation: Meeting the Leadership Challenge by Gilbert R. Rendle (Author)

Congregations need to learn new cultural languages and practices in order to speak to and be heard by new generations of people. But how do congregations enter the wilderness of ministry with these new generations when many of those in the entourage do not appreciate the trip? In contrast to many writers about church growth, Rendle works with three important observations: (1) Most congregations are not "pure markets," discrete groups with uniform values and behaviors, that can be targeted to the exclusion of all other audiences; (2) Some of the differences and discomforts experienced in the congregation are based on the members' tenure, or length of membership, rather than their age; and (3) Leadership in congregations is not a matter of marketplace savvy but of spiritual authenticity in which we continue to shape our faith tradition to be heard and understood by a changing culture.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Multigenerational-Congregation-Leadership-Challenge/dp/1566992524>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3243909-the-multigenerational-congregation>

<https://forthesomedaybook.wordpress.com/2010/01/22/book-review-the-multigenerational-congregation/>

<http://www.abcgrr.org/currentthoughts/sept2002.htm>

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resources/generations-multi-generational-issues-in-churches.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996619>

<https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1146&context=dmin> Page 184

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/gilbert-r-rendle/270104/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Gilbert-R.-Rendle/e/B001JRXDES>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/70463.Gilbert_R_Rendle

[Images for Gilbert R. Rendle \(Author\)](#)

[Images for The Multigenerational Congregation: Meeting the Leadership Challenge by Gilbert R. Rendle \(Author\)](#)

19) Multiple Point Parish

A Resource for Persons Considering Forming a Multiple Point Parish

Traditionally these parishes are a trusted way that rural congregations have dealt with mission, ministry, pastoral care, and staffing issues throughout the years.

[storage.cloversites.com > easternnorthdakotasynod > documents > North Dakota Presentation Multi-Point > Parish \(4\) PPT](#)

https://s3.amazonaws.com/media.cloversites.com/02/02827015-a2c3-4d91-92fc-ee39aa1632b7/documents/ELCA_MultiPointResource-1.pdf

<http://storage.cloversites.com/easternnorthdakotasynod/documents/ELCA%20MultiPointResource-1.pdf>

<http://www.eandsynod.org/resources/rural-ministry> [ELCA Multi-Point Resource](#)

[Images for A Resource for Persons Considering Forming a Multiple Point Parish](#)

Church in rural America - Living Lutheran

Felici serves a [five-point parish](#) in rural West Virginia, the heart of Appalachia, with her husband, Jason. They spend their time going back and forth between Mount Hope in Upper Tract, Faith in Franklin, St. John in Moyers, Calvary in Brandywine and New Hope in Minnehaha Springs.

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2017/04/church-rural-america/>

[Images for Church in rural America - Living Lutheran](#)

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

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

Discovering Hope - YouTube

Building Vitality in Small Membership Churches and [Multipoint Parishes](#) with Pastor Nancy Nyland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEH7dG9Fzhg>

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

[Images for Building Vitality in Small Membership Churches and Multipoint Parishes with Pastor Nancy Nyland](#)

<https://iksynod.org/staff/rev-nancy-nyland/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nancy-nyland-8969b243>

Dual and Multi-Point Parishes: Hope through Congregational Mission Partnerships

Rural and Small Town Mission provides encouragement and support for congregations of all sizes, but is especially sensitive to the dynamics of dual and multi-point parishes. We all assist congregations in rural and small town settings by providing ideas and resources for the work in their unique settings. Our leadership training events, conferences and webinars address many of the unique challenges of congregations working partnership. One of the primary components of the "Engaging Rural Communities Events" is a focus on congregations working together for the sake of the kingdom and meeting the needs of the communities in which they exist. As the work of Rural and Small Town Mission continues to expand, our intention is to address such topics as the worker priest model of pastoral ministry and examine various partnership models for multiple congregations working together.

If there is a particular need that your congregations need, please contact us at Rural and Small Town Mission at 888-463-5127 or amy.gerds@lcms.org

<http://www.spife.org/Index.asp?PageID=12237>

[Images for Dual and Multi-Point Parishes: Hope through Congregational Mission Partnerships](https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/national/rural-and-small-town-mission/resources)

<https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/national/rural-and-small-town-mission/resources>

Information Packet for the United Lutheran Parish

A Multi-Point Cooperative Ministry of the following ELCA Congregations

The United Lutheran Parish, which originally consisted of seven ELCA churches in Shawano County, Wisconsin, is a cooperative ministry endeavor of Bethlehem Church, Pella; St. John's Church, Leopolis; Zion Church, Tigerton; Immanuel Church, Morris; St. Matthew Church, Bowler; Peace Church, Tilleda; and Elias Church, Herman. These seven churches officially joined as one parish on July 16, 2000, when their four pastors were installed at Zion ELCA, Tigerton in a service which included the ordination of Pastors Jim and Carol Johnson by Bishop John Beem. Pastor Shari Routh and Pastor Howard Buenting joined them to form the first Pastoral Team for TULP.

[DOC] [Some Brief Definitions - The United Lutheran Parish](#)

<http://www.tulpchurch.com/documents/INFORMATIONPACKET.pdf>

Vision Statement

We are separate, independent congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. However, we believe that the church is more than our congregation. Thus, we join hands with neighboring congregations in order to give witness to Christ's love and life-giving power for changed lives in our community, country, and world. The multi-point parish is not one parish serving multi-locations. It is multi-locations with their own missions and identity, working together through joint ministries.

<http://www.tulpchurch.com/vision-statement.php>

[Images for join hands with neighboring congregations](#)

[Information Packet for the United Lutheran Parish: A Multi-Point Cooperative Ministry of the following ELCA Congregations](#)

The United Lutheran Parish, which originally consisted of seven ELCA churches in Shawano County, Wisconsin, is a cooperative ministry endeavor of Bethlehem Church, Pella; St. John's Church, Leopolis; Zion Church, Tigerton; Immanuel Church, Morris; St. Matthew Church, Bowler; Peace Church, Tilleda; and Elias Church, Herman. These seven churches officially joined as one parish on July 16, 2000, when their four pastors were installed at Zion ELCA, Tigerton in a service which included the ordination of Pastors Jim and Carol Johnson by Bishop John Beem. Pastor Shari Routh and Pastor Howard Buenting joined them to form the first Pastoral Team for TULP.

<http://www.tulpchurch.com/documents/INFORMATIONPACKET.pdf>

[Images for United Lutheran Parish: A Multi-Point Cooperative Ministry of the following ELCA Congregations](#)

<http://www.tulpchurch.com/vision-statement.php>

<http://www.tulpchurch.com/HistoryofTheUnitedLutheranParish.php>

[DOC] [Model Constitution for Congregations 2019 - ELCA Resource Repository](#)

Chapter 20.

PARISH AUTHORIZATION

[Required provisions when congregation is part of a parish]*

- *C20.01.** This congregation may unite in partnership with one or more other congregations recognized by the synod named in *C6.01. to form a parish. Except as provided in *C20.02. and *C20.03., a written agreement, developed in consultation with the synod and approved by the voting members of each congregation participating in the parish, shall specify the powers and responsibilities that have been delegated to the Parish Council. The Parish Agreement shall identify which congregation of the parish issues calls on behalf of the member congregations or shall establish a process for identifying which congregation issues calls on behalf of the member congregations.
- *C20.02.** One congregation of a parish shall issue a call on behalf of the member congregations to a minister of Word and Sacrament or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament who has been recommended by the synodical bishop to serve the congregations of the parish. Such a call shall be approved prior to issuance by a two-thirds vote at a congregational meeting of each congregation forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve the call, the other congregations of the parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- *C20.03.** One congregation of a parish may issue a call on behalf of the member congregations to a minister of Word and Service or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Service who has been recommended by the synodical bishop to serve the congregations of the parish. Such a call shall be approved prior to issuance by a two-thirds vote at a congregational meeting of each congregation forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve the call, the other congregations of the parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- *C20.04.** Any one of the congregations of the parish may terminate their relationship with the pastor as provided in †S14.18.d. of the synodical constitution of the synod named in *C6.01. In such case, the other congregation(s) of the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.

- *C20.05. Any one of the congregations of the parish may terminate their relationship with a minister of Word and Service as provided in †S14.43.d. of the synodical constitution of the synod named in *C6.01. In such case, the other congregation(s) of the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- *C20.06. Whenever a parish agreement is terminated, the call of any rostered minister serving that parish is terminated. Should any congregation that was formerly part of the parish agreement desire to issue a new call to that rostered minister, it may do so in accordance with the call process of this church.

<https://www.elca.org/constitution> [2019 Model Constitution for Congregations](#)

<https://download.elca.org> > [ELCA Resource Repository](#) > [Model Constitution](#)

<http://www.elca.org/Resources/Office-of-the-Secretary>

[Images for Model Constitution for Congregations 2019 Chapter 20. PARISH AUTHORIZATION parish agreement](#)

Parish Model - Church Collaboration

Multiple-point parishes (sometimes called "yoked churches") are common in areas with low population density.

www.churchcollaboration.com/Parish_model.htm

[Images for Parish Model - Church Collaboration Multiple-point parishes](#)

<http://www.amazon.com/Multi-Church-Parish-Creative-Leadership-Series/dp/0687272904>

[Images for Multi-Church-Parish-Creative-Leadership-Series](#)

<http://www.smalltownchurches.org/research/multi-church-movement/>

[Images for smalltownchurches/multi-church-movement](#)

Strengthening Your Multi-Point Parish

This workshop is for rostered and lay leaders of congregations that are part of multi-point parishes/shared ministries. In a state the size of France, with a population of under a million people, the Montana Synod of the ELCA is the largest Protestant denomination in this relatively un-populated, un-churched part of the country. Close to on half (71 out of 149) of the Montana Synod's congregations are part of multi-point parishes. There are more than 25 such yokings in the synod, some with 2 congregations, some with up to 5. Some yokings are between congregations of relatively similar size, while others are of unequal size. Some partnerships have a long history, while others are relatively new. Some congregations have been in several different alignments during their history.

Goals:

1. To provide lay and rostered leaders with an opportunity to meet, celebrate assets, explore challenges, and find solutions.
2. To introduce resources and opportunities.

Assumptions:

1. Shared ministries can be strong ministries.
2. Every congregation can reach out to new people, no matter how rural and isolated.

Topics to be covered:

- Place and Context of Rural Ministry Today
- Discovering Hope
- Discovering Gifts and Assets
- What Some Multi-Point Parishes are Teaching Us
- Preparing Leadership Planning for Change
- Team Planning and Covenant Building.

<http://www.nrit.org/conferences/multi.htm>

[Images for Strengthening Your Multi-Point Parish](#)

[PDF] The Circuit Counselor - The New England District, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Guidelines for Forming Multi-congregation Parish Relationships	81
a. Different Types of Congregations	82
b. Checklist when forming a Multi-Congregation Parish	83
c. Possible Agenda for Voters Meeting to Discuss a Multi-Congregation Parish	84
d. Discussion Questions for Forming a Multi-Congregation Parish	85
e. Pros and Cons of Forming a Multi-Congregation Parish	86
f. Steps of Negotiations in Forming a Multi-Congregation Parish	87
g. Multi-Congregation Parish Agreement	88
h. Check List for Multi-Congregation Parish	89

<http://ned-lcms.org/images/pdf/Circuit%20Counselors%27%20Manual%20%282012%29.pdf>

[Images for Guidelines for Forming Multi-congregation Parish Relationships](#)

What is a Multipoint Parish?

Definition: A multipoint parish is any two or more congregations (can be ecumenical in nature) that share staff.

Types are

- Two or more congregations sharing a staff person
- Two or more congregations sharing a staff person and some programming
- Two or more congregations sharing a common vision, plan, and staff person

Two or more congregations sharing a common vision, plan, and more than one staff person

Degrees of sharing defined as

Cooperation – characterized by informal relationships that exist without any commonly defined mission, structure, or planning effort. Information is shared as needed, and authority is retained by each congregation so there is virtually no risk.

Coordination – characterized by more formal relationships and understanding of compatible missions. Some planning and division of roles are required, and communication channels are established. Authority still rests with the individual congregations, but there is some increased risk to all participants.

Collaboration – characterized by previously separated congregations forming into a new structure with full commitment to a common mission. Such relationships require comprehensive planning and well-defined communication channels operating on many levels. Authority is determined by the collaborative structure. Risk is much greater because each member of the collaboration contributes its own resources and reputation.

<http://www.eandsynod.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/The-Multipoint-Parish.pdf>

[Images for What is a Multipoint Parish?](#)

20) Multiple Site Congregation

A Multi-Site Church Roadtrip: Exploring the New Normal (Leadership Network Innovation Series) by Geoff Surratt (Author), Greg Ligon (Author), Warren Bird (Author)

Hop on for a Guided Tour of the Multi-Site Church Movement from multiple locations to internet campuses, the multi-site church movement is changing the shape of the church. What is this rapidly expanding phenomenon all about? Experience the revolution for yourself and see why it has become the “new normal” for growing churches. A Multi-Site Church Roadtrip takes you on a tour of multi-site churches across America to see how they’re handling the opportunities and challenges raised by this dynamic organizational model. Travel with tour guides Geoff Surratt, Greg Ligon, and Warren Bird, authors of The Multi-Site Church Revolution, on their engaging and humorous journey that shows creative ways churches of all kinds are expanding their impact through multiple locations. Hear the inside stories and learn about the latest developments. Find out firsthand how the churches in this book are broadening their options for evangelism, service, and outreach—while making better use of their ministry funds.

<https://www.amazon.com/Multi-Site-Church-Roadtrip-Leadership-Innovation/dp/0310293944>

<http://www.churchleaders.com/pastors/pastor-articles/138292-five-multi-site-lessons-for-your-single-campus-church.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0310323290>

<http://www.zondervan.com/a-multi-site-church-roadtrip>

<http://multisitechurch.typepad.com/>

<http://eaglesinleadership.org/2010/03/transformed-interviews-geoff-surratt/>

http://slingshotgroup.org/team_members/geoff-surratt/

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

<https://www.amazon.com/Geoff-Surratt/e/B001IGJRU4>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/368930.Geoff_Surratt

[Images for Geoff Surratt \(Author\)](#)

<http://orangeblogs.org/orangeleaders/tag/geoff-surratt/>

<http://leadnet.org/staff/greg-ligon/>

<http://leadnet.org/author/greg-ligon/>

<http://multisitesolutions.com/ourteam/greg-ligon/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Greg-Ligon/e/B002BLL0TG>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/354547.Greg_Ligon

[Images for Greg Ligon \(Author\)](#)

<http://leadnet.org/staff/warren-bird/>

<http://warrenbird.com/>

https://www.ivpress.com/cgi-ivpress/author.pl/author_id=7106

<https://www.amazon.com/Warren-Bird/e/B002BLN1V6>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/85146.Warren_Bird

[Images for Warren Bird \(Author\)](#)

[Images for A Multi-Site Church Roadtrip: Exploring the New Normal \(Leadership Network Innovation Series\) by Geoff Surratt \(Author\),](#)

[Greg Ligon \(Author\), Warren Bird \(Author\)](#)

<http://www.zondervan.com/leadership-network-innovation-series-pack>

<https://www.amazon.com/Leadership-Network-Innovation-Pack-16/dp/0310529972>

<http://www.churchsource.com/church-and-small-group/pastor-resources/leadership-network-innovation-series>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLD8A36B5906464D98> Leadership Network Innovation Series - YouTube

[Images for Leadership Network Innovation Series - YouTube](#)

https://www.worldchristian.com/productdetails.php?product_id=37475

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

<https://www.overdrive.com/series/leadership-network-innovation>

[Images for Leadership Network Innovation Series](#)

Church Locality: New Rules for Church Buildings in a Multisite, Church Planting, and Giga-Church World by Jim Tomberlin (Author), Tim Cool (Author)

Growing churches today are utilizing multisite and church planting strategies to reproduce themselves for greater outreach and impact. But where? That is the purpose of this book. This book is not intended to address the why of these missional approaches or even the how. This book is a tool and guide to the where. Where should we meet? What kind of facilities are usable for churches? What are the implications of the various options? Tomberlin and Cool reveal the keys to using location as a way to reproduce and increase impact. Locality is all about the convergence of location and facility. The where of a church matters. This book explains the new rules for multisite churches and church plants. Additional contributors to this book include Ed Stetzer, Brad Leeper, and Rich Birch.

<https://www.amazon.com/Church-Locality-Buildings-Multisite-Giga-Church/dp/0692203133>

<https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/22920787-church-locality>

<http://churchtechtoday.com/2014/05/07/church-locality/>

<http://www.artrainer.com/books/church-locality-new-rules-for-church-buildings-in-a-multisite-church-planting-and-giga-church-world/>

<http://tfwm.com/church-locality-book-excerpt-part-1/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxBOVjS9Frc> Jim Tomberlin & Tim Cool on Current Trends in Church Facilities - YouTube

http://www.worshipfacilities.com/article/location_does_matter

<https://www.coolsolutionsgroup.com/about/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2017/04/church-facility-stewardship-featuring-tim-cool-rainer-leadership-317/>

<http://rainerpublishing.com/product/why-church-buildings-matter/>

<http://www.churchplants.com/articles/7673-why-you-need-to-know-the-15-minute-rule-jim-tomberlin-tim-cool.html>

<http://churchexecutive.com/archives/multisite-and-church-planting-tools>

<http://multisitesolutions.com/>

<https://newchurches.com/blogs/curating-your-multisite-library/>

<https://www.vanderbloemen.com/about/jim-tomberlin>

<http://www.outreachmagazine.com/interviews/3367-jim-tomberlin-multisite-solutions.html>

<https://tonymorganlive.com/2012/12/17/when-multisite-fails-an-interview-with-jim-tomberlin/>

<https://twitter.com/multisiteguy?lang=en>

<https://www.amazon.com/Jim-Tomberlin/e/B006A187PQ>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5420897.Jim_Tomberlin

Images for Jim Tomberlin (Author)

<http://churchtechtoday.com/author/tim-cool/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Timothy-L.-Cool/e/B00H9VQIZ4>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7376188.Tim_Cool

Images for Tim Cool (Author) church locality

Images for Church Locality: New Rules for Church Buildings in a Multisite, Church Planting, and Giga-Church World by Jim Tomberlin (Author), Tim Cool (Author)

Exponential: How You and Your Friends Can Start a Missional Church Movement (Exponential Series) by Dave Ferguson (Author), Jon Ferguson (Author)

Authors Dave and Jon Ferguson communicate a simple strategy that will engage millions of Christ followers and challenge every church leader to become a reproducing follower and leader. Exponential lays out a brief but solid theology for a reproducing strategy, giving practical “how-to’s” for reproducing Christ followers, leaders, artists, groups/teams, venues, sites, churches, and networks of churches. Weaved throughout this book is the amazing story of Community Christian Church, which was started by five friends who used the reproducing strategies found in Exponential to grow one of the most influential churches in the U.S. and develop a network of reproducing churches. Many of today’s Christians consider the missional challenge of Jesus—feed the hungry, comfort the lonely, bring people to God’s Word—as inspirational but not something that’s achievable. Or, they’ve heard the challenge of Jesus and are frustrated with how little they’ve done. Jesus gave his followers this mission because he wants them to hear it, be inspired, and then actually do it ... Exponential will show them how. Exponential is the anchor book in the Exponential Series. Dave and Jon Ferguson share how to become a reproducing **multi-siting** church that creates networks that become movements.

<https://www.amazon.com/Exponential-Friends-Missional-Church-Movement/dp/0310326788>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/exponential-dave-ferguson/1100270104>

<https://www.christianbook.com/exponential-friends-start-missional-church-movement/dave-ferguson/9780310326786/pd/326786>

<https://zondervanacademic.com/products/exponential>

<https://ministryformation.com.au/attachments/article/178/Exponential-Ch-1.pdf>

<https://www.lifeway.com/en/product/exponential-P005307435>

<https://books.google.com/books/about/Exponential.html?id=JRBgh5YJ40EC>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Exponential.html?id=zY_9sqEACAAJ

Exponential: How You and Your Friends Can Start a Missional Church Movement

http://leadnet.org/multisite_must_read_list/

<https://www.wnccmc.org/resourcedetail/9295954>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0hcZ-nbT4> Exponential: How You and Your Friends Can Start a Missional Church Movement

<http://www.liveintentionally.org/2010/06/07/get-a-free-copy-of-exponential-by-daveferguson-jonferguson/>

<http://browseinside.harpercollins.ca/index.aspx?isbn13=9780310326786>

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

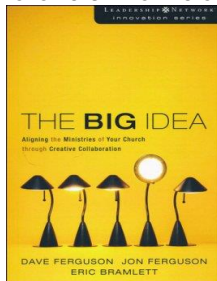
<http://daveferguson.typepad.com/daveferguson/2010/04/developing-movement-leaders-exponential-book-excerpt.html>
<http://ministryformation.com.au/resources/book-reviews?catid=178&id=178:exponential-how-you-and-your-friends-can-start-a-missional-church-movement>
<http://www.churchplanting.com/dave-ferguson/#.V-Vt3CgrKUk>
<http://daveferguson.org/>
<https://myfaithradio.com/authors/dave-ferguson/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Dave-Ferguson/e/B001JSE63Y>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/126850.Dave_Ferguson
[Images for Dave Ferguson \(Author\)](#)
<https://www.amazon.com/Jon-Ferguson/e/B003A0JQNY>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/126849.Jon_Ferguson
[Images for Jon Ferguson \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Exponential: How You and Your Friends Can Start a Missional Church Movement \(Exponential Series\) by Dave Ferguson \(Author\), Jon Ferguson \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Dave and Jon Ferguson share how to become a reproducing multi-siting church that creates networks that become movements.](#)
<https://www.christianbook.com/exponential-series-complete-dave-ferguson/9780310526704/pd/526701>
<https://www.librarything.com/series/Exponential+Series>
[Images for Exponential Series](#)

The Big Idea: Aligning the Ministries of Your Church through Creative Collaboration (Leadership Network Innovation Series) by Dave Ferguson (Author), Eric Bramlett (Author), Jon Ferguson (Author)

The key to **multi-siting** is consistency across all campuses and ministries. This book is especially helpful for multisite churches using the live, in-person sermon delivery strategy.

Community Christian Church embraced the Big Idea and everything changed. They decided to avoid the common mistake of bombarding people with so many “little ideas” that they suffered overload. They also recognized that leaders often don’t insist that the truth be lived out to accomplish Jesus’ mission. Why? Because people’s heads are swimming with too many little ideas, far more than they can ever apply. The Big Idea can help you creatively present one laser-focused theme each week to be discussed in families and small groups. The Big Idea shows how to engage in a process of creative collaboration that brings people together and maximizes missional impact. The Big Idea can energize a church staff and bring alignment and focus to many diverse church ministries. This book shows how the Big Idea has helped Community Christian Church better accomplish the Jesus mission and reach thousands of people in nine locations and launch a church planting network with partner churches across the country. This book is part of the Leadership Network Innovation Series.

Nothing is more dangerous than a single compelling idea that is lived out and nothing is more harmless than lots of little ideas never applied. By creatively communicating one Big Idea every week your church will transform people into genuine Christ followers who live out the mission of Jesus. Less is more!



<https://www.amazon.com/Big-Idea-Ministries-Collaboration-Leadership/dp/0310272416>
<http://www.zondervan.com/the-big-idea>
<https://www.christianbook.com/aligning-ministries-church-through-creative-collaboration/dave-ferguson/9780310272410/pd/272416>
http://leadnet.org/multisite_must_read_list/
<http://browseinside.harpercollins.ca/index.aspx?isbn13=9780310272410>
<https://www.ministrylibrary.com/the-big-idea/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Eric-Bramlett/e/B003UJQPAW>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3887360.Eric_Bramlett
[Images for Eric Bramlett \(Author\) the big idea](#)
[Images for The Big Idea: Aligning the Ministries of Your Church through Creative Collaboration \(Leadership Network Innovation Series\) by Dave Ferguson \(Author\), Eric Bramlett \(Author\), Jon Ferguson \(Author\)](#)
<http://www.zondervan.com/leadership-network-innovation-series-pack>
<https://www.amazon.com/Leadership-Network-Innovation-Pack-16/dp/0310529972>
<http://www.churchsource.com/church-and-small-group/pastor-resources/leadership-network-innovation-series>
<https://www.allbookstores.com/Leadership-Network-Innovation-Series-Pack/9780310529972>
<https://www.librarything.com/series/Leadership+Network+Innovation+Series>
[Images for leadership network innovation series](#)

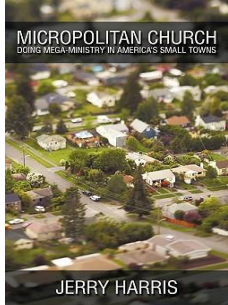
Micropolitan Church: Doing Mega-Ministry in America's Small Towns by Jerry Harris (Author)

Does your small-town church have a big-time vision for growth and evangelism? Don't be discouraged by the big bucks, big talent, and big facilities of megachurches in America's cosmopolitan areas. In *Micropolitan Church: Doing Mega-ministry in America's Small Towns*, author Jerry Harris presents proven strategies for outwardly focused, small-town (populations below fifty thousand) church communities to grow exponentially and make differences in thousands of lives.

Harris uses his experiences and examples gained as senior pastor of The Crossing, one of the fastest-growing churches of any faith in the nation, to explore implementing micropolitan evangelism in communities with high percentages of un- and underchurched people. Not only does *Micropolitan Church* address potential pitfalls and the modern technologies, economics, and realities of preaching God's word in small towns, it offers guidance and insight to worship, study, vision, and leadership.

Micropolitan Church is about taking a church to the edge in what some might consider an unlikely location, and it shows how to establish a great vision, create a workable culture of change, and make the most of resources without killing the church or its leadership. While rethinking existing church structures like debt, discipleship, and management dynamics and morphing them into fresh approaches, Harris provides a template for sustainable growth and discipleship that will work almost anywhere.

This book demonstrates that churches can become successful and effective **multi-siting** megachurches in the rural back roads and small towns of America.



<https://www.amazon.com/Micropolitan-Church-Doing-Mega-Ministry-Americas/dp/1615077227>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10665520-micropolitan-church>

https://www.thriftbooks.com/w/micropolitan-church-doing-mega-ministry-in-americas-small-towns_jerry-harris/1610634/#isbn=1615077227

<https://www.thecrossing.net/crossing-resources>

http://leadnet.org/multisite_must_read_list/

<http://christianstandard.com/2013/05/a-church-for-people-who-dont-go-to-church/>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3271073.Jerry_Harris

[Images for Jerry Harris \(Author\) micropolitan church](#)

[Images for Micropolitan Church: Doing Mega-Ministry in America's Small Towns by Jerry Harris \(Author\)](#)

Multi-site church - Wikipedia

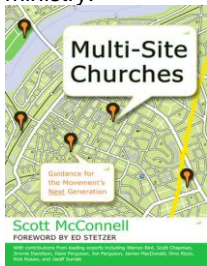
A multi-site church is one church that meets at multiple locations. Churches began to use the multisite church model in the mid-1980s. Today's approach ranges from transmitting a sermon by satellite to multiple locations, to creating a number of worship opportunities within the same congregation at multiple times and sites.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi-site_church

[Images for Multi-site church](#)

Multi-Site Churches: Guidance for the Movement's Next Generation by Scott McConnell (Author), Ed Stetzer (Foreword)

Based on research of forty congregations that have grown by opening one or more additional worship locations, *Multi-Site Churches* provides the next generation of believers interested in this same type of growth with practical insights about how and when to proceed. Common practices and mistakes to avoid are clearly explained, and first-person advice and anecdotes from leading multi-site church pastors offer an invaluable advantage for when your church considers whether or not to follow this path of ministry.



<https://www.amazon.com/Multi-Site-Churches-Guidance-Movements-Generation/dp/0805448772>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/5694978-multi-site-churches>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/multi-site-churches-scott-mcconnell/1100312862>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0805448772>

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http://www2.bhpublishinggroup.com/PDF/9780805448771_tips.pdf
<https://www.9marks.org/article/theological-defense-multi-site/>
<https://joelharder.org/2015/02/10/book-review-multi-site-churches-by-scott-mcconnell/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXvyP6SpVtE> Multi Site Churches - When, how and why with Scott McConnell – YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXvyP6SpVtE> Images for Multi Site Churches - When, how and why with Scott McConnell – YouTube
<http://genevapush.com/resources/multi-site-churches-when-how-and-why-with-scott-mcconnell>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1433692155>
<http://www.bpnews.net/47125/scott-mcconnell-to-lead-lifeway-research>
<https://www.amazon.com/Scott-McConnell/e/B001KIYV74>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2114302.Scott_McConnell
https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/2114302.Scott_McConnell
Images for Scott McConnell (Author)
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/>
<http://www.baylorisr.org/wp-content/uploads/Ed-Stetzer-CV-as-of-November-2018.pdf>
https://twitter.com/edstetzer?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ed_Stetzer
<https://www.facebook.com/edstetzer/>
<https://vimeo.com/edstetzer>
<https://www.amazon.com/Ed-Stetzer/e/B001JP8EUJ>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/25148.Ed_Stetzer
Images for Ed Stetzer, author
Images for Multi-Site Churches: Guidance for the Movement's Next Generation by Scott McConnell (Author), Ed Stetzer (Foreword)

Multisite Congregations - How They can help strengthen and grow your congregation - YouTube

An overview of the benefits and the theology of how partnerships can help strengthen UU Congregations.

Rev. Scott Tayler, Director of Congregational Life for the UUA

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLNP4i-lilrN7ujmbq5vBzmv_cVDmdj_o

Images for Multisite Congregations - How They can help strengthen and grow your congregation - YouTube

Images for An overview of the benefits and the theology of how partnerships can help strengthen UU Congregations. Rev. Scott Tayler, Director of Congregational Life for the UUA

<http://www.uua.org/growth/multisite/resources>

<http://www.uua.org/interconnections/293203.shtml>

<http://www.uua.org/growth/multisite/ways>

<https://www.uua.org/offices/people/scott-tayler>

One Congregation: Many Locations – The Parish Paper

What is a **multi-site church**? The congregation conducts worship at some combination of the following locations:

https://www.wisconsinumc.org/Resources/Documents/ParishPaper/ParishPaper_Jun09.pdf

<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper> June 2009 - "One Congregation: Many Locations"

Images for One Congregation: Many Locations – The Parish Paper

Images for What is a multi-site church?

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

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

<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/>

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

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

125 Tips for MultiSite Churches by Jim Tomberlin (Author), Ben Stroup (Editor), David Fletcher (Foreword)

This eBook is about helping guide leaders through the decision-making and implementation process of going MultiSite.

My intent is that these tips will become guideposts to help you navigate these new waters. And for those of you who have been doing MultiSite for some time now, it will serve as a refresher about the most important details as you continue to multiply the number of additional campuses your church starts, supports, and sustains.

While going MultiSite can certainly be a practical, pragmatic decision, it is also one that allows us to expand our reach and multiply our ministry impact in one of the most reasonable and cost-effective ways available to church leaders today. There is nothing more exciting than to be a part of a growing, healthy church. There will be surprises along the way, but the good news is that many have already been there and are finding their MultiSite strategy to be a critical element to their kingdom expansion strategy.

May God extend your borders, multiply your impact, and enlarge your harvest. If we can help, let us know.

Be fruitful and multiply,

Jim Tomberlin

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<http://churchtechtoday.com/author/jim-tomberlin/>

<http://churchplants.com/author/jimtomberlin>

<http://www.alignmentconference.com/author/jim-tomberlin/>

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http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/5420897.Jim_Tomberlin

Images for Jim Tomberlin (Author)

<https://benstroup.com/about>

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

Images for Ben Stroup, author

Images for 125 Tips for MultiSite Churches by Jim Tomberlin (Author), Ben Stroup (Editor), David Fletcher (Foreword)

Portable Church Industries

Portable Church Industries. An innovative and affordable Design & Equipment Source for church plants, mobile church and **multi-site** churches.

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

Images for Portable Church Industries

Starting, Staffing, and Supporting a Multisite Church | The Exchange

On this week's Monday is for Missiology, we look at how multisite churches get established. / Ed Stetzer

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2014/march/starting-staffing-and-supporting-multisite-church.html>

Images for Starting, Staffing, and Supporting a Multisite Church | The Exchange

Images for how multisite churches get established | Ed Stetzer

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2014/february/multisite-churches-are-here-to-stay.html>

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<https://newchurches.com/>

<https://vimeo.com/96203092> The downsides of multisite and video venue churches on Vimeo

<https://www.amazon.com/Multi-Site-Churches-Guidance-Movements-Generation/dp/0805448772>

Images for Multi-Site-Churches-Guidance-Movements-Generation

The Multi-Church Parish (Creative Leadership Series) by Robert Leroy Wilson (Author)

The Creative Leadership Series book offers specific guidance to the more than 200,000 leaders serving multi-church parishes across the United States and Canada. Robert L. Wilson – a leading authority in the field- proves the critical issues confronting multi-church parish leaders including:

How can a pastor effectively lead and administer more than one church?

How can multi-church congregations most effectively relate to one another?

What are the finances involved in hiring one pastor for more than one congregation?

The Multi-Church Parish additionally comments on the growing trend to encourage congregations to consider the multi-church parish as a means of obtaining a full-time pastor.

<https://www.amazon.com/Multi-Church-Parish-Creative-Leadership/dp/0687272904>

<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-Leroy-Wilson/e/B001HOH6W8>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1549560.Robert_Leroy_Wilson

Images for The Multi-Church Parish (Creative Leadership Series) by Robert Leroy Wilson (Author)

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

Images for Creative Leadership Series

The Multi-Site Church Revolution: Being One Church in Many Locations (Leadership Network Innovation Series) by Geoff Surratt (Author), Greg Ligon (Author), Warren Bird (Author), Erwin McManus (Foreword)

Fueled by a desire to reach people for Christ, a revolution is underway. Churches are growing beyond the limitations of a single service in one building. Expanding the traditional model, they are embracing the concept of one church with more than one site: multiple congregations sharing a common vision, budget, leadership, and board. Drawing from the examples of churches nationwide, The Multi-Site Church Revolution shows what healthy multi-site churches look like and what motivates congregations to make the change. Discover how your church can: • cast a vision for change • ensure a successful DNA transfer (vision and core values) to its new site • develop new leaders • fund new sites • adapt to structure and staffing change • use technology to support your worship services you'll identify the reasons churches succeed and how they overcome common snags. The Multi-Site Church

Revolution offers guidance, insights, and specific action steps as well as appendixes with practical leadership resources and self-diagnostic tools. This book is part of the Leadership Network Innovation Series.

<https://www.amazon.com/Multi-Site-Church-Revolution-Leadership-Innovation/dp/0310270154>

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<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/multi-site-church-revolution-geoff-surratt/1100269921>

<https://www.bookdepository.com/Multi-Site-Church-Revolution-Geoff-Surratt/9780310270157>

https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Multi_Site_Church_Revolution.html?id=ESUPZ3uKy8cC

<https://www.9marks.org/review/multi-site-church-revolution-geoff-surratt-greg-ligon-and-warren-bird/>

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Images for Geoff Surratt (Author)

<https://www.amazon.com/Greg-Ligon/e/B002BLL0TG>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/354547.Greg_Ligon

Images for Greg Ligon (Author)

<https://www.amazon.com/Warren-Bird/e/B002BLN1V6>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/85146.Warren_Bird

Images for Warren Bird (Author)

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

Images for *The Multi-Site Church Revolution: Being One Church in Many Locations* (Leadership Network Innovation Series) by Geoff Surratt (Author), Greg Ligon (Author), Warren Bird (Author), Erwin McManus (Foreword)

Theological Defense of Multi-Site: 9Marks

Though much more study is required, I am hopeful that this model (or several models) of multi-site churches can pass muster according to the fourfold evaluative grid of biblical, theological, historical, and missional (as well as governmental) matters.

<https://9marks.org/article/theological-defense-multi-site/>

Images for Theological Defense of Multi-Site Churches

<http://www.religionnews.com/2014/03/11/survey-finds-growth-vitality-multisite-church-model/>

Images for survey-finds-growth-vitality-multisite-church-model

<https://www.pinterest.es/amp/pin/186829084516296192/> Survey finds growth, vitality in multisite church model

https://www.beboldacademy.org/images/uploads/Multisite_Church_Scorecard_Report_v2.pdf

Images for Multisite Church Scorecard Report

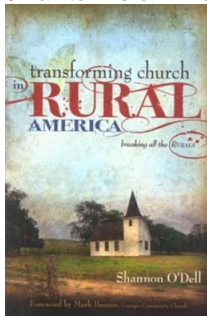
www.multisitechurchrevolution.com/

Transforming Church in Rural America: Breaking All the Rurals by Shannon O'Dell

Small church buildings dotting the countryside are home to ministries that often struggle with limited attendance, no money, and little expectation that change can revitalize their future. In *Transforming Church in Rural America*, Pastor Shannon O'Dell shares a powerful vision of relevance, possibility, and excellence for these small churches, or for any ministry that is stuck in a "rural state of mind." The book reveals: how to generate growth through transformed lives; ways to create active evangelism in your community; no-cost solutions for staffing challenges, enhancing the worship experience, and inspiring volunteers.

Focusing on vision, attitude, leadership, and innovation, you can learn the practical strategies and biblical guidance that helped to grow a church of 31 into a multi-campus church of several thousand, with a national and global outreach. Discover effective structure and ways to cast God-given vision so others can follow and make an impact. Experience the blueprint for transforming into effective, dynamic, and thriving churches- no matter where the location or how small it may be.

This book demonstrates that churches can become successful and effective **multi-siting** megachurches in the rural back roads and small towns of America.



[http://100x.christianbook.com/transforming-church-rural-america-breaking-rurals/shannon-](http://100x.christianbook.com/transforming-church-rural-america-breaking-rurals/shannon-odell/9780892216949/pd/216949?item_code=VW&netp_id=632694&event=ESRCG&view=details)

[odell/9780892216949/pd/216949?item_code=VW&netp_id=632694&event=ESRCG&view=details](http://100x.christianbook.com/transforming-church-rural-america-breaking-rurals/shannon-odell/9780892216949/pd/216949?item_code=VW&netp_id=632694&event=ESRCG&view=details)

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<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/transforming-church-in-rural-america-shannon-odell/1111322996>

<https://www.nlpg.com/transforming-church-in-rural-america-paperback-single>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Transforming_Church_in_Rural_America.html?id=MdcYX88DpVcC

<http://www.bpnews.net/34957/ga-rural-church-pastor-shannon-odell-says-big-changes-helped-key-big-growth>

<https://churchexecutive.com/archives/who-says-small-who-says-small-grow-not-shannon-odell>

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https://twitter.com/shannonodell?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor
<https://twitter.com/shannonodell?lang=en>
<https://www.masterbooks.com/shannon-odell>
<http://bnc.nlpj.com/>
<http://churchleaders.com/author/shannon>
<https://www.amazon.com/Shannon-ODell/e/B003W3UCJQ>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3517835.Shannon_O_Dell
Images for Shannon O'Dell author
Images for Transforming Church in Rural America: Breaking All the Rurals by Shannon O'Dell

What's Next in Multisite—How New Locations, Mergers and Aquisitions Could Impact Most Churches – Carey Nieuwhof

Should your growing church go multisite?

Should your declining church consider merger?

Leading multisite expert Jim Tomberlin talks about how the multisite movement is changing and how more and more churches are pursuing mergers and acquisitions.

<http://careynieuwhof.com/2015/07/episode43/>

Images for CNLP 043: What's Next in Multisite—How New Locations, Mergers and Acquisitions Could Impact Most Churches – Carey Nieuwhof

<https://careynieuwhof.com/episode150/> CNLP 150: Rural Multisite: Overcoming All The Odds to Create Vibrant Churches in Small Towns and Villages with Chad Merrell, Paul Smith and Philip Thurman - Carey Nieuwhof

Images for CNLP 150: Rural Multisite: Overcoming All The Odds to Create Vibrant Churches in Small Towns and Villages with Chad Merrell, Paul Smith and Philip Thurman - Carey Nieuwhof

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<http://oneinjesus.info/2015/07/church-growth-carey-nieuwhof-on-multisite-churches/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLFZlkyxBPM> Multi-Site Churches - Connexus Community Church Case Study – YouTube

Images for carey nieuwhof (author)

Why Your Church Should Be Thinking Multisite – Rainer on Leadership #105 – ThomRainer.com

The six reasons churches need to consider multisite are:

<http://thomrainer.com/2015/03/church-thinking-multisite-rainer-leadership-105/>

Images for Why Your Church Should Be Thinking Multisite – Rainer on Leadership #105 – ThomRainer.com

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/09/six-major-implications-growth-multisite-churches/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2015/01/fifteen-trends-churches-2015-part-2/> #5

<http://thomrainer.com/2015/12/12-megachurch-trends-to-watch/> #3

Images for thom rainer (author)

21) Networking Congregation

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

III. Networking Congregations

A. Description: Involved congregation capitalizing on multiple networks

B. Need: Opportunities for the leaders to learn from other competent leaders

C. Intervention: Opportunities to build lasting relationships with leaders

<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/A%20Typology%20of%20Congregational%20Health.pdf>

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

Images for A Typology for Congregational Health - The Parish Paper III. Networking Congregations

<https://www.wisconsinumc.org/Resources/Documents/ParishPaper/ParishPaper-Apr12.pdf> How is Your Congregation's Health? – April 2012 Page 1

https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/back_issues/PP--2012-04_0.pdf

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

<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

Covenant Network Congregations - Covenant Network

The sessions of these congregations have studied and affirmed the [Call to Covenant Community](#) or the [Founding Call to Covenant Community](#).

<http://covnetpres.org/about/congregations/>

Images for Covenant Network Congregations

[PDF] The Networked Congregation: Embracing the Spirit of Experimentation by Andrea Useem - Lifelong Faith

The goal here is to move behind both the hype over Web 2.0 tools and the sense of dread they evoke in some. Wisdom lies somewhere between the two. And as your congregation—whether "born digital" or only slowly awakening to this new world—rides the current of digital change, you are sure to be surprised by what you discover.

http://www.lifelongfaith.com/uploads/5/1/6/4/5164069/the_networked_congregation_-_useem.pdf

[Images for The Networked Congregation: Embracing the Spirit of Experimentation by Andrea Useem - Lifelong Faith](#)

22) Next Church

Church Next: Quantum Changes in How We Do Ministry by Eddie Gibbs (Author)

Change is now. Competition from nontraditional and Eastern religions join with the pressures of both modernism and postmodernism to squeeze Christianity. While new church models have sprung up to meet these challenges, they each have strengths and limitations. Eddie Gibbs, a well-known church strategist and practitioner, candidly analyzes these models while proposing nine areas in which the church will need to transform to be biblically true to its message and its mission to the world. With vigor and insight Gibbs shows how we can move.

Here is a book that brings together deep understanding of the quantum shifts taking place in our culture along with concrete suggestions for implementing a proactive mission strategy.

<http://www.amazon.com/ChurchNext-Quantum-Changes-How-Ministry/dp/0830822615>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/623068.ChurchNext>

<https://www.christianbook.com/church-next-quantum-changes-how-ministry/eddie-gibbs/9780830822614/pd/822615>

<https://www.ivpress.com/churchnext>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0830822615>

<https://books.google.com/books/about/ChurchNext.html?id=sBpxQ3bxMSQC>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Church_Next.html?id=ofhAPgAACAAJ

<https://www.coursehero.com/file/pgco44/Gibbs-Eddie-Church-Next-Quantum-Changes-in-How-We-Do-Ministry-Downers-Grove-IVP/>

<http://www.alisonmorgan.co.uk/Gibbs%20&%20Coffey%2001.htm>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2003/januaryweb-only/1-20-21.0.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0802863981>

Page 43

<https://www.amazon.com/Eddie-Gibbs/e/B001K8KMMM>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/81598.Eddie_Gibbs

[Images for Eddie Gibbs \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Church Next: Quantum Changes in How We Do Ministry by Eddie Gibbs \(Author\)](#)

NEXT Church: Home

NEXT Church is teaching elders, students, educators, church members, youth leaders and ruling elders who care about the flourishing of the church of Jesus Christ in ways that are relevant to our communities.

<http://nextchurch.net/>

<https://www.facebook.com/next.church/>

[Images for NEXT Church: Home](#)

The Next Church - The Atlantic

The Next Church, as the independent and entrepreneurial congregations that are adopting these new forms might collectively be called, is drawing lots of people, including many Americans with patchy or blank histories of churchgoing. It constitutes, its champions believe, a distinctly American reformation of church life, one that transcends denominations and the bounds of traditional churchly behavior. As such, it represents something more: a reconfiguration of secular communities, not just sacred ones.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1996/08/the-next-church/376646/>

[Images for Next Church - The Atlantic](#)

<https://www.theatlantic.com/past/docs/issues/96aug/nxtchrch/nxtside.htm>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2002/10/the-next-christianity/302591/>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/03/coptic-church/555515/>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1942/10/will-the-christian-church-survive/306720/>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/04/breaking-faith/517785/>

'The NeXt Church' | The Lutheran

The most asked question in my early visits with congregations tends to center around the future. While I'm not a time traveler, I do have some guesses. I confess some help from our friends across the pond.

The churches of the United Kingdom, aka Great Britain, have faced the changing landscape for some time. Their website contains a number of stories worth reading. Maybe a field trip to learn from the people at [Fresh Expressions](#)

(<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk/stories>) is in order? I spent some time this summer digesting what the Brits are doing and brainstormed some possibilities for us in New England:

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=11044

[Images for 'The NeXt Church' | The Lutheran](#)

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

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

23) Nomads

Christianity for the Rest of Us Small Group: Study Guide

Spiritual nomad: A person who lacks a “home” church. Bass says that spiritual nomads might feel like “strangers in a strange land” when it comes to church.

<http://aprilmallgroup.blogspot.com/2008/04/study-guide-for-session-1.html>

[Images for Spiritual nomad: A person who lacks a “home” church.](#)

[Images for Christianity for the Rest of Us by Diana Butler Bass](#)

Spiritual nomads: Exploring the landscape | The Lutheran

When we read the Gospels in worship, we typically encounter a Jesus in his early 30s: a young adult, something of a spiritual nomad, moving in and out of places of worship.

Yet for a church so focused on the ministry of this young adult, we're often perplexed by questions about young adults in worship. What are today's young adult spiritual nomads seeking in worship? How do they differ from previous generations? Why aren't more of them in worship?

By pursuing any of these questions, we don't just risk overgeneralizing — we guarantee it. But any map of unfamiliar terrain (whether we're mapping a city or the patterns of North American young adults in worship) leaves out some detail in order to highlight landmarks and keep us from being overwhelmed.

Here are some basic landmarks on the wide terrain of North American young adults and worship, as well as three points of interest.

http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=10913

[Images for Spiritual nomads: Exploring the landscape | The Lutheran](#)

26 Bible verses about Nomads - Knowing Jesus – Bible

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

[Images for Bible and Nomads](#)

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

<https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/dictionary-of-bible-themes/5427-nomads>

<http://bibleresources.americanbible.org/resource/nomads-wandering-herders>

[Images for bible nomads wandering herders](#)

<http://biblehub.com/topical/n/nomad.htm>

<http://biblehub.com/topical/n/nomads.htm>

www.ancient-hebrew.org/culture_nomads.html

[Images for hebrew culture nomads](#)

24) Nominals

Are Nominal 'Christians' Walking Away from Faith?

While evaluating the ramifications of the Pew findings, Kidd said his heart is growing even more burdened for those nominal Christians who are now statistical “nones.”

<https://billygraham.org/decision-magazine/july-august-2015/are-nominal-christians-walking-away-from-faith/>

[Images for Are Nominal 'Christians' Walking Away from Faith?](#)

<https://billygraham.org/stories/decision-magazine/>

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevin-wax/are-you-a-nominal-christian-a-diagnostic/>

[Images for are-you-a-nominal-christian-a-diagnostic](#)

<http://themajestysmen.com/obbietodd/9-things-nominal-christians-say/>

[Images for 9-things-nominal-christians-say](#)

Living in a (Nominal) Religious Context | The Exchange | A Blog by Ed Stetzer

Nominal religious contexts do not mean the end of the church. / ED STETZER

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/may/living-in-nominal-religious-contexts.html>

[Images for Living in a \(Nominal\) Religious Context | The Exchange | A Blog by Ed Stetzer](#)

<https://edstetzer.com/2019/03/living-in-a-nominal-religious-context/>

[Images for Nominal religious contexts do not mean the end of the church. | ED STETZER](#)

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2015/may/nominals-to-nones-3-key-takeaways-from-pews-religious-lands.html>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/geneveith/2015/05/christian-decline-is-just-nominals-becoming-nones/>

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<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2012/october/christianity-isnt-dying-cultural-christianity-is-talking.html>

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/february/cultural-trends-pastors-should-recognize.html>

<http://www.charismanews.com/culture/44114-4-trends-in-christianity-that-could-scare-you-according-to-ed-stetzer>

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<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/philosophicalfragments/2012/10/27/the-welcome-demise-of-cultural-christianity/>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/geneveith/2015/05/christian-decline-is-just-nominals-becoming-nones/>

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/05/13/nones-americans-christians-evangelicals-column/27198423/>
<http://saintmichaelepiscopal.org/sermon/psalm-1-convictional-christians-and-none>
<https://twitter.com/edstetzer/status/776875870766133248>
<https://www.amazon.com/Ed-Stetzer/e/B001JP8EUJ>
https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/25148.Ed_Stetzer
[Images for Nominals to Nones - Ed Stetzer](#)

Nominal Christian - Wikipedia

Patrick Johnstone and Jason Mandryk suggest that "nominalism" is a major issue. They assert that "many traditionally Christian populations know nothing of a personal faith, true repentance, and a trust in the finished work of Christ for their salvation", and estimate that 1.2 billion people are "nominal and non-practising 'Christians'."^[3]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nominal_Christian
[Images for Nominal Christian](#)

Religious 'Nominals' Drifting Away from Mainstream Judaism and Christianity | HuffPost

Meet the "Nominals" — people who claim a religious identity but may live it in name only.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/10/05/religious-nominals-judaism-christianity_n_4032592.html
[Images for Religious 'Nominals' Drifting Away from Mainstream Judaism and Christianity | HuffPost](#)
[Images for Meet the "Nominals" — people who claim a religious identity but may live it in name only.](#)

21 Bible verses about Nominal Religion - Knowing Jesus

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Nominal-Religion>
[Images for Bible and Nominal Religion](#)
<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Nominal-Religion>
https://biblehub.com/sermons/auth/cunningham/nominal_religion.htm
<https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/dictionary-of-bible-themes/8784-nominal-religion>
<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Nominal-Religion>
<http://www.bcbsr.com/topics/nominal.html>

What is nominalism? What is a nominalist? - Got Questions

Nominal Christians are church-goers or otherwise religious people whose "faith" does not go beyond being identified with a church, Christian group, or denomination. They are Christians in name only; Christ has no bearing in their lives. Nominal Christians may attend church and Christian functions, and they self-identify as "Christians," but it is just a label. They view religion primarily as a social construct, and they do not allow it to require much of them in terms of morality or responsibility. Nominalists take a minimalist approach to their faith.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/nominalism.html>
[Images for What is nominalism? What is a nominalist? - Got Questions](#)
<https://www.gotquestions.org/nominal-Christianity.html>
[Images for nominal-Christianity](#)
[Images for Nominalists take a minimalist approach to their faith.](#)

25) Organic Church

Church Transfusion: Changing Your Church Organically--From the Inside Out (Jossey-Bass Leadership Network Series) by Neil Cole (Author), Phil Helfer (Author)

Just as our life is in our blood, the life for Christ's body is in His blood. Changing a church is more than a new goal or direction. Our churches need more than an organizational *transition*; we need a full *transfusion* of Jesus' blood, His life, within every disciple. Anything less than that will only perpetuate more of the dysfunction and unhealthy church practices that have already plagued us for too long. We are in desperate need of the internally transforming power of the gospel of grace and the presence of Christ so that our salvation is then worked out in a way the rest of the world will notice. It isn't enough that we believe in the facts contained in the gospel, we must allow the gospel itself to infect our souls and transform us from within. The DNA of Jesus' lifeblood is needed in our churches and nothing shy of a full transfusion that touches every cell will be sufficient.

In this book, Neil Cole (author of *Organic Church*, *Church Transfusion* and *Journeys to Significance*) and Phil Helfer, co-founders of Church Multiplication Associates, will first point out that change is possible with God, but only with God. In the second half of the book they will lay out some of the actual practical considerations to weigh if you want to release real organic health in your church. Using multiple examples of very different kinds of churches that have been through the process, the authors present ways that leadership and practices need to change in order to release organic church movements from their midst. Chapters cover: Leader shifts necessary. Detoxification from dependence issues. How to ignite change virally. How to grandparent movements. How to measure success in movements.

This book (another in the Leadership Network series) applies organic life principles to established churches with practical help that is holistic and natural. The content in this book will be helpful whether you are pastor of an established church or wanting to revitalize a small organic church.

Jesus didn't die and rise from the dead so that we can be like everyone else in the world. Our faith is more than just a better doctrine or a bigger goal with a capital giving campaign; it is a better life. Jesus is the difference, and what a difference he makes...don't be satisfied with less.

<http://www.amazon.com/Church-Transfusion-Organically-From-Jossey-Bass-Leadership-ebook/dp/B007ZDNE8K>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/13838237-church-transfusion>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/church-transfusion-neil-cole/1111674962>

<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1118131282.html>

<https://www.bookdepository.com/Church-Transfusion-Neil-Cole/9781118131282>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1118238516>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Church_Transfusion.html?id=QGYKxEpSA4cC

<https://www.9marks.org/review/church-transfusion/>

<https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2327&context=doctoral> Page 106

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/cole-church-transfusion-changing-church-organically.html>

https://www.cmresources.org/foundations-organic-leadership_Neil-Cole-Phil-Helfer

<https://sed-efca.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/ChurchTransfusion-by-Cole-and-Helfer.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBZUcLU88MIA36ClwO0-YyF8S5ucGiwuS> Neil Cole Organic Church teaching - YouTube

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

http://www.churchplanting.com/neil-cole/#.WP_KXYjyuUk

<https://www.amazon.com/Neil-Cole/e/B001JSBY7A>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/249457.Neil_Cole

[Images for Neil Cole \(Author\)](#)

<http://cole-slaw.blogspot.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/neil.cole.92>

<https://www.amazon.com/Phil-Helfer/e/B0098QQHFO>

[Images for Phil Helfer \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Church Transfusion: Changing Your Church Organically--From the Inside Out \(Jossey-Bass Leadership Network Series\) by](#)

[Neil Cole \(Author\), Phil Helfer \(Author\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/philhelfer>

<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/Section/id-819994.html>

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

[Images for Jossey-Bass Leadership Network Series](#)

Organic Church: Growing Faith Where Life Happens (Jossey-Bass Leadership Network Series) by Neil Cole (Author)

Churches have tried all kinds of ways to attract new and younger members - revised vision statements, hipper worship, contemporary music, livelier sermons, bigger and better auditoriums. But there are still so many people who aren't being reached, who don't want to come to church. And the truth is that attendance at church on Sundays does not necessarily transform lives; God's presence in our hearts is what changes us. Leaders and laypeople everywhere are realizing that they need new and more powerful ways to help them spread God's Word. According to international church starter and Pastor Neil Cole, if we want to connect with young people and those who are not coming to church, we must go where people congregate. Cole shows readers how to plant the seeds of the Kingdom of God in the places where life happens and where culture is formed - restaurants, bars, coffeehouses, parks, locker rooms, and neighborhoods. *Organic Church* offers a hands-on guide for demystifying this new model of church and shows the practical aspects of implementing it.

<http://www.amazon.com/Organic-Church-Growing-Jossey-Bass-Leadership-ebook/dp/B001GNC8JQ>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/14389.Organic_Church

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/organic-church-neil-cole/1118920010>

<https://www.wiley.com/en-gb/Organic+Church:+Growing+Faith+Where+Life+Happens-p-9780787981297>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Organic_Church.html?id=8nsUkgAACAAJ

https://books.google.com/books/about/Organic_Church.html?id=YIFSlGH5gAC

[Organic Church: Growing Faith Where Life Happens](#)

<http://www.jesusdust.com/2012/08/neil-coles-organic-church-summary-review.html>

<https://www.9marks.org/review/organic-church-neil-cole/>

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2008/fall/11.34.html>

<http://www.churchplanting.com/neil-cole/#.XCEj1VxKiUk>

<https://www.tyndale.com/authors/neil-cole/1575>

<https://www.audible.com/author/Neil-Cole/B001JSBY7A>

<https://www.amazon.com/Neil-Cole/e/B001JSBY7A>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/249457.Neil_Cole

[Images for Neil Cole \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Organic Church: Growing Faith Where Life Happens \(Jossey-Bass Leadership Network Series\) by Neil Cole \(Author\)](#)

<https://www.overdrive.com/series/jossey-bass-leadership-network>

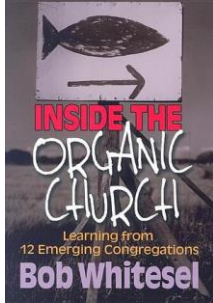
<https://www.librarything.com/series/Leadership+Network+Series>

[Images for Jossey-Bass Leadership Network Series](#)

Inside the organic church: Learning from 12 emerging congregations by Bob Whitesel (Author)

A new generation of churches is emerging, calling new disciples to the way of Jesus by proclaiming the Good News and seeking the transformation of culture. Bob Whitesel takes us inside congregations that draw upon ancient traditions and modern technologies to create a spiritual community and shows how the practices of the "organic church" can be instructive for all those wishing to reach today's world with the gospel of Christ. Bob Whitesel is Associate Professor in the Department of Graduate

Studies in Ministry at Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana. A sought-after speaker and conference leader, he is the author of several books, including *Growth by Accident*, *Death by Planning*, also published by Abingdon Press.



<http://www.amazon.ca/Inside-The-Organic-Church-Congregations/dp/0687331161>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/837204.Inside_the_Organic_Church
<http://www.abingdonpress.com/product/9781426748233#.WmNECKinGUK>
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0687331161>
https://books.google.com/books/about/Inside_the_Organic_Church.html?id=YHgVWVu0D_kC
<https://churchhealthwiki.wordpress.com/tag/inside-the-organic-church-book/>
<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/jesuscreed/2007/02/13/what-can-you-learn-from-the-emerging-church/>
<https://nmgprod.s3.amazonaws.com/media/editorial/2017/05/10/organix-chpt-notes-pg169-196.pdf> #5
<https://www.wesleyan.org/d/V0FRE/CureForComChrCh-OnlineAppndx.pdf>
<https://www.indwes.edu/seminary/academics/faculty/bob-whitesel/>
http://www.abingdonpress.com/bob_whitesel
<https://www.amazon.com/Bob-Whitesel/e/B001ITVUPG>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/241612.Bob_Whitesel
[Images for bob whitesel \(author\)](#)
[Images for Inside the organic church: Learning from 12 emerging congregations by Bob Whitesel \(Author\)](#)

Ministry Resource Guides Index - LifeandLeadership.com

Organic Church
[Organic Church \(Conventional\)](#)
[Organic Church \(Viola, Cole\)](#)

<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/ministry-resource-guide-index/>
[Images for Organic Church - LifeandLeadership.com](#)

What is the organic church? | GotQuestions.org

Answer: The organic church, sometimes also called "simple church," is an idea that promotes a simpler model of Christian fellowship. It is "organic" in that it is more "basic" and more "natural" than today's popular church model. The organic church idea counters the modern evangelical philosophy that has led to large programs and buildings, a professional pastorate, a complex business model, and an unfortunate dependence on money. The organic church looks to the church in [Acts 2](#) for its model, focusing on small groups of Christians gathering for the purpose of spiritual growth and mutual help and comfort, while studying the Bible and being led by the Holy Spirit to do His work.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/organic-church.html>
[Images for What is the organic church? | GotQuestions.org](#)

26) Organizational Intelligence

Holy Cow Consulting

Leaders have an opportunity today that has not existed before in the history of organizations: to listen to those they lead and service. In accordance with being "quick to listen, slow to speak", leaders can now listen to an entire group rather than those who are simply the most vocal or strident. We call this information **organizational intelligence (OI)**.

<https://holycowconsulting.com/>
[Images for Holy Cow Consulting](#)

Organizational Intelligence™

OI empowers your users to explore your organization's data at every level—without needing any technical knowledge.

<http://www.ohealth.com/>
[Images for Organizational Intelligence™](#)

Organizational Intelligence: A Guide to Understanding the Business of Your Organization for HR, Training, and Performance Consulting by Kenneth H. Silber (Author), Lynn Kearny (Author)

To succeed, those who practice as training, HPT, ID, OD, HR, or IT professionals must understand the "language of business," and the key business issues and measures of the organizations we work for. Organizational Intelligence shows how to use the proven

Business Logics Model to gather and synthesize the information needed to understand organizations, and how to align our work to key business issues, explain it in appropriate language, and measure it in a meaningful way.

<https://www.amazon.com/Organizational-Intelligence-Understanding-Organization-Performance/dp/0470472316>

<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470472316.html>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0470543523>

Page 91

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1562861344>

<https://www.amazon.com/Kenneth-H.-Silber/e/B001KIXABM>

[Images for Kenneth H. Silber \(Author\)](#)

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

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/730566.Lynn_Kearny

[Images for Lynn Kearny \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Organizational Intelligence: A Guide to Understanding the Business of Your Organization for HR, Training, and Performance Consulting by Kenneth H. Silber \(Author\), Lynn Kearny \(Author\)](#)

Organizational intelligence - Wikipedia

Organizational Intelligence (OI) is the capability of an organization to comprehend and conclude knowledge relevant to its business purpose. In other words, it is the intellectual capacity of the entire organizations.

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

[Images for Organizational Intelligence](#)

Organizational Quotes - BrainyQuote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/organizational>

<https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/organizations>

[Images for Organizational intelligence Quotes](#)

<http://orgintelligence.blogspot.com/2013/01/orgintelligence-quotes.html>

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/organizations>

What IS Organizational Intelligence?: An Intense Primer by Michael McMaster (Author)

Michael D. McMaster coined the phrase "organizational intelligence" in his 1995 book, *The Intelligence Advantage: Organizing for Complexity*. Since then, this concept—that an organization itself should be intelligent beyond its individual members—has become the basis of his consulting practice, workshops, and international conferences.

Keeping up with the times and being aware of the interplay among new technologies is imperative for businesses. Satisfaction of wants and needs has become cheaper and more convenient than ever before—the focus, therefore, no longer centers on manufacturing new products but on harnessing new ideas.

To compete effectively, organizations need to be adaptive entities that straightforwardly welcome change, constantly gathering information, generating new knowledge, and innovating based on those developments. Don't rely on the methods of the machine age—take that essential step into the age of information and technology. This book will show you how.

McMaster provides a necessary vocabulary for truly grasping everything the organizational intelligence concept has to offer, inserting quotes and sharing information in list format to transform this complex material into easily comprehensible and actionable practices. *What IS Organizational Intelligence?* is an insightful, thought-provoking, and useful book for forward-thinking senior executives across all industries.

<https://www.amazon.com/What-Organizational-Intelligence-Intense-Primer-ebook/dp/B01MRYXZLT>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/33585718-what-is-organizational-intelligence>

<https://ca.linkedin.com/in/michael-mcmaster-7b7b10101>

[Images for What IS Organizational Intelligence?: An Intense Primer by Michael McMaster \(Author\)](#)

27) Outreach Congregation

Congregational Outreach - Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry

One of the goals of the Office of Advocacy is to collaborate with congregations around advocacy and civic affairs.

<http://www.lutheranmetro.org/congregational-outreach.html>

[Images for Congregational Outreach - Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry](#)

The Hidden Lives of Congregations: Discerning Church Dynamics by Israel Galindo (Author)

The **outreach-stance congregation**, however, defines outreach in the narrower sense of evangelism. This congregation holds reaching the lost for Christ as the ultimate value and highest good.

Chapter 7 The Hidden Life of Congregational Identity

Page 122

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

[Images for outreach-stance congregation](#)

<http://www.israelgalindo.com/Resources/Church/Identity.pdf>

[Images for The Hidden Lives of Congregations: Discerning Church Dynamics by Israel Galindo \(Author\) The outreach-stance congregation](#)

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

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

Images for Bible and Outreach

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

www.bibleinfo.com/en/topics/outreach

<https://bible.org/seriespage/5-outreach-growing-body-christ>

Images for outreach-growing-body-christ

<http://faithoncampus.com/blog/9-bible-studies-to-motivate-your-outreach-team-now-and-all-year-lo>

<https://www.outreach.com/the-bible/about.aspx>

28) Outwardly Focused Congregation

I Will: Nine Traits of the Outwardly Focused Christian by Thom S. Rainer (Author)

Could you be the answer to the problems you see?

Every day we are faced with the needs of those around us. Emotional. Physical. Spiritual. What are we to do about it? Are these problems for our pastors to address or is there a way for the church member to make an impact that will last?

Bestselling author Thom S. Rainer answers these questions by offering nine simple traits that you can incorporate into your life no matter your background, stage of life, or sense of capability.

You can do it. Now it's time to just stand up and say you will!

<https://www.amazon.com/Will-Traits-Outwardly-Focused-Christian/dp/1433687291>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/23492937-i-will>

<https://www.christianbook.com/will-nine-habits-outwardly-focused-christian/thom-rainer/9781433687297/pd/687297>

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/05/seven-habits-outwardly-focused-churches/>

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/05/common-factor-declining-churches/>

<http://www.lifeway.com/pastors/2016/08/19/transitioning-to-become-an-outward-focused-church/>

<http://www.lifeway.com/Article/pastors-balance-church-inward-outward-focus-growth>

<http://visionroom.com/three-new-trends-in-an-outward-focused-church/>

<https://ericgeiger.com/2015/07/giveaway-i-will-9-traits-of-the-outwardly-focused-christian/>

<http://pastors.com/your-church-may-be-inwardly-focused-if/>

<http://southforkbc.com/10-traits-of-healthy-churches-thom-rainer/> #2

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

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

Images for Thom S. Rainer on Outwardly Focused Christian

Images for I Will: Nine Traits of the Outwardly Focused Christian by Thom S. Rainer (Author)

Inward-focused or outward? Christian congregations at a crossroads (COMMENTRAY)

Christianity in America faces a crossroads: Do we serve only ourselves and people like us, or do we serve the larger community, especially its outcasts and vulnerable?

<http://religionnews.com/2015/03/17/inward-focused-outward-christian-congregations-crossroads-commentary/>

Images for Inward-focused or outward? Christian congregations at a crossroads

"Outward Focused" - YouTube

In Short: We're called to care about others...

Verse: Philippians 2:4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xADXFx57XLU>

Images for "Outward Focused" - YouTube In Short: We're called to care about others... Verse: Philippians 2:4

Outward vs. Inward-Focused Churches - ChurchLeaders.com

After working with all those churches, though, this is probably the key distinguishing factor when it comes to the health of the church: It's whether the church is outward-focused or inward-focused. That issue is always what creates the most tension when it comes to the potential for change.

<http://www.churchleaders.com/pastors/pastor-blogs/165350-outward-vs-inward-focused-churches.html>

Images for Outward vs. Inward-Focused Churches - ChurchLeaders.com

Revitalizing Church Through an Outward Focus | The Exchange

When members are personally evangelistic, churches can be revitalized | Ed Stetzer

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/february/revitalization-part-1-outward-focus.html>

Images for Revitalizing Church Through an Outward Focus | The Exchange

Images for When members are personally evangelistic, churches can be revitalized | Ed Stetzer

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/february/revitalizing-church-steps-to-outward-focus.html>

<http://www.outreachmagazine.com/features/4767-7-ways-to-keep-an-outward-focus.html>

<http://www.outreachmagazine.com/features/16900-3-ways-to-keep-your-church-focused-on-evangelism.html/2>

https://www.sermoncentral.com/content/a-Ed_Stetzer_04_23_07?ac=true

<https://www.amazon.com/Ed-Stetzer/e/B001JP8EUJ>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/25148.Ed_Stetzer

https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/25148.Ed_Stetzer

Images for ed stetzer

29) Paradigm

5 Keys to Surviving a Christian Paradigm Shift - Patheos

However, I have also learned that “following” Jesus instead of “accepting him into your heart” actually *does* result in a radical new life... it results in a paradigm shift that keeps on shifting the further you explore this radical new way of living and loving.

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/formerlyfundie/christian-paradigm-shift/>

[Images for 5 Keys to Surviving a Christian Paradigm Shift - Patheos](http://www.patheos.com/blogs/formerlyfundie/my-upcoming-book/)

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/formerlyfundie/my-upcoming-book/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Undiluted-Rediscovering-Radical-Message-Jesus/dp/0768488907>

[Images for Undiluted-Rediscovering-Radical-Message-Jesus](#)

Paradigm - Wikipedia

In science and philosophy, a paradigm /ˈpærədəɪm/ is a distinct set of concepts or thought patterns, including theories, research methods, postulates, and standards for what constitutes legitimate contributions to a field.

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

[Images for paradigm](#)

Seven Paradigm Shifts in American Churches – ThomRainer.com

The changes have been profound in many churches, and they seem to be lasting changes.

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/01/seven-paradigm-shifts-in-american-churches/>

[Images for Seven Paradigm Shifts in American Churches – ThomRainer.com](#)

<http://thomrainer.com/2014/02/seven-paradigm-shifts-in-the-church-rainer-on-leadership-043/>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1433683970>

Page 8

30) Pastoral Size Congregation

How to Minister Effectively in Family, Pastoral, Program, and Corporate-Sized Churches by Roy M. Oswald

Clergy are usually at the center of a **Pastoral Church**. There are so many parental figures around that they need someone at the center to manage them. A leadership circle, made up of the pastor and a small cadre of lay leaders, replaces the patriarchs and matriarchs of the Family Church. The power and effectiveness of the leadership circle depends upon good communication with the congregation and the ability of the pastor to delegate authority, assign responsibility, and recognize the accomplishments of others. Without such skill, the central pastoral function weakens the entire structure. The clergyperson becomes overworked, isolated, and exhausted, may be attacked by other leaders, and finally the harmony of the fellowship circle degenerates.

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54c7d7ede4b03a45e09cd270/t/5aa00b43652dea8c73c46299/1520438089615/HowToMinisterEffectivelyInFamilyPastoralProgramandCorporateSizedChurches.pdf>

<https://www.ministrytoday.org.uk/magazine/issues/44/361/WhatTypeofChurchIsYours?> - Ministry Today

<https://4b2hrderdaoklyfu2n1ah3eku-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Roy-M-Oswald-bio.pdf>

<https://www.facebook.com/roy.oswald>

<https://www.amazon.com/Roy-M.-Oswald/e/B001K8KQ1O>

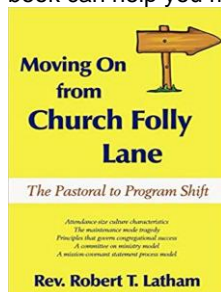
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/152452.Roy_M_Oswald

[Images for Roy M. Oswald, author](#)

[Images for How to Minister Effectively in Family, Pastoral, Program, and Corporate-Sized Churches by Roy M. Oswald](#)

Moving on from Church Folly Lane: The Pastoral to Program Shift [Robert T. Latham]

Is your congregation stuck in a holding pattern? In transition without a blueprint? It may be that you have reached your attendance-size plateau. This book outlines four major attendance-size cultures while focusing on the critical shift that occurs between the Pastoral Congregation and the Program Congregation. If you are dealing with your congregation's stuckness or transition, this book can help you move forward and weather the changes more effectively.



<http://www.amazon.com/Moving-Church-Folly-Lane-Pastoral/dp/1587365987>

<https://www.amazon.com/Moving-Church-Folly-Lane-Pastoral/product-reviews/1587365987>

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<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/moving-on-from-church-folly-lane-robert-t-latham/1119680125>

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<https://www.librarything.com/work/3466066>

https://books.google.com/books/about/Moving_on_from_Church_Folly_Lane.html?id=8owAAqAACAAJ
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1558966005> Page 116
<https://www.uua.org/central-east/resources/topics/growth> Pastoral-Size Churches (60-175 members)
<https://uuoakland.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/2017-COSM-Appendix-To-Worship-Report.pdf> Page 51
<http://roberttlatham.com/>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/699037.Robert_T_Latham
[Images for robert t. latham \(author\)](#)
[Images for Moving on from Church Folly Lane: The Pastoral to Program Shift \[Robert T. Latham\]](#)

[PDF] PASTORAL ROLES ACCORDING TO CHURCH SIZE

Pastoral Size (51-150)

Pastor and small group of lay leaders replace matriarch/patriarch

- Success requires pastor to delegate authority, assign responsibility, recognize accomplishments of others and drive all aspects of ministry
- Responds to reasonable pastoral care expectations
- Success requires strong interpersonal skills and open, interactive leadership style
- Willingness to give up strong “connections” to members essential to transition to program size

<http://mccchurch.org/download/sizesummitresources/PASTORAL%20ROLES%20ACCORDING%20TO%20CHURCH%20SIZE.pdf>
[Images for PASTORAL ROLES ACCORDING TO CHURCH SIZE Pastoral Size \(51-150\)](#)

Raising the Roof: The Pastoral-to-Program Size Transition by Alice Mann (Author)

Pastoral-to-program size change is frequently described as the most challenging of growth transitions for congregations. Now Alban senior consultant Alice Mann, author of *The In-Between Church: Navigating Size Transitions in Congregations*, addresses the difficulties of that transition in this resource designed specifically for a congregational learning team.

Conceptualized and developed by Mann for an Alban on-line seminar program test event conducted with 12 congregations in transition, her newest book features a five-step process enabling the learning team to engage a wider circle of congregational leaders and members in study, discernment, and planning. Never-before published resources include discussion of a major new concept—passive barriers to growth—plus Mann’s “System Change Index” tool to help congregations measure their progress from pastoral-size to program-size ways of operating.

From preparing the congregation’s board and members, selecting the person to guide the learning process, and recruiting the learning team, to creating and celebrating a plan for congregational learning and action, Mann provides all the resources a congregation needs to address this significant size transition period.

<http://www.amazon.com/Raising-Roof-Pastoral-Program-Transition/dp/1566992540>
http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/992997.Raising_The_Roof
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<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566996155>
Raising the Roof: The Pastoral-to-Program Size Transition – Alice Mann
<https://imnedu.org/imn-library/raising-the-roof-the-pastoral-to-program-size-transition/>
<https://www.congregationalconsulting.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/SmallerCongregationChallengingTimes.pdf>
<https://thecrg.org/resources/raising-the-roof-the-pastoral-to-program-size-transition>
<https://www.epiok.org/blogEntry.aspx?viewblogentryguid=4a574d71-cb58-463e-af88-b8ce01287060&viewblogguid=>
<https://docs.arumc.org/Center%20for%20Vitality/Archives/Size-Theory-chart-expanded-2.pdf>
<https://alban.org/archive/new-research-on-raising-the-roof/>
<https://www.uua.org/central-east/resources/topics/growth>
<https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/mentoring/EVAN6221%20Church%20Revit.Men.Rice.pdf> Page 9
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CP41mskMnok> The Toughest Size Transition - YouTube
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3ZotHTYce8> Raising the Roof Seminar – YouTube
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alice-mann-b9380b28>
<https://imnedu.org/authors/alice-mann/>
<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/alice-mann/249364/>
<http://www.congregationalconsulting.org/alice-mann/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Alice-Mann/e/B001K8KGK0>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/149624.Alice_Mann
[Images for Alice Mann \(Author\) pastoral-to-program](#)
[Images for Raising the Roof: The Pastoral-to-Program Size Transition by Alice Mann \(Author\)](#)

Pastoral Size Congregations

A pastoral size congregation is a coalition of two or three family and friendship networks unified around the person and role of the minister. The minister maintains a direct ministerial relationship with each member by coordinating the work of a small

leadership circle, personally conducting worship, and leading small group programs such as adult religious study. The governing board usually operates like a committee, arranging much of the day-to-day life of the congregation. Members recognize each other's faces, know most people's names, and notice if someone new is present at worship.

Size Transitions in Unitarian Universalist Congregations

<http://www.uua.org/documents/congservices/sizetransitions.pdf>
[Images for Pastoral Size Congregations](#)

Reflections on Parish Leadership and Mission Strategy

Pastoral-size church (51 to 150)

A coalition of two or three family and friendship networks unified around the person and role of the pastor. Clergy time is largely taken up maintaining a direct pastoral relationship with each member, coordinating the work of a small leadership circle, personally conducting worship, and leading small-group programs such as Bible study. The governing board usually operates like a committee, arranging much of the day-to-day life of the congregation. Members recognize each other's faces, know most people's names, and will notice if someone new is present at worship.

http://kotaraang.angelfire.com/Parish_Leadership.pdf

Page 1

[Images for Reflections on Parish Leadership and Mission Strategy Pastoral-size church \(51 to 150\)](#)

Sizing up a Congregation for New Member Ministry

The Pastoral Church: 50-15010

[https://episcopalchurch.org/files/CDR_series1\(1\).pdf](https://episcopalchurch.org/files/CDR_series1(1).pdf)

<https://sethttan.wordpress.com/2017/09/17/sizing-up-a-congregation-book-summary/>

https://www.episcopalchurch.org/uploads/pages/files/Church_Size_Resources_-_101612.pdf

Page 3

The Challenge of Pastoral Leadership: The Pastor-Centered Church – Barnabas File

One may object to “the pastor-centered church” as the descriptor for this size congregation, but the fact is that the pastor is the nexus—the coordinator, the linchpin, the network node—through which everything flows. This is not an ego thing on the part of the pastor, but something that the members expect. They want someone who will be the administrator of a growing church.

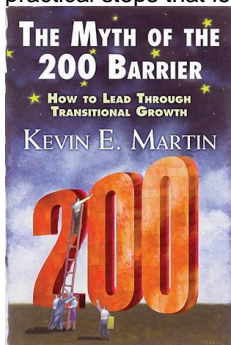
http://barnabasfile.blogspot.com/2012/08/the-challenge-of-pastoral-leadership_28.html

[Images for The Challenge of Pastoral Leadership: The Pastor-Centered Church – Barnabas File](#)

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>

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

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

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<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1441210857>

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[The Myth of the 200 Barrier: How to Lead through Transitional Growth](#)

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/review-of-myth-of-the-200-barrier-how-to-lead-through-transitional-growth/>

<https://www.mabts.edu/sites/all/themes/midamerica/uploads/MS%206310%20Church%20Growth%20Terry.pdf>

Page 15

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

[Images for Kevin E Martin, author the myth of the 200 barrier](#)

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

31) Personality

DiSC® Personal Profile System®

DISCOVER YOUR DISC STYLE NOW!

- Measure your Dominance, Influence, Steadiness and Conscientiousness (DiSC)
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http://www.thediscpersonalitytest.com/?view=Assessments_disc&qclid=CO6i9be3rLYCFac7MgodMAsABQ

[Images for DiSC® Personal Profile System®](#)

Hidden in Plain Sight: Uncovering a Congregation's Personality

Steven C. Van Voorhees

Using several analytical frameworks, you will be introduced to ways of looking more deeply at a congregation's systems. Some of the analytical models are drawn from the Church Development Institute by Bob Gallagher and others come from Kevin Martin, Paul Wilkes and Kennon L. Callahan. Insights gained from these models can form a basis for understanding the current nature of a worshipping community and beginning to plot its strengths, its needs and desires, and its future. Attendees will take away several analytical processes they can use in working through transition situations and sharing with leaders in their congregations to provide an effective way to understand religious communities more clearly and deeply.

[PDF] 2015 IMN Conference programpdf.pub - Interim Ministry Network

<http://imnedu.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/2015-IMN-Conference-programpdf.pdf>

Page 5

[Images for Hidden in Plain Sight: Uncovering a Congregation's Personality Steven C. Van Voorhees](#)

How to Understand Your Personality: 5 Steps (with Pictures)

Are you an introvert or an extrovert? What inspires and motivates us? Do people drain you or recharge you? All these factors go to make up your core personality. Here's how psychologists break down the basic personality types – and how understanding your own personality can help you in all aspects of your life.

<http://www.wikihow.com/Understand-Your-Personality>

[Images for How to Understand Your Personality](#)

Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory – Wikipedia

Clinical scales [edit]

Scale 1 (AKA the **Hypochondriasis Scale**): Measures a person's **perception** and preoccupation with their health and health issues., Scale 2 (AKA the **Depression Scale**): Measures a person's **depressive** symptoms level., Scale 3 (AKA the **Hysteria Scale**): Measures the **emotionality** of a person., Scale 4 (AKA the **Psychopathic Deviate Scale**): Measures a person's need for control or their rebellion against control., Scale 5 (AKA the **Femininity/Masculinity Scale**): Measures a **stereotype** of a person and how they compare. For men it would be the **Marlboro man**, for women it would be **June Cleaver** or **Donna Reed**., Scale 6 (AKA the **Paranoia Scale**): Measures a person's inability to trust., Scale 7 (AKA the **Psychasthenia Scale**): Measures a person's anxiety levels and tendencies., Scale 8 (AKA the **Schizophrenia Scale**): Measures a person's unusual/odd cognitive, perceptual, and emotional experiences, Scale 9 (AKA the **Mania Scale**): Measures a person's energy., Scale 0 (AKA the **Social Introversion Scale**): Measures whether people enjoy and are comfortable being around other people.

The original clinical scales were designed to measure common diagnoses of the era.

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

[Images for Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory](#)

Personality Type in Congregations: How to Work with Others More Effectively [Lynne M. Baab]

Pastor & author, Lynne Baab "offers readers a useful tool to understand both their own spiritual journeys and their role in the life of their chosen spiritual community". The book "...provides a basic understanding of the concepts of psychological type and then builds upon them with applications to real-life issues...".

Lynne served for four years as the interest area coordinator for religious and spiritual issues for the Association for Psychological Type. This book grew out of dozens of phone calls with people who wanted to know how to use type in their Christian congregation, synagogue, Buddhist temple, prison ministry, etc. In this book, Lynne explores the ways personality type, as measured by the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, can be used in many different kinds of congregations and groups of people who have a spiritual focus. This practical book includes discussion about leadership teams, personal spiritual development, roles of volunteer service, how and why to "type" a congregation.

<https://www.amazon.com/Personality-Type-Congregations-Others-Effectively/dp/1566991994>

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/550818.Personality_Type_in_Congregations

<https://www.whsmith.co.uk/products/personality-type-in-congregations-how-to-work-with-others-more-effectively/lynne-m-baab/paperback/9781566991995.html>

<http://www.lynebaab.com/books/personality-type-in-congregations>

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http://legacy.agts.edu/syllabi/ce/summer2003/pthm545bradford_sum03_agts.pdf

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[Titles - Bibliography of MBTI Books by Titles - Start Page](#)

Page 3

Page 2

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<https://www.ivpress.com/lynne-m-baab>
<https://otago.academia.edu/LynneBaab>
http://www.ucc.org/webtips_about-lynne-m-baab
<http://worldcat.org/identities/lccn-no98103793/>
<https://www.amazon.com/Lynne-M.-Baab/e/B001JRZG48>
http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/297402.Lynne_M_Baab
[Images for Lynne M. Baab, author personality type](#)
[Images for Personality Type in Congregations: How to Work with Others More Effectively \[Lynne M. Baab\]](#)

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

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/personality>
[Images for Bible and Personality](#)
<http://debpotts.com/2015/07/16/the-bible-and-personality/>
<https://www.biblesprout.com/articles/bible/personality/>
<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Personality/>
<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/words/personality>
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/person-personality/>

Which Country Best Matches Your Personality? Taken by the wind

The following are descriptions of some of the 16 personality types, along with the countries Massey felt best corresponded with them.

If you're unsure of your personality type, you can take a shortened version of the personality test on this website. You'll then receive a four-letter code that summarizes the way you interact with people, process information and perceive the world (E = Extrovert, I = Introvert, N = iNtuition, F = Feeling, T = Thinking and J = Judging). If you don't see your personality type listed below, it's because Massey wasn't able to find a country that matched it (it looks like some people are destined to feel like outsiders no matter where they live!)

What do you think? Are some personality types more dominant in certain cultures than in others?

<http://www.takenbythewind.com/2010/10/27/which-country-best-matches-your-personality/>
[Images for Which Country Best Matches Your Personality?](#)
<https://quizdo.com/which-country-fits-your-personality/>
<http://travelwithbender.com/travel-thoughts/reflections/what-country-matches-your-personality>
<https://www.playbuzz.com/larak10/what-country-in-the-world-best-fits-your-personality>
<https://play.howstuffworks.com/quiz/everyone-has-a-country-that-matches-their-personality-heres-yours>

Your Church Has Personality: Find Your Focus - Maximize Your Mission [Kent R. Hunter]

Hunter contends that each congregation has its own distinctive personality and that its personality, not its geographic location, is the best beginning point for planning an expansion of ministry.

<http://www.amazon.com/Your-Church-Personality-Kent-Hunter/dp/0912961988>
<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/your-church-has-personality-kent-r-hunter/1112652036>
<https://www.amazon.com/Kent-R.-Hunter/e/B001HMOV78>
<http://churchdoctorministries.com/category/kent-r-hunter/>
<https://www.facebook.com/kentrhunter/>
[Images for Your Church Has Personality: Find Your Focus - Maximize Your Mission \[Kent R. Hunter\]](#)

32) Personality Driven Congregation

Personality-Driven Churches Can't Thrive for Long Term - Ethics Daily

These congregations, though, are often built on the personality and preaching of one single minister.

<http://www.ethicsdaily.com/personality-driven-churches-cant-thrive-for-long-term-cms-22281>
[Images for Personality-Driven Churches Can't Thrive for Long Term - Ethics Daily](#)
<https://paulwilkinson.wordpress.com/tag/personality-driven-churches/>
[Images for personality driven churches](#)
<https://churchleaders.com/outreach-missions/outreach-missions-articles/148676-personality-driven-church.html>
<http://www.churchleaders.com/outreach-missions/outreach-missions-articles/148676-personality-driven-church.html>
<http://www.travisagnew.org/2015/02/04/what-to-do-about-personality-driven-churches/>
[Images for what-to-do-about-personality-driven-churches](#)
<https://www.charismanews.com/opinion/the-pulse/64570-11-obvious-signs-of-a-personality-driven-church>
<https://www.charismanews.com/opinion/the-pulse/64576-11-obvious-signs-of-a-personality-driven-church-mdash-part-2>
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<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/anxiousbench/2015/07/the-problem-of-personality-driven-congregationalism-in-american-evangelicalism/>
[Images for problem-of-personality-driven-congregationalism](#)
<https://oldpathsjournal.com/four-dangers-of-personality-driven-christianity/>
[Images for four-dangers-of-personality-driven-christianity](#)

Personality Driven Ministry – A Two-Edged Sword | Phil Cooke

Churches and ministries should take note. I'm not against personality driven ministry because I think it will always be around. People naturally like to follow teachers they personally relate to and like. But if that's your style, then be prepared for the fall-out.

http://www.philcooke.com/personality_driven_ministry/

[Images for Personality Driven Ministry – A Two-Edged Sword | Phil Cooke](#)

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/anxiousbench/2013/12/plagiarism-personality-driven-leadership-and-the-problem-with-evangelicalism/>

<https://jeremyberg.wordpress.com/2017/10/27/jesus-rabbinic-judaism-personality-driven-ministry-today/>

33) Pillar Congregation

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

Pillar-stance congregations enjoy prestige, if not always influence... This church is the "grand old man on the block."

Chapter 7 The Hidden Life of Congregational Identity

Page 122

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

[Images for Pillar-stance congregations enjoy prestige, if not always influence... This church is the grand old man on the block.](#)

<http://www.israelgalindo.com/Resources/Church/Identity.pdf>

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

[Images for -Hidden-Lives-Congregations-Discerning](#)

The Tale of Two Churches - Google Books Result

Pillar: congregations of community leaders.

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1426941277>

[Images for Pillar: congregations of community leaders.](#)

<https://www.amazon.com/Tale-Churches-Floyd-Dopp-William/dp/1426917856>

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http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3316756.William_Floyd_Dopp

[Images for Tale-Churches-Floyd-Dopp-William](#)

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

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

[Images for Bible and Pillars](#)

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

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

<http://biblehub.com/topical/p/pillar.htm>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/pillar/>

<https://av1611.com/kjbp/kjv-dictionary/pillar.html>

<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Pillar/>

34) Place

A Sense of Place: Flannery O'Connor and the Local Church – The Other Journal

I am part of a faith community called Awake Church, which has bound itself to a particular location along part of Seattle's iconic Aurora Avenue. My church-planting pastor, Ben, had the seemingly simple idea when he began putting together our faith community that our mission would be to undertake Jesus's command to "love your neighbor," and we would do it in this particular place.

<https://theotherjournal.com/2012/01/30/a-sense-of-place-flannery-oconnor-and-the-local-church/>

[Images for A Sense of Place: Flannery O'Connor and the Local Church – The Other Journal](#)

<https://theotherjournal.com/article-author/andrew-carlson/>



There is a **place** for you here.

[Northwest Synod of WI ELCA \(nswwi\) on Pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/nswwi/>

Reimagining a Sense of Place - The Cresset

Some people develop a strong sense of place, that is, a sense of attachment and belonging to a landscape that is central to their identity, while some feel what the writer David James Duncan calls a “non sense” of place, a feeling of displacement from those landscapes.

http://thecresset.org/2011/Lent/Skillen_L2011.html

[Images for Reimagining a Sense of Place](#)

Sense of place - Wikipedia

The term sense of place has been used in many different ways. It is a characteristic that some geographic places have and some do not,^[1] while to others it is a feeling or perception held by people (not by the place itself).^{[2][3]} It is often used in relation to those characteristics that make a place special or unique, as well as to those that foster a sense of authentic human attachment and belonging.^[4]

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

[Images for sense of place](#)

Slipek: “A heightened sense of place has emerged” - Church Hill

Edwin Slipek looks at the “**heightened sense of place**” that has emerged at 25th/Jefferson/M Street since the roundabout was installed in March 2009:

<https://chpn.net/2016/05/04/slipek-a-heightened-sense-of-place-has-emerged/>

[Images for heightened sense of place](#)

35) Plateaued Congregation

Breaking Numerical Barriers and Revitalizing Plateaued Churches by Mark Christy (Author)

Churches that move beyond growth plateaus must recommit to the Great Commission so that they will be willing to make the necessary changes, so long as they are in line with Scripture, if they intend to grow numerically in keeping with God’s desire for them. This paper discusses how churches should break with the past by learning new ways to be effective and developing new attitudes that will enable growth to occur. It offers several key issues, listed by Church Growth scholars, which must be considered by a plateaued church so that it can be revitalized for effective church growth. It then discusses the changes necessary for a church to avoid plateaus and move beyond numerical growth barriers.

<https://www.amazon.com/Breaking-Numerical-Barriers-Revitalizing-Plateaued-ebook/dp/B007IUIFRA>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/28121181-breaking-numerical-barriers-and-revitalizing-plateaued-churches>

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https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3146417.Mark_Christy

[Images for Breaking Numerical Barriers and Revitalizing Plateaued Churches by Mark Christy \(Author\)](#)

Kick-Starting the Plateaued and Declining Church: Called to Love, Serve, and Lead People | Ed Stetzer

When kick-starting a plateaued or declining church, several things will help to prime the pump and begin the process of revitalization.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2010/october/kick-starting-plateaued-and-declining-church-called-to.html>

[Images for Kick-Starting the Plateaued and Declining Church: Called to Love, Serve, and Lead People | Ed Stetzer](#)

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2010/november/kick-starting-plateaued-and-declining-church-cultivating.html>

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<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2010/december/kick-starting-plateaued-and-declining-church-part-4.html>

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<http://www.lifeway.com/Product/comeback-churches-P005018345>

Plateau Zone

This may explain what Alice Mann calls The Plateau Zone in worship attendance.

The plateau zone occurs between 50 and 70 in attendance. This is an important boundary area to understand because it could potentially affect the growth of 70 percent of the Christian congregations in North America. The second plateau zone occurs between 150 and 200 at weekend worship. This is the ceiling that would be confronted by another quarter of North American churches if they were to grow substantially. So, the majority of congregations grappling with a growth plateau are stuck in one of these two zones.⁵

Mann also points out that, “At a worship attendance of about 35 people, the single cell of membership becomes stretched. By the time it hits 50, the unbroken circle of members – that defining constellation of the congregation’s life – is in crises. In order to increase further, the system must allow itself to become a multi-cell organism . . .”⁶

Maybe the small congregation is not so much a problem to be solved but a reflection of the human desire to congregate in a size that is most comfortable for human nature. As church denominations recognize this, the small church can become an asset instead of a deficit.

[\[PDF\]Monthly Encouragement and Inspiration for Smaller Congregations](#)

http://www.pghpresbytery.org/small_churches/pdfs/09-2007.pdf

Images for the small congregation is not so much a problem to be solved but a reflection of the human desire to congregate in a size that is most comfortable for human nature

<http://www.uua.org/growth/ga/44009.shtml>

<https://alban.org/archive/negotiating-boundaries/>

<http://www.amazon.com/The-In-Between-Church-Transitions-Congregations/dp/1566992079>

Images for The-In-Between-Church-Transitions-Congregations

http://storage.cloversites.com/firstlutheranchurch2/documents/Raising%20the%20Roof%20Summary_2.pdf

The Every Church Guide to Growth: How Any Plateaued Church Can Grow by Thom S. Rainer (Author), C. Peter Wagner (Author), Elmer L. Towns (Author)

A growing church is a living church, but much of the attention in church growth today is focused on making big churches bigger. This encouraging new book shows members of small and medium-sized congregations how to revive and expand their ministries as well. Churches of every size tend to plateau in attendance and never break free of their self-imposed limitations or 'growth barriers'. This book gives detailed, practical instructions for breaking through those barriers to new levels of impact and service in the community. *The Every Church Guide to Growth* rallies church leaders and members to develop plans for strength and solid growth in the future.

<http://www.amazon.com/Everychurch-Guide-Growth-Plateaued-Church/dp/080540192X>

<https://bakerbookhouse.com/products/the-everychurch-guide-to-growth-how-any-plateaued-church-can-grow-9780805401929>

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The Plateaued Congregation and the Lore of Church Growth | For the Kingdom Blog

The lore of church growth tells us that we are corporate failures if we are unable to produce winning numbers. The King of the Kingdom tells us that true Kingdom fruit is found in an openhanded posture of selflessness.

<https://www.namb.net/for-the-kingdom/the-plateaued-congregation-and-the-lore-of-church-growth>

Images for The Plateaued Congregation and the Lore of Church Growth | For the Kingdom Blog

The State of the American Church: Plateaued or Declining – The Malphurs Group

The State of the American Church concerns me. 80-85% of churches are plateaued or declining.

<http://www.malphursgroup.com/state-of-the-american-church-plateaued-declining/>

Images for The State of the American Church: Plateaued or Declining – The Malphurs Group

<http://www.churchleaderinsights.com/blog/2014/10/02/the-state-of-the-american-church/#.V7-m9SgrKUK>

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12 Kinds of Churches – Which One is Yours? – Will Mancini

4 KINDS OF PLATEAUED CHURCHES

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Images for Will Mancini

36) Pluralism

Christian Assembly: Marks of the Church in a Pluralistic Age [Gordon W. Lathrop, Timothy J. Wengert]

What is church? What makes the church one? While these questions may seem innocuous, church has become conflicted territory, with internal factions, external pressures, and ecumenical turmoil all calling for a more positive, sturdy, more resilient notion of Christian community.

Wengert approaches the questions as a Reformation historian. He shows how the New Testament notion of "marks" of the church was taken up by Martin Luther and developed by Phillip Melancthon not as a descriptive tag but as a criterion for authenticity in Christian community. Lathrop, a liturgical theologian, shows concretely how those marks can stamp the worship life of a congregation as well as the evaluative work of congregations with their pastors, bishops, superintendents, and conference ministers.

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Images for Timothy J. Wengert, author

Images for Christian Assembly: Marks of the Church in a Pluralistic Age [Gordon W. Lathrop, Timothy J. Wengert]

Religious Pluralism in America: The Contentious History of a Founding Ideal by William R. Hutchison (Author)

In this groundbreaking and timely history, an eminent historian of religion chronicles America's struggle to fulfill the promise of religious toleration enshrined in our Constitution. William Hutchison shows that as Catholics, Mormons, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, and others emerged to challenge the Protestant mainstream, we have expanded our understanding of what it means to be a religiously diverse country.

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Images for William R. Hutchison (Author)

Images for Religious Pluralism in America: The Contentious History of a Founding Ideal by William R. Hutchison (Author)

Religious Pluralism: Seeing Religions Again with Marcus Borg - YouTube

Best-selling author Marcus Borg, Professor in Religion and Culture, uses an interdisciplinary approach to examine the role and importance of religions and religious pluralism in contemporary life in this presentation at UCSD.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jHlv-c-Rpzw>

Images for Religious Pluralism: Seeing Religions Again with Marcus Borg - YouTube

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Images for Marcus Borg, author

Religious pluralism - Wikipedia

Religious pluralism is an attitude or policy regarding the diversity of [religious belief systems](#) co-existing in society. It can indicate one or more of the following:

- As the name of the worldview according to which one's own religion is not held to be the sole and exclusive source of truth, and thus the acknowledgement that at least some truths and true values exist in other religions.
- As acceptance of the concept that two or more religions with mutually exclusive truth claims are equally valid, this may be considered a form of either [toleration](#) (a concept that arose as a result of the [European wars of religion](#)) or [moral relativism](#).
- The understanding that the exclusive claims of different religions turn out, upon closer examination, to be variations of universal truths that have been taught since time immemorial. This is called *Perennialism* (based on the concept of [philosophia perennis](#)) or [Traditionalism](#).
- Sometimes as a synonym for [ecumenism](#), i.e., the promotion of some level of unity, co-operation, and improved understanding between different religions or different [denominations](#) within a single religion.
- As a term for the condition of harmonious co-existence between adherents of different [religions](#) or [religious denominations](#).
- As a [social norm](#) and not merely a synonym for religious diversity.^[1]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religious_pluralism
[Images for Religious pluralism](#)

17+ best images about Religious Pluralism on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/ellathebold/religious-pluralism/>
[Images for Religious Pluralism on Pinterest](#)

The Gospel in a Pluralist Society by Lesslie Newbigin (Author)

How does the gospel relate to a pluralist society? What is the Christian message in a society marked by religious pluralism, ethnic diversity, and cultural relativism? Should Christians encountering today's pluralist society concentrate on evangelism or on dialogue? How does the prevailing climate of opinion affect, perhaps infect, Christians' faith?

These kinds of questions are addressed in this noteworthy book by Lesslie Newbigin. A highly respected Christian leader and ecumenical figure, Newbigin provides a brilliant analysis of contemporary (secular, humanist, pluralist) culture and suggests how Christians can more confidently affirm their faith in such a context.

While drawing from scholars such as Michael Polanyi, Alasdair MacIntyre, Hendrikus Berkhof, Walter Wink, and Robert Wuthnow, *The Gospel in a Pluralist Society* is suited not only to an academic readership. This heartfelt work by a missionary pastor and preacher also offers to Christian leaders and laypeople some thoughtful, helpful, and provocative reflections.

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[Images for Lesslie Newbigin \(Author\)](#)

[Images for The Gospel in a Pluralist Society by Lesslie Newbigin \(Author\)](#)

The Pluralism Project

Over the past five decades, immigration has dramatically changed the religious landscape of the United States. Today, the encounter of people of different religious traditions takes place in our own cities and neighborhoods. In 1991, the Pluralism Project at Harvard University began a pioneering study of America's changing religious landscape. Through an expanding network of affiliates, we document the contours of our multi-religious society, explore new forms of interfaith engagement, study the impact of religious diversity in civic life, and contextualize these findings within a global framework.

<http://www.pluralism.org/>
[Images for Pluralism Project at Harvard University](#)
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Diana Eck | Religious Pluralism - YouTube

"Religious Pluralism" was the sixth lecture of the Diversity and U.S. Legal History Series presented by the Office of the Dean and the Diversity and U.S. Legal History Reading Group. Diana Eck, Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies, Harvard Divinity School, gave the lecture on October 5, 2016 in Wasserstein Hall. The lecture series is a companion to the Diversity and U.S. Legal History Reading Group lead by Professor Mark Tushnet.

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37) Popular Culture

A Matrix of Meanings: finding God in pop culture (Engaging Culture) [Craig Detweiler, Barry Taylor]

Ross and Rachel had a baby, Britney and Justin broke up, and Time magazine asked if Bono could save the world. From the glittering tinsel of Hollywood to the advertising slogan you can't get out of your head, we are surrounded by popular culture. In *A Matrix of Meanings* Craig Detweiler and Barry Taylor analyze aspects of popular culture and ask, What are they doing? What do they represent? and What do they say about the world in which we live? Rather than deciding whether Bono deserves our admiration, the authors examine the phenomenon of celebrity idolization. Instead of deciding whether Nike's "Just do it" campaign is morally questionable, they ask what its success reflects about our society. *A Matrix of Meanings* is a hip, entertaining guide to the maze of popular culture. Plentiful photos, artwork, and humorous sidebars make for delightful reading. Readers who distrust popular culture as well as those who love it will find useful insight into developing a Christian worldview in a secular culture.

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Images for Engaging Culture - series

Call Me the Seeker: Listening to Religion in Popular Music [Michael J. Gilmour]

-One of very few books on religion and popular music
-Covers a wide range of musical styles, from heavy metal and rap to country, jazz and Broadway musicals
-The essays are written by academics and informed by their enthusiasm for the music
Many books have explored the relationship between religion and film, but few have yet examined the significance of religion to popular music. *Call Me The Seeker* steps into that gap.

Michael Gilmour's introductory essay gives a state-of-the-discipline overview of research in the area. He argues that popular songs frequently draw from and "interpret" themes found in the conceptual and linguistic worlds of the major religions and reveal underlying attitudes in those who compose and consume them. He says these "texts" deserve more serious study. The essays in the book start an on-going conversation in this area, bringing a variety of methodologies to bear on selected artists and topics.

Musical styles covered range from heavy metal and rap to country, jazz, and Broadway musicals.

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Images for Michael J. Gilmour, author call me the seeker

Images for Call Me the Seeker: Listening to Religion in Popular Music [Michael J. Gilmour]

Eyes Wide Open: Looking for God in Popular Culture [William D. Romanowski]

Grounded in Christian principles, this accessible and engaging book offers an informed and fascinating approach to popular culture. William D. Romanowski provides affectionate yet astute analysis of familiar, well loved movies and television characters from Indiana Jones to Homer Simpson, and he speaks with historical depth and expertise on films from Casablanca to Crash and music from Bruce Springsteen to U2. Romanowski's confessional approach affirms a role for popular culture in faithful living.

Practical, analytical approaches to content, meaning, and artistic style offer the tools to participate responsibly and imaginatively in popular cultural activities. An engaging read, this new edition introduces students and thoughtful readers to popular culture one of the most influential forces in contemporary society.

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Images for William D. Romanowski, author

Images for Eyes Wide Open: Looking for God in Popular Culture [William D. Romanowski]

Material Christianity: Religion and Popular Culture in America: Colleen McDannell.

What can the religious objects used by nineteenth- and twentieth-century Americans tell us about American Christianity? What is the relationship between the beliefs of the faithful and the landscapes they build? This lavishly illustrated book investigates the history and meaning of Christian material culture in America over the past 150 years. Drawing on a rich array of historical sources and on in-depth interviews with Protestants, Catholics, Mormons, Colleen McDannell examines the relationship between religion and mass consumption.

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[Images for Colleen McDannell, author](#)
[Images for Material Christianity: Religion and Popular Culture in America: Colleen McDannell.](#)

Popcultured: Thinking Christianly About Style, Media and Entertainment [Steve Turner]

There's no avoiding popular culture—we've been enculturated into it. What does it mean to be faithful Christians in a pop culture world? How do we think Christianly about celebrity and leisure? Some Christians try to abstain from "worldly" pursuits, while others consume culture indiscriminately, assuming it has little effect on them. But if Christ is Lord of all of life, then there ought to be Christian ways to engage with and appreciate popular culture. Steve Turner has spent his career chronicling and interviewing people from the worlds of music, film, television, fashion, art and literature. Now he provides an insider's guide to a wide range of entertainment pursuits, with biblical frameworks for understanding pop culture genres and artifacts. Turner explores how movies use redemptive narratives and parables, ways journalistic headlines convey worldview assumptions, differences between famous people in the past and celebrities today, what ideas are communicated through clothing and fashion design, how technology changes our sense of what is real, and much more.

God entrusts culture to us and gives us the ability to critique it, enjoy it and create it. This book will help you become a better cultural critic, consumer and creator.

<http://www.amazon.com/Popcultured-Thinking-Christianly-About-Entertainment/dp/083083768X>
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http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/12836.Steve_Turner
[Images for Steve Turner, author popcultured: thinking christianity](#)
[Images for Popcultured: Thinking Christianly About Style, Media and Entertainment \[Steve Turner\]](#)

Popular Culture Theory and Methodology: A Basic Introduction (Ray and Pat Browne Book) [Harold E. Hinds Jr., Marilyn F. Motz, Angela M. S. Nelson]

Since its birth in the 1960s, the study of popular culture has come a long way in defining its object, its purpose, and its place in academe. Emerging along the margins of a scholarly establishment that initially dismissed anything popular as unworthy of serious study—trivial, formulaic, easily digestible, escapist—early practitioners of the discipline stubbornly set about creating the theoretical and methodological framework upon which a deeper understanding could be founded. Through seminal essays that document the maturation of the field as it gradually made headway toward legitimacy, *Popular Culture Theory and Methodology* provides students of popular culture with both the historical context and the critical apparatus required for further growth.

For all its progress, the study of popular culture remains a site of healthy questioning. What exactly is popular culture? How should it be studied? What forces come together in producing, disseminating, and consuming it? Is it always conformist, or has it the power to subvert, refashion, resist, and destabilize the status quo? How does it differ from folk culture, mass culture, commercial culture? Is the line between "high" and "low" merely arbitrary? Do the popular arts have a distinctive aesthetics? This collection offers a wide range of responses to these and similar questions. Edited by Harold E. Hinds, Jr., Marilyn F. Motz, and Angela M. S. Nelson, *Popular Culture Theory and Methodology* charts some of the key turning points in the "culture wars" and leads us through the central debates in this fast developing discipline. Authors of the more than two dozen studies, several of which are newly published here include John Cawelti, Russel B. Nye, Ray B. Browne, Fred E. H. Schroeder, John Fiske, Lawrence Mintz, David Feldman, Roger Rollin, Harold Schechter, S. Elizabeth Bird, and Harold E. Hinds, Jr. A valuable bibliography completes the volume.

<http://www.amazon.com/Popular-Culture-Theory-Methodology-Introduction/dp/087972871X>
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/popular-culture-theory-and-methodology-harold-e-hinds/1114514662>
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<https://www.bgsu.edu/arts-and-sciences/cultural-and-critical-studies/popular-culture/faculty-and-staff/angela-nelson.html>
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Images for Marilyn F. Motz
Images for Popular Culture Theory and Methodology: A Basic Introduction (Ray and Pat Browne Book) [Harold E. Hinds Jr., Marilyn F. Motz, Angela M. S. Nelson]
<https://uwpress.wisc.edu/series/browne.html>
Images for Ray and Pat Browne Book series

Popular culture - Wikipedia

Popular culture (also called mass culture and pop culture) is generally recognized by members of a society as a set of the practices, beliefs, and objects that are dominant or prevalent in a society at a given point in time. Popular culture also encompasses the activities and feelings produced as a result of interaction with these dominant objects. Heavily influenced in modern times by mass media, this collection of ideas permeates the everyday lives of people in a given society. Therefore, popular culture has a way of influencing an individual's attitudes towards certain topics.^[1] However, there are various ways to define pop culture.^[2] Because of this, popular culture is something that can be defined in a variety of conflicting ways by different people across different contexts.^[3] It is generally viewed in contrast to other forms of culture such as folk culture, working-class culture, or high culture, and also through different theoretical perspectives such as psychoanalysis, structuralism, postmodernism, and more. The most common pop-culture categories are: entertainment (such as film, music, television and video games), sports, news (as in people/places in the news), politics, fashion, technology, and slang.^[4]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Popular_culture
Images for popular culture

Understanding Religion and Popular Culture: Theories, Themes, Products and Practices [Terry Ray Clark, Dan W. Clanton Jr.]

This introductory text provides students with a 'toolbox' of approaches for analyzing religion and popular culture. It encourages readers to think critically about the ways in which popular cultural practices and products, especially those considered as forms of entertainment, are laden with religious ideas, themes, and values. The chapters feature lively and contemporary case study material and outline relevant theory and methods for analysis. Among the areas covered are religion and food, violence, music, television and videogames. Each entry is followed by a helpful summary, glossary, bibliography, discussion questions and suggestions for further reading/viewing. *Understanding Religion and Popular Culture* offers a valuable entry point into an exciting and rapidly evolving field of study.

<http://www.amazon.com/Understanding-Religion-Popular-Culture-Practices/dp/041578106X>
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Images for Terry Ray Clark, author
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Images for Dan W. Clanton Jr., author
Images for Understanding Religion and Popular Culture: Theories, Themes, Products and Practices [Terry Ray Clark, Dan W. Clanton Jr.]

Understanding Theology and Popular Culture by Gordon Lynch (Author)

Understanding Theology and Popular Culture is one of the first books to give an overview of the key issues and methods in this field of study. Provides a detailed introduction to key theories and debates in popular cultural studies. Presents a reasoned argument about the distinctive contribution that theology can make to the study of popular culture. Illustrated through a range of original case studies, from Eminem to *The Simpsons*. Suitable for both beginning students and more advanced researchers. The author has created the Theology and Popular Culture Gateway which is one of the first academic Internet gateways for the study of theology and contemporary culture.

<http://www.amazon.com/Understanding-Theology-Popular-Culture-Gordon/dp/1405117486>
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<https://www.bookdepository.com/Understanding-Theology-Popular-Culture-Gordon-Lynch/9781405117487>
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[Images for Gordon Lynch \(Author\)](#)
[Images for Understanding Theology and Popular Culture by Gordon Lynch \(Author\)](#)

38) Post-anxiety Church

Overcoming Anxiety: Christ, the Church Fathers, and Cognitive Scientific Psychology

St. Maximus the Confessor on fear (anxiety)

St. Maximus the Confessor (580-662 AD) likewise had an astute understanding of fear or anxiety. He tells us: "...an evil which is expected in the future is called fear, and one experienced in the present is called distress... [a] contemplative [one striving to be a holy Christian], on the other hand remains dispassionate in the face of such evils, since he has united himself with God and is detached from all that happens in this present life." (Philokalia IV)

<http://www.antiochian.org/node/20772>

[Images for Overcoming Anxiety: Christ, the Church Fathers, and Cognitive Scientific Psychology St. Maximus the Confessor on fear \(anxiety\)](#)

The post-anxiety church - The Christian Century

The future of the church is a question that makes it way deep into my bones. I worry too. But the church has never looked less attractive than when it dresses in anxiety. Historically that's when we've made our worst mistakes. Fear makes us desperate. We throw the little money and energy that remains into trendy programs that make no substantive change. Or worse, we become fixated on finding someone to blame for our demise. These are expressions of despair, which is where anxiety lands after it slides to the bottom.

<http://www.christiancentury.org/article/2016-01/post-anxiety-church>

[Images for post-anxiety church – Christian Century](#)

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http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/150743.M_Craig_Barnes

[Images for M. Craig Barnes](#)

39) Postmodern

Best 10+ Postmodernism ideas on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/explore/postmodernism/>

[Images for postmodernism pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/marjahannele/postmodernism/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/marybrowngold/postmodern-design/>

Brand New Church?: The Church and the Postmodern Condition by Graeme Fancourt (Author)

Brand New Church? aims to make sense of what 'postmodern' actually looks and feels like in real life, and to ask what this means for the church. Over the past few years, Graeme Fancourt has travelled around the UK and USA consulting with a wide range of church leaders. He writes: The church that I have encountered is thoughtful, active and confident in the gospel . . . Though holding many different views, these leaders all appear to take seriously the need for the church genuinely to engage (positively or negatively) with what it perceives to be the postmodern condition. The author reveals and explores the diversity of thinking found in local churches, in colleges and universities, and expressed in works of contemporary theology. The result is a vibrant read, which offers a broad understanding of how the church might participate fruitfully in dialogue and mission for the sake of all God's people.

<http://www.amazon.com/Brand-New-Church-Postmodern-Condition/dp/028106797X>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/brand-new-church-graeme-fancourt/1115402652>

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Brand New Church: The Church and the postmodern condition

<https://spckpublishing.co.uk/brand-new-church>

<https://www.overdrive.com/media/1302835/brand-new-church>

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/21107559-brand-new-church>

Images for Graeme Fancourt (Author)

Images for Brand New Church?: The Church and the Postmodern Condition by Graeme Fancourt (Author)

Charts of Modern and Postmodern Church History (Zondervan Charts) [John D. Hannah]

Numerous charts and diagrams provide a means to understanding the rise of nationalism, modernism, and postmodernism in the nineteenth to early twenty-first centuries – and how each movement affected Christianity.

Charts of Modern and Postmodern Church History provides a powerful visual tool for understanding the historic foundations on which contemporary Christianity rest. From geography, to theology, to doctrines both orthodox and heretical, to key figures and movements over the last three hundred years, the broad comprehensive scope of modern church history comes across simply, clearly, and with impact.

<http://www.amazon.com/Charts-Modern-Postmodern-History-ZondervanCharts/dp/0310526388>

<https://www.zondervan.com/author/1101/john-d-hannah/>

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Images for John D. Hannah, author

Images for Charts of Modern and Postmodern Church History (Zondervan Charts) [John D. Hannah]

<http://www.zondervan.com/the-zondervan-charts-library-complete-17-volume-set>

<https://www.librarything.com/series/Zondervan+Charts>

Images for Zondervan Charts books

God's Mission and Postmodern Culture: The Gift of Uncertainty [John C. Sivalon, MM]

Postmodernity is a name that has been attached to our cultural milieu. Among its features are a sense of historical consciousness, a recognition of the social construction of knowledge, an appreciation for pluralism, and a suspicion of grand narratives. It is a cultural worldview that is naturally suspicious of Christian mission. Meanwhile, conservative Catholics are equally suspicious of postmodernism, associating it with relativism, secularism, and syncretism). Drawing on his own mission training and experience, John Sivalon believes the gospel can and must be enculturated in any culture, and he believes that postmodernism, rather than rendering Christian mission meaningless, breathes fresh insight, vision, and life into Vatican II's notion that mission is centered in the very heart of God. Above all, postmodernism offers the gift of uncertainty --the ground of questioning, Why are we doing this? What should we do? How is it best done? With actual case studies that reflect the new face of mission, Fr. Sivalon offers a hopeful vision of how the Gospel retains its challenge and relevance in an age of uncertainty and change.

<http://www.amazon.com/Gods-Mission-Postmodern-Culture-Uncertainty/dp/1570759995>

<http://www.scranton.edu/academics/cas/theology/cv/sivaloncv>

<http://www.orbisbooks.com/gods-mission-and-postmodern-culture.html>

<http://catholicbooksreview.org/2012/sivalon.htm>

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Presented by John C. Sivalon, MM, PhD - Full Circle

Images for John C. Sivalon, author

Images for God's Mission and Postmodern Culture: The Gift of Uncertainty [John C. Sivalon, MM]

Postmodern Children's Ministry: Ministry to Children in the 21st Century Church (emergentYS) [Ivy Beckwith]

This practical, thought-provoking book presents a new paradigm for children's ministry in the emerging 21ST century and explores how churches are currently putting that vision into practice. Advocating the need to regard children as full participants in their faith communities, the book provides strategies for building intergenerational community where children feel they belong and have the opportunity to serve.

<http://www.amazon.com/Postmodern-Childrens-Ministry-Children-emergentYS/dp/0310257549>

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http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/380325.Postmodern_Childrens_Ministry

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QIXze_xHc A Conversation on Faith Formation – YouTube

<https://vimeo.com/92794480> Rev. Dr. Ivy Beckwith

http://www.ucc.org/ivy_beckwith

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Images for Postmodern Children's Ministry: Ministry to Children in the 21st Century Church (emergentYS) [Ivy Beckwith]

<https://www.amazon.com/EmergentYS-Pack-Zondervan-Publishing/dp/0310645131>

Images for emergentYS books

Postmodern Christianity - Wikipedia

Postmodern Christianity are various forms of [Christianity](#) which have been influenced by [postmodern philosophy](#). Although a relatively recent development within Christianity, some Christian postmodernists assert that their style of thought has an affinity with foundational Christian thinkers such as [Augustine of Hippo](#) and [Thomas Aquinas](#), and famed Christian [mystics](#) such as [Meister Eckhart](#) and [Angelus Silesius](#). In addition to [Christian theology](#), postmodern Christianity has its roots in post-[Heideggerian continental philosophy](#), developed ca. 1960s to present.

Despite the name some people eschew the label "postmodern Christianity" because the meaning of the term "postmodern" is frequently debated, even between those who use the label. Therefore, some say it has almost no determinate meaning and, in the [United States](#), serves largely to symbolize an emotionally charged battle of [ideologies](#). Moreover, such alleged postmodern heavyweights as [Jacques Derrida](#) and [Philippe Lacoue-Labarthe](#) have refused to operate under a so-called postmodern rubric, preferring instead to specifically embrace a single project stemming from the European [Enlightenment](#) and its precursors. Nevertheless, postmodern Christianity and its constituent schools of thought continue to be relevant.

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

[Images for Postmodern Christianity](#)

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

[Images for Postmodernism](#)

Post-Modern Pilgrims: First Century Passion for the 21st Century World [Leonard Sweet]

There is a legend of a Welsh Prince Madoc whose ship became stuck in Chesapeake Bay. After trying unsuccessfully to escape, he had his men row out with the anchor, drop it as far into the sea as they could, and then the ship winched its way forward. The image of the church as a boat and tradition as an anchor is prevalent in Christian art. If we examine the biblical view of an anchor, we find, like Prince Madoc, we are to cast our anchor into the future and pull the church forward. Postmodern pilgrims must strive to keep the past and the future in perpetual conversation, so every generation will find a fresh expression of the Gospel that is anchored solidly to "the faith that was once for all delivered."

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<https://www.amazon.com/Leonard-Sweet/e/B000APMP9Y>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/24720.Leonard_Sweet

[Images for Leonard Sweet](#)

[Images for Post-Modern Pilgrims: First Century Passion for the 21st Century World \[Leonard Sweet\]](#)

Recreating the Church: Leadership for the Postmodern Age (TCP Leadership Series) [Dr. Richard Hamm]

Mainline denominations in the United States are in crisis. These institutions - created in and for modernity - are now facing a changed, postmodern culture. Hamm faces the crisis, examining its origins, and offers sound advice on how to lead to church to make the adaptive changes needed to thrive in postmodern times. A TCP Leadership Series title.

<http://www.amazon.com/Recreating-Church-Leadership-Postmodern-Series/dp/0827232535>

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https://books.google.sm/books?id=AQ_kGFdthYAC

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIJ_UH5NyQ4 Legacy of Faithful Leadership - Part 5 - Dr. Richard L. Hamm - YouTube

<http://rlhministries.org/about/dr-hamm.php>

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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-richard-hamm-175a0032>

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[Images for Dr. Richard Hamm, author postmodern age](#)

[Images for Recreating the Church: Leadership for the Postmodern Age \(TCP Leadership Series\) \[Dr. Richard Hamm\]](#)

<http://www.chalicepress.com/TCP-Leadership-Series-C157.aspx>

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[Images for TCP Leadership Series](#)

The American Church in Crisis: Groundbreaking Research Based on a National Database of over 200,000 Churches by David T. Olson (Author), Craig Groeschel (Foreword)

Groundbreaking research based on a national database of over 200,000 churches shows that the overall United States population is growing faster than the church. The director of the American Church Research Project, Dave Olson, has worked to analyze church attendance, showing that it is virtually unchanged from fifteen years ago while our population has grown by fifty-two million people. What does this mean for you, your church, and the future of Christianity in North America? *The American Church in Crisis* offers unprecedented access to data that helps you understand the state of the church today. "We live in a world that is post-Christian, **postmodern**, and multiethnic, whether we realize it or not," says the author. This book not only gives a realistic picture that confirms hunches and explodes myths, but it provides insight into how the church must change to reach a new and changed world with the hope of the gospel. Readers will find a richly textured mosaic with optimistic and challenging stories. Charts, diagrams, and worksheets provide church leaders and motivated church members with a stimulating read that will provoke much discussion. Questions for discussion accompany the chapters.

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[Images for david t. olson, author american church in crisis](#)

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<https://vimeo.com/1429800> "Where Are the People?" by Dave Olson

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[Images for Craig Groeschel, author the american church in crisis](#)

[Images for The American Church in Crisis: Groundbreaking Research Based on a National Database of over 200,000 Churches by David T. Olson \(Author\), Craig Groeschel \(Foreword\)](#)

The Church Faces Death: Ecclesiology in a Post-Modern Context by Michael Jinkins (Author)

Ecclesiology (the theology of the church) is a neglected topic in contemporary theology. At a time when the institutional churches are experiencing dramatic decline, says Michael Jinkins, we need a new understanding of what the church is. In this work, Jinkins challenges the church to rediscover its vocation, to follow Jesus Christ even at the risk of its institutional survival. In the face of a variety of perceived threats to its future, he reminds us that the church is most alive and attractive when it forgets about itself and its safety. The ecclesiology Jinkins puts forward is born from a sense of "life in Christ" that can, he argues, face institutional death to recover a remarkable freedom. Without detailing the face of the future church, he asserts his faith that there is indeed life after death for the church as the worshipping body of Christ.



<http://www.amazon.com/The-Church-Faces-Death-Ecclesiology/dp/0195128400>

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[The Church Faces Death: Ecclesiology in a Post-Modern Context](#)

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<https://www.faithandleadership.com/michael-jinkins>

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/author/presidentlistening-887>

https://www.ivpress.com/cgi-ivpress/author.pl/author_id=15

http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/author/michael_jinkins

<https://www.amazon.com/Michael-Jinkins/e/B001H6S3PA>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/322307.Michael_Jinkins

[Images for Michael Jinkins \(Author\)](#)

[Images for The Church Faces Death: Ecclesiology in a Post-Modern Context by Michael Jinkins \(Author\)](#)

The Economy of Desire: Christianity and Capitalism in a Postmodern World (The Church and Postmodern Culture) [Daniel M. Jr. Bell, James Smith]

In this addition to the award-winning Church and Postmodern Culture series, respected theologian Daniel Bell compares and contrasts capitalism and Christianity, showing how Christianity provides resources for faithfully navigating the postmodern global

economy. Bell approaches capitalism and Christianity as alternative visions of humanity, God, and the good life. Considering faith and economics in terms of how desire is shaped, he casts the conflict as one between different disciplines of desire. He engages the work of two important postmodern philosophers, Deleuze and Foucault, to illuminate the nature of the postmodern world that the church currently inhabits. Bell then considers how the global economy deforms desire in a manner that distorts human relations with God and one another. In contrast, he presents Christianity and the tradition of the works of mercy as a way beyond capitalism and socialism, beyond philanthropy and welfare. Christianity heals desire, renewing human relations and enabling communion with God.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Economy-Desire-Christianity-Capitalism/dp/0801035732>
<https://www.amazon.com/Economy-Desire-Church-Postmodern-Culture-ebook/product-reviews/B00997YKJC>
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The Great Worship Awakening: Singing a New Song in the Postmodern Church [Robb Redman]

In this helpful (and much-needed) book, author Robb Redman-pastor, consultant, and educator-offers a unique insider's explanation of the ins and outs of Christian worship trends. The book explores the four major developments that comprise what he calls the "worship awakening": the seeker service movement, the "praise and worship" movement, the Christian worship music industry, and the liturgical renewal movement. Redman explains that these trends offer important examples and lessons for established churches. *The Great Worship Awakening* also includes helpful guidance for congregations who are considering making changes to their current worship style.

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Images for *The Great Worship Awakening: Singing a New Song in the Postmodern Church* [Robb Redman]

The Postmodern Life Cycle: Challenges for Church and Theology [Dr. Friedrich Schweitzer]

Schweitzer's goal in this book is to explore what postmodernity actually means for theology and how theology and the church may respond to its challenges. He focuses on the life cycle as it is changing with the advent of postmodernity, looking sequentially at segments of the life cycle using different lenses: modernity, postmodernity, and responses from church and theology. Schweitzer concludes with a theology of the life cycle.

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[Images for The Postmodern Life Cycle: Challenges for Church and Theology \[Dr. Friedrich Schweitzer\]](#)

The Postmodern Parish: New Ministry for a New Era [Jim Kitchens]

"Many of us who are pastors of local mainline churches have long felt that something is amiss in the life of our congregations. It's hard for us to name exactly what is wrong, but occasionally we are aware of a nagging sense that something is just not working any more... Our best efforts at ministry feel like they're about a half beat behind some new pulse beginning to course through the culture," writes author Jim Kitchens. Congregational leaders who recognize Kitchens' description of congregational life today will appreciate his pointed and realistic analysis of fundamental shifts in ministry that have taken place in our post-modern, post-Christian, and post-denominational world. Kitchens also demonstrates that we need to create a different sort of church if we are to be faithful to the gospel in this new cultural setting. He addresses in detail how these contextual shifts invite us to change our ministry in four arenas of congregational life: worship, Christian formation, mission, and leadership. Kitchens shows congregational leaders how to learn how to be the body of Christ in ways that will be both faithful to the Gospel and responsive to our newly emerging cultural context.

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[Images for The Postmodern Parish: New Ministry for a New Era \[Jim Kitchens\]](#)

Transitional Ministry Today: Successful Strategies for Churches and Pastors edited by Norman B. Bendroth

Postmodernity is the world view that "Gen Xers," "Gen Yers," and "Millennialists," those born after 1964 grew up in. They have no binding story, as did previous generations. They lack confidence in the institutions that sustained previous generations and are suspicious of trite answers. The world of laptops, iPhones, Facebook, and reality TV informs their worldview, providing overwhelming choices and an exposure to a mountain of information. This creates a world that is in perpetual motion with no center of gravity. Sociologist Peter Berger calls this "the vertigo of relativity." 23 Page 11

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What Would Jesus Deconstruct?: The Good News of Postmodernism for the Church (The Church and Postmodern Culture) by John D. Caputo (Author), Brian McLaren (Foreword)

This provocative addition to The Church and Postmodern Culture series offers a lively rereading of Charles Sheldon's *In His Steps* as a constructive way forward. John D. Caputo introduces the notion of why the church needs deconstruction, positively defines deconstruction's role in renewal, deconstructs idols of the church, and imagines the future of the church in addressing the practical

implications of this for the church's life through liturgy, worship, preaching, and teaching. Students of philosophy, theology, religion, and ministry, as well as others interested in engaging postmodernism and the emerging church phenomenon, will welcome this provocative, nontechnical work.

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Page 68
Page 148

Who's Afraid of Postmodernism?: Taking Derrida, Lyotard, and Foucault to Church (The Church and Postmodern Culture) by James K.A. Smith (Author)

The philosophies of French thinkers Derrida, Lyotard, and Foucault form the basis for postmodern thought and are seemingly at odds with the Christian faith. However, James K. A. Smith claims that their ideas have been misinterpreted and actually have a deep affinity with central Christian claims. Each chapter opens with an illustration from a recent movie and concludes with a case study considering recent developments in the church that have attempted to respond to the postmodern condition, such as the "emerging church" movement. These case studies provide a concrete picture of how postmodern ideas can influence the way Christians think and worship. This significant book, winner of a Christianity Today 2007 Book Award, avoids philosophical jargon and offers fuller explanation where needed. It is the first book in the Church and Postmodern Culture series, which provides practical applications for Christians engaged in ministry in a postmodern world.

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