

# Interim Ministry Resources

## Chapter 14 Vision

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# Resources

## 1) Goals

### Accomplishing Worthy Goals: Being Smart Is Not Enough! – The Parish Paper

Question: How does the following logic apply to pastors and people in congregations? (a) Life is about connecting with other people. (b) If people like you, they see the best in you. (c) The better people like you, and the better your rapport with them, the more likely they are to give you their support and cooperation.<sup>1</sup>

Answer: The better people in congregations like you, the more likely they are to support and cooperate with you in accomplishing worthy goals. But what causes people to like you? Three action-principles play influential roles.

<https://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/43/15414>

<http://www.westlakechristianchurch.org/Newsletters%202011/February%202011%20Newsletter%20added%20pages.pdf> Page 11

<http://www.wcucc.org/resource-center/church-management/parish-paper/> Accomplishing Worthy Goals: Being Smart is Not Enough! – February 2011

[Images for Accomplishing Worthy Goals: Being Smart Is Not Enough! – The Parish Paper](#)

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

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

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

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

### Coaching Next Steps to Achieving Goals

#### Goals Must Be Imaginable

#### Coaching: Paul's Conundrum Explained

What I find fascinating is that when people struggle to achieve goals and I get them to demonstrate reaching for the goal and I respond by telling them they need to take a step up or do what is right, or what is left to do, they most often have a profound sense of knowing exactly what that is even when we have not discussed the specific details of what that might be.

#### Rob Voyle's Appreciative Way Blog - Clergy Leadership Institute

<http://clergyleadership.com/blog/blog.cfm?page=2014>

[Images for Coaching Next Steps to Achieving Goals](#)

[Images for Goals Must Be Imaginable](#)

[Images for Rob Voyle Appreciative Way Blog on Achieving Goals](#)

### Developing the Right Goals. | Small Church Leadership Network

Strategic planning is not organizational trickery, but the attempt to make present decisions based upon the understanding of God's direction for the church in order to organize efforts necessary to carry out God's plan. Without strategic planning the church can become a hub of activity but not necessarily accomplish any eternal results. Setting goals is the process of developing a "how to" plan for the church.

<http://www.smallchurchleaders.org/the-small-church-board/developing-the-right-goals.html>

[Images for Developing the Right Goals. | Small Church Leadership Network](#)

### Example Church Goals - Smart Church Management

SMART Goals Are:

<b>Specific</b>	Is the goal specific enough for clarity?
<b>Measurable</b>	Is there a way to measure the success of the goal?
<b>Attainable</b>	Is the goal truly attainable?
<b>Realistic</b>	Is the goal realistically written?
<b>Timely</b>	Is there a timeline associated to the goal to ensure a completion date?

Church goals should be an outcome of strategy and written to help move the organization forward.

<http://smartchurchmanagement.com/example-church-goals/>

[Images for smart goals](#)

[Images for Church Goals - Smart Church Management](#)

### Get A BHAG

"BHAG" is an acronym for a "Big Hairy Audacious Goal." A BHAG is a visionary goal which is believed to be difficult if not impossible to achieve. It is a goal which cannot be achieved by ordinary methods. In a biblical context, it is a goal not at all within the grasp of human power.

[http://www.ministryhealth.net/mh\\_articles/169\\_bhag.html](http://www.ministryhealth.net/mh_articles/169_bhag.html)

[Images for Big Hairy Audacious Goal](#)

### Goal planning worksheet | Church stuff | Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/49398927132421062/>

[Images for goal planning church on pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/kjb158/goals/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/sandyfsw/goals-dreams/>

### Goal-Setting & Vision Casting - Train Church Leaders

Church leaders must understand the church's purpose and set goals to accomplish it.

<http://trainchurchleaders.com/goals-vision.htm>

[Images for Goal-Setting & Vision Casting - Train Church Leaders](#)

[Images for Church leaders must understand the church's purpose and set goals to accomplish it.](#)

### Goal Setting Effectiveness Profile - ChurchSmart Resources

Setting goals is part of the general process of planning for the future. It is the link between broad intention and tangible actionable tasks to achieve that intent. However, goals themselves do not provide motivation unless active steps are taken to achieve them.

This assessment addresses seven areas that are suggested to be the main factors constituting effective goal setting efforts:

Vision clarity, Direction and target setting, Planning and organizing, Measurement and milestones, Communication and engagement, Motivation and commitment, Results focus.

<http://www.churchsmart.com/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=w12>

[Images for Goal Setting Effectiveness Profile - ChurchSmart Resources](#)

### Goal setting - Wikipedia

Goal setting involves the development of an action [plan](#) designed to [motivate](#) and [guide](#) a person or group toward a [goal](#).<sup>[1]</sup> Goal setting can be guided by goal-setting criteria (or rules) such as [SMART criteria](#).<sup>[2]</sup> Goal setting is a major component of [personal-development](#) and [management](#) literature.

Studies by [Edwin A. Locke](#) and his colleagues have shown that more specific and ambitious goals lead to more [performance improvement](#) than easy or general goals. The goals should be specific, time constrained and difficult. Difficult goals should be set ideally at the 90th percentile of performance assuming that motivation and not ability is limiting attainment of that level of performance.<sup>[3]</sup> As long as the person accepts the goal, has the ability to attain it, and does not have conflicting goals, there is a positive linear relationship between goal difficulty and task performance.<sup>[4]</sup>

The theory states that the simplest most direct motivational explanation of why some people perform better than others is because they have different performance goals. The essence of the theory is fourfold. First, difficult specific goals lead to significantly higher performance than easy goals, no goals, or even the setting of an abstract goal such as urging people to do their best. Second, holding ability constant, as this is a theory of motivation, and given that there is goal commitment, the higher the goal the higher the performance. Third, variables such as praise, feedback, or the involvement of people in decision-making only influences behavior to the extent that it leads to the setting of and commitment to a specific difficult goal. Fourth, goal-setting, in addition to affecting the three mechanisms of motivation, namely, choice, effort, and persistence, can also have a cognitive benefit. It can influence choice, effort, and persistence to discover ways to attain the goal.<sup>[5]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goal\\_setting](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goal_setting)

[Images for Goal setting](#)

### Goals Quotes - BrainyQuote

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

[Images for setting goals quotes](#)

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

<https://daringtolivefully.com/goal-quotes>

<https://silviapencak.com/top-20-goal-quotes/>

<https://www.motivatingquotes.com/goalsq.htm>

[www.success.com/article/18-motivational-quotes-about-successful-goal-setting](http://www.success.com/article/18-motivational-quotes-about-successful-goal-setting)

[Images for quotes-about-successful-goal-setting](#)

[www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/long-term-goals.html](http://www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/long-term-goals.html)

<https://www.briantracy.com/blog/sales-success/motivational-sales-quotes-for-success/>

<https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/287870> 50 Inspirational Quotes to Help You Achieve Your Goals - Entrepreneur

[Images for Inspirational Quotes to Help You Achieve Your Goals](#)

<https://marketingartfully.com/2012/12/19/inspirational-goal-setting-and-resolution-quotes-new-years-quotes-with-pictures/>

<https://www.inc.com/jeff-haden/50-top-motivational-quotes-to-inspire-you-to-achieve-your-goals.html>

[Images for quotes-to-inspire-you-to-achieve-your-goals](#)

[www.quoteqarden.com/goals.html](http://www.quoteqarden.com/goals.html)

[www.wow4u.com/goals/](http://www.wow4u.com/goals/)

<https://www.lifehack.org/378550/100-motivational-quotes-dream-goal-and-future>

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[www.wiseoldsayings.com/goals-quotes/](http://www.wiseoldsayings.com/goals-quotes/)

<https://conantleadership.com/37-quotes-life-leadership-goals/>

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<https://www.successories.com/quote/category/1408/goals-quotes/1>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDS1zBIIpY> Inspirational Quotes on Goals and Goal Setting - YouTube

<https://stevemaraboli.net/dreams-goals-quotes/>

[www.smart-goals-guide.com/quotes-about-goals.html](http://www.smart-goals-guide.com/quotes-about-goals.html)

<https://medium.com/thrive-global/top-5-quotes-for-simplifying-goals-b53b10621224>

[Images for quotes-for-simplifying-goals](#)

<http://thinkexist.com/quotations/goals/>

<https://www.elitedaily.com/money/13-quotes-will-remind-youre-working-hard-achieve-goals/591079>  
[www.movemequotes.com/top-15-goal-setting-quotes/](http://www.movemequotes.com/top-15-goal-setting-quotes/)  
Images for goal-setting-quotes

### How To Actually Reach The Goals You Set - Forbes

Breaking an ambitious and inspiring vision into small, concrete goals that place us in charge helps us sustain our zeal.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/brettsteenbarger/2016/03/20/how-to-actually-reach-the-goals-you-set/#10635d0b263e>

Images for How To Actually Reach The Goals You Set - Forbes

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jeffboss/2017/01/19/5-reasons-why-goal-setting-will-improve-your-focus/#2d457c8a534a>

Images for why-goal-setting-will-improve-your-focus

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<https://www.forbes.com/sites/annabelacton/2017/11/03/how-to-set-goals-and-why-you-should-do-it/#6cd70c8a162d>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/tamiforman/2017/12/26/setting-new-years-goals-you-will-achieve/#2da75674658e>

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<https://www.forbes.com/sites/maynardwebb/2017/11/22/how-to-set-goals-that-produce-the-best-outcomes/#1f7c3387639d>

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<https://www.forbes.com/sites/glassheel/2013/03/14/6-ways-to-achieve-any-goal/#645654a64065>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikaibelicove/2013/09/27/understanding-goals-strategies-objectives-and-tactics-in-the-age-of-social/#37c8fb604c79>

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<https://forbesbooks.com/the-science-behind-setting-goals-and-achieving-them/>

Images for science-behind-setting-goals-and-achieving-them

<https://www.forbes.com/quotes/theme/goals/>

### Leading a church more complex than leading a business? | Strong Tower Solutions

2. Murky **goals**. In business, everyone understands the purpose is to make an honest profit, develop satisfied customers, and create a positive work environment. However, ask church members, "How do you measure a win?" and you will receive varied answers. Someone from the outside might wonder: Is the goal to increase attendance? See more baptisms? See changed lives? Serve the community? See spiritual growth? Complete more buildings? Or, just "please God"? Success is a moving target. With so many different expectations, ministers are always vulnerable to criticism and/or removal.

<http://www.churchcentral.com/blog/11155/Leading-a-church-more-complex-than-leading-a-business>

Images for Leading a church more complex than leading a business? | Strong Tower Solutions 2. Murky goals.

### Reader to reader: Goals lead to a healthy church | The Lutheran

What keeps your church healthy? How did your church regain its vitality? (March, page 7.) Our readers gave us some insights into these questions. We studied what growing, healthy churches were doing and prayed that the Spirit would show us the way. We developed a clear mission to bring all people into a meaningful relationship with Christ. We know our purpose, have set goals and are acting on those goals.

Larry Wagner Pueblo, Colo.

[http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article\\_id=156](http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=156)

Images for Reader to reader: Goals lead to a healthy church | The Lutheran

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

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

### Search Goal setting - Harvard Business Review

Is your work organized around clear and meaningful objectives? It will be once you've mastered these tools and techniques for establishing realistic goals.

<https://hbr.org/search?term=Goal+setting>

Images for Goal setting - Harvard Business Review

### Setting Vital Congregation Goals - Vital Congregations

Clarity and focus connects disciples to purpose and focuses their attention toward the purpose of the church. Move the church forward.

[http://www.umvitalcongregations.org/site/c.btJRL9NSJoL6H/b.7727489/k.4358/Setting\\_Vital\\_Congregation\\_Goals.htm](http://www.umvitalcongregations.org/site/c.btJRL9NSJoL6H/b.7727489/k.4358/Setting_Vital_Congregation_Goals.htm)

Images for Setting Vital Congregation Goals - Vital Congregations

### What Does the Bible Say About Setting Goals? - OpenBible.info

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Images for Bible and Setting Goals

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

Images for Bible and Goals

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<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2016/02/25/top-7-bible-verses-about-setting-goals/>  
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<https://www.quora.com/Are-there-any-clear-examples-of-anyone-in-the-Bible-who-sets-goals-goal-setting>  
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/blogs/stephen-altrogge/crushing-your-goals-god-s-way.html>  
Images for crushing-your-goals-god's-way  
<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Goals>  
<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/the-ultimate-goal-of-reading-the-bible>

## 2) Hope

### Discontinuity and Hope: Radical Change and the Path to the Future [Lyle E. Schaller]

Change: Is that a good thing, or a bad thing? That depends, says Lyle E. Schaller, on your viewpoint and values. Any given change can be threatening if all your values are wedded to the way things are now, if you can only view the future through the lens of the past. Or it can be exciting, if your viewpoint is geared toward the new possibilities that will arise from this change. By looking at several examples of large-scale, discontinuous change that have occurred over the last ten to thirty years, Schaller prepares church leaders to orient themselves to the new challenges and opportunities for ministry that will result from the accelerated transition going on around us.

<http://www.amazon.com/Discontinuity-Hope-Radical-Change-Future/dp/068708539X>  
<http://effectivechurch.com/lyle-schaller-discontinuity-and-hope/>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyle\\_E.\\_Schaller](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lyle_E._Schaller)  
<http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/5884/remember-lyle-e-schaller-the-interventionist>  
[http://www.abingdonpress.com/lyle\\_e\\_schaller](http://www.abingdonpress.com/lyle_e_schaller)  
<https://www.amazon.com/Lyle-E.-Schaller/e/B0011R1J9K>  
[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/179868.Lyle\\_E\\_Schaller](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/179868.Lyle_E_Schaller)  
Images for Lyle E. Schaller  
Images for Radical Change and the Path to the Future [Lyle E. Schaller]

### Gifts of an Uncommon Life: The Practice of Contemplative Activism [Howard E. Friend Jr.]

This book of ten essays is a breath of fresh air, a source of inspiration, a wake-up call, and a bold challenge for pastors, congregational leaders, and church members - both active and lapsed - who long for a new perspective, even a touch of creative irreverence. With an invitation to quietness and stillness, inner strength and resilience, audacious hope and insistent confidence, it welcomes those among the people of God who do not belong to a church or even name themselves as Christian. Yet it does not shy away from raising difficult questions. Howard Friend offers forthright, at times disarming, candor as he shares his personal pilgrimage of activism rooted in contemplation. Convinced that God still seeks to work in and through the church, Friend shows us where God is present - at times despite the church itself. In his opinion, the church needs to stir the pot, upset the applecart, and dare to welcome the new and refreshing. Yet Friend remains hopeful for and committed to the church, calling and equipping it to become its highest and best. Drawing on a range of stories from the Bible and his own lived experiences, Friend invites us to meet real people--pastors, leaders, everyday folks--who dare to dream a new dream, journey toward a far horizon, walk with tireless determination, and press on with awesome hope.

<http://www.amazon.com/Gifts-Uncommon-Life-Practice-Contemplative/dp/1566993741>  
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6617101-gifts-of-an-uncommon-life>  
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995345>  
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<https://alban.org/archive/toward-transformative-continuing-education/>  
<https://alban.org/archive/myth-busting-emotional-intelligence-conflict-competence-and-the-clergy/>  
<https://www.amazon.com/Howard-E.-Friend/e/B001JRZ896>  
[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2986601.Howard\\_E\\_Friend\\_Jr](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/2986601.Howard_E_Friend_Jr)  
Images for Howard E. Friend Jr., author  
Images for Gifts of an Uncommon Life: The Practice of Contemplative Activism [Howard E. Friend Jr.]

### Hope Beginning, Hope Sustaining, and Hope Ending an Interim Position

John F. Helgeson

Hope is the theological basis of an interim. An interim, by the grace of God, provides hope for the congregation. What makes it possible for the people to see hope at the beginning of an interim? During the time of the interim, how can such hope become embedded into the process and amid the congregation to sustain the people? Hope needs to be in and maintain the process and become a sign of God's grace for the congregation yet to be. Finally, as the term ends, how can that hope be made real and

ongoing in the ending of the interim relationship and the beginning of another? This workshop will explore and find helpful answers for the various stages of an interim. See how to make hope live and work for you and your personal interim situations.

#### IMN | 2017 Annual Conference - Interim Ministry Network

<http://imnedu.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Keynote-Workshop-Descriptions.pdf> Page 6

[Images for Hope Beginning, Hope Sustaining, and Hope Ending an Interim Ministry Position](http://static1.1.sqspcdn.com/static/f/878014/25496976/1412088230333/October+2014.pdf?token=XYHGV98IU69lfcN9HO8pGRaoekk%3D)

<http://static1.1.sqspcdn.com/static/f/878014/25496976/1412088230333/October+2014.pdf?token=XYHGV98IU69lfcN9HO8pGRaoekk%3D> Page 2

<https://www.amazon.com/Freedom-Interim-Ministry-12-Freedoms/dp/1683527763>

[Images for Rev. John F. Helgeson interim ministry](#)

#### Hope Quotes - BrainyQuote

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

[https://www.brainyquote.com/lists/topics/top\\_10\\_hope\\_quotes](https://www.brainyquote.com/lists/topics/top_10_hope_quotes)

[Images for hope quotes](#)

[www.wiseoldsayings.com/hope-quotes/](http://www.wiseoldsayings.com/hope-quotes/)

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[www.wow4u.com/hopeq/](http://www.wow4u.com/hopeq/)

<https://thoughtcatalog.com/briannaewiest/2013/06/22-quotes-to-restore-your-hope/>

[Images for quotes-to-restore-your-hope](#)

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<https://www.motivationalwellbeing.com/hope-quotes.html>

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<https://www.guideposts.org/inspiration/inspiring-quotes/hope>

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[www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/hope.html](http://www.azquotes.com/quotes/topics/hope.html)

#### Hope, Renewal, and Re-Rooting

Today, I'm going to touch on three things:

- Hope and God's abundant gifts
- Spiritual renewal—does Jesus really matter?
- The missional church as outwardly focused

[http://www.nswi.org/webfiles/fnitoos/documents/dcp\\_keynote\\_2011web.pdf](http://www.nswi.org/webfiles/fnitoos/documents/dcp_keynote_2011web.pdf) [info@nswi.org](mailto:info@nswi.org)

[Images for Images for Hope, Renewal, and Re-Rooting • Hope and God's abundant gifts • Spiritual renewal—does Jesus really matter? • The missional church as outwardly focused](#)

#### Hope - Wikipedia

Hope is an [optimistic](#) state of mind that is based on an [expectation](#) of positive outcomes with respect to events and circumstances in one's life or the world at large.<sup>[1]</sup> As a verb, its definitions include: "expect with confidence" and "to cherish a desire with anticipation."<sup>[2]</sup>

Among its opposites are dejection, [hopelessness](#), and [despair](#).<sup>[3]</sup>

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

[Images for Hope](#)

#### Imagining Church: Seeing Hope in a World of Change [Gary A. Shockley, Kim Shockley]

Imagination is one of the great gifts bestowed on us by our Creator, observe authors Gary and Kim Shockley, and it can be the spark that ignites a fire of change in our lives. Drawing on their more than thirty years of pastoral and church consulting experience, the Shockleys illustrate the power of imagination using personal stories born of their own quest to be faithful in ministry. They also show readers that imagining church is a shared experience among God's people. When we imagine the church--forming a mental image of what we believe the church is and ought to be--we are co-creators with the Master Designer, Chief Architect, and Greatest Creator, and can help others imagine church. They remind leaders, "If you can't see it, neither will anyone else." The Shockleys outline how we in the church are now laborers in a new kind of vineyard - one that requires a new way of thinking and acting in our postmodern world. They invite readers to step into the flow of God's activity and, using the gifts God has given us, cooperate in the work of ministry and mission. Rather than suggesting one model or process for church effectiveness ("do it this way and grow"), *Imagining Church* helps congregational leaders to think more imaginatively about how God is at work in our present ministry contexts. This will help to open ourselves anew to the Spirit of God - the Divine Artist - who is ready to fuel our desire to be the co-creators we are meant to be for the sake of the church.



<http://www.amazon.com/Imagining-Church-Seeing-World-Change/dp/1566993733>  
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781566995542/Imagining-Church-Seeing-Hope-in-a-World-of-Change>  
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<https://alban.org/archive/new-noteworthy-congregations-summer-2009/>  
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Images for Gary A. Shockley, Kim Shockley  
Images for Imagining Church: Seeing Hope in a World of Change [Gary A. Shockley, Kim Shockley]

### In Dying We Are Born: The Challenge and the Hope for Congregations [Peter Bush]

Deeply ingrained in Western culture, and in the minds of most church leaders, is the belief that there is a solution to every problem. Peter bush offers a powerful challenge to this approach, arguing that for new life, energy, and passion to arise in congregations, they must die--die to one way of being the church in order that a new way may rise.

Bush identifies two types of dying congregations. Some congregations need to close their doors, bringing to an end years of ministry. Other congregations need to dramatically change their culture and ways of doing ministry. Such change may not entail literally closing the congregation's doors, but it will require people giving up deeply held understandings of the life and purpose of the congregation. All congregations, Bush contends, even ones that see themselves as healthy, need to be prepared to die, to take up their cross, so God can make them alive.

A skillful storyteller, Bush shows readers why churches must confront their mortality. He examines the role of the prophetic leader, who proclaims both the congregation's death and its resurrection. He explores spiritual practices and the habits of wonder, remember, and risk taking for congregations that know they are dying--or need to die. Only by dying, Bush says, will a congregation find resurrection life, given by God who raises the dead to life.

<http://www.amazon.com/Dying-Are-Born-Challenge-Congregations/dp/B00DPOGPUC>  
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2922735-in-dying-we-are-born>  
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566995566>  
<https://alban.org/archive/the-impossible-task-of-ministry/>  
<https://alban.org/archive/dying-as-the-way-to-life/>  
<http://pres-outlook.org/2011/12/in-dying-we-are-born-the-challenge-and-the-hope-for-congregations/>  
[https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1264314.Peter\\_George\\_Bush](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1264314.Peter_George_Bush)  
Images for In Dying We Are Born: The Challenge and the Hope for Congregations [Peter Bush]

### Reinhold Niebuhr Quotes - Goodreads

"Nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime; therefore, we must be saved by **hope**. Nothing true or beautiful makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore, we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore, we are saved by love."

— Reinhold Niebuhr

[http://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/31146.Reinhold\\_Niebuhr](http://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/31146.Reinhold_Niebuhr)  
Images for saved by hope reinold niebuhr quotes

### What Does the Bible Say About Hope? - OpenBible.info

<https://www.openbible.info/topics/hope>  
Images for Bible and Hope  
<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Hope/>  
<https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/hope-bible-verses/>  
<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/what-is-hope>  
<https://dailyverses.net/hope>  
<https://drecicz.com/bible-verses-about-hope/>  
<https://billygraham.org/story/15-bible-verses-to-give-you-hope-for-the-future/>  
Images for bible-verses-to-give-you-hope-for-the-future  
<https://drecicz.com/bible-verses-about-hope/>  
<https://www.unitedbiblesocieties.org/10-bible-verses-hope/>  
<https://bible.org/article/hope>  
<https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/bible-verses-about-hope-20-uplifting-scripture-quotes/>  
Images for hope-uplifting-scripture-quotes  
<https://www.coraevans.com/blog/article/here-are-the-top-25-quotes-from-the-bible-on-hope>  
<https://www.gotquestions.org/hope-Bible.html>  
<http://www.faithgateway.com/bible-verses-about-hope-20-scriptures/#.WvXxZYgvyUk>  
<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/10-bible-verses-you-need-to-know-about-hope.html>  
<https://unlockingthebible.org/2012/01/inspirational-encouraging-bible-verses-hope/>  
Images for encouraging-bible-verses-hope

### [PDF] What Promotes Hope? (August 2017): The Parish Paper

Here are several ways for a church to do a "Hope Checkup."

[http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/1c51b0\\_dc6dfe2db55b4c56be06966c296a3e8a.pdf](http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/1c51b0_dc6dfe2db55b4c56be06966c296a3e8a.pdf)

<http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/43/19438>

<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper> August 2017 - "What Promotes Hope?"

Images for [PDF] What Promotes Hope? (August 2017): The Parish Paper

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

<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

### 3) Interim Ministry

#### Commitment to New Directions in Ministry: The Developmental Tasks Revisited

The Journal of the Interim Ministry Network. Volume 2, Number 3 – November 1998. Pages 38-49. By Walter Marttila. Interim Ministry Network. 5740 Executive Drive, Suite 212. Baltimore, MD. 21228. [www.imnedu.org](http://www.imnedu.org) [ellen@imnedu.org](mailto:ellen@imnedu.org)

Images for Interim Ministry Commitment to New Directions in Ministry

Images for Commitment to New Directions in Ministry

#### Development of Core Values, Mission and Vision Statements

Every church has a purpose. We know that we have been sent "to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19) And we know that churches function in the areas of faith, fellowship, and service. A mission statement that reflects those three things could be applied to almost any Christian church. But no two churches are exactly the same. Each one has a different personality, a different ambience, a different realm in which it functions best. Each one has its own set of core values, some of which may be similar to other churches, but there are some core values that make your church unique. These are the lenses through which you see the world, the priorities you have established for yourselves. As you begin to evaluate and update your mission statement, try to list 4 or 5 core values for your congregation.

Every church also has a **vision**, what it shall be some day.

It pictures the future of your church as God has planned it to be.

It describes the results you hope you will realize in the "real world."

It captures the uniqueness that God has given your church.

It is short, motivational, and easy to memorize.

Example: We welcome our neighbors with enthusiasm and love knowing that God will show us the ministry we might do.

A **vision** statement reflects where the congregation sees itself in the future if it is effectively carrying out its mission. Putting together a vision statement can be an enjoyable process allowing people to "dream big" and "imagine success." The statement can be used as a motivational tool or as a reminder of why we do what we do as a congregation. A helpful vision statement is one that has an idealism mixed with realism. What will your congregation look like in ten years if you are actively engaged in your mission? What does God have in mind for you given the gifts he has placed in this congregation?

There are many resources to help you develop your mission, vision, and values statements. One site online would be

[http://www.managementhelp.org/plan\\_plan/stmnets.htm#anchor519441](http://www.managementhelp.org/plan_plan/stmnets.htm#anchor519441). But there are many others as well. Your interim pastor will help you put together your discovery process.

#### handbook - Northwest Washington Synod

[www.lutheransnw.org/files/leadership/TransitionHandbook.pdf](http://www.lutheransnw.org/files/leadership/TransitionHandbook.pdf) III-6

Images for Development of Core Values, Mission and Vision Statements

### [PDF] guidelines for interim pastorates - Southern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ

#### 5. Preparing for New Leadership

During the search process, two significant tasks are going on simultaneously: the Search Committee, on behalf of the congregation, is fulfilling the necessary concrete steps in the process of finding a new minister; and the congregation as a whole needs to be readying itself psychologically and spiritually to enter into partnership with a new leader. This task is to strengthen the church's capacity to be a growing, changing, forward-looking body.

<http://www.scncucc.org/resources/d/InterimMinistGuide2.pdf/>

Page 8

Images for Images for guidelines for interim pastorates - Preparing for New Ministry Leadership

#### In Calling a Pastor, We Consider the Changing Context/New Opportunities and Challenges

Listen to Colossians 3:12-17. We are being changed. That is what the Spirit of Christ is doing with us. There is a marvelous new-life prayer in the Evening Prayer/Vespers of the ELW:

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We are not the same congregation we were last year, or ten years ago. Times have changed, things have changed, we have changed since last calling a pastor. What do those changes mean for the calling of a new one? What is different now? How has our community felt the changes? Changing demographics, aging populations, new immigrants, all these factors make for renewal in mission and ministry too, in service and witness for the community of faith. Let's take some time to reflect yet again on these new opportunities and challenges as a committee.



Are we more open as a congregation to see the gifts of a candidate we may not have considered so seriously before? Many congregations have found that to be true, for example, in looking at single candidates, female and older candidates. Pastor Eleanor Hunsberger states the matter boldly, "When God calls you to ministry as a person of color, a person who is physically challenged, a person who is different, who does not fit the Lutheran mold of this is what a pastor looks like, somehow the Holy Spirit removes the barriers and people are able to open up to receive such people." She goes on to say, "We're helping God, we're working with the Holy Spirit in this process."

We refresh ourselves in these words from scripture about our life in the Spirit: Romans 8:26–30. We are so called according to God's purpose. The times may be changing, but we are standing on that solid promise.

Gracious accompanying God, The One in whom we live and move and have our being. Give us a **vision** of the times of our lives, the new situations in which we live out our faith in Jesus. May we ask anew what it means to be the Church in our time, our place. And as we work to call a new pastor to our congregation may we welcome according to your Spirit the one you are sending to us to lead us into the new days ahead. Amen.

[PDF] Call Process Booklet EDITED - Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

[http://www.nwswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/call\\_process\\_rev11.17.09smaller.pdf](http://www.nwswi.org/webfiles/fnitools/documents/call_process_rev11.17.09smaller.pdf) Page 92

Call Process Booklet - Yumpu

<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/view/53432941/call-process-booklet>

[Images for In Calling a Pastor, We Consider the Changing Context/New Opportunities and Challenges](#)

#### Intentional Interim Ministry: a purposeful approach for transitions and crises

Setting a fresh course. When a church feels it's at a difficult crossroad, quick decisions may be made without fully exploring options and potential outcomes. Intentional Interim Ministry slows down the call process, allowing the congregation time to make well-informed and deliberate decisions regarding the **future** course of the church.

<http://interimministrylcms.org/>

[Images for Intentional Interim Ministry: a purposeful approach for transitions and crises](#)

#### Intentionality, Practice, and Vitality - The Alban Institute

Since Alban's publication of *The Practicing Congregation* in 2004, when I first wrote about my research on vital mainline churches, hundreds of clergy groups and church leadership gatherings have invited me to share with them insights on what makes for a good congregation. At every gathering, I include the project's key finding: "Congregations that intentionally engage Christian practices are congregations that experience new vitality."

The sentence combines three components: intentionality, practice, and vitality.

<https://alban.org/archive/intentionality-practice-and-vitality/>

<https://alban.org/author/alban/page/67/>

[Images for Intentionality, Practice, and Vitality - The Alban Institute](#)

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Practicing-Congregation-Imagining-Church/dp/1566993059>

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

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

<https://alban.org/author/nekduke-edu/>

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

<https://alban.org/archive/vital-congregations-as-intentional-communities-of-practice/>

<https://alban.org/archive/congregations-as-communities-of-memory/>

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

#### [PDF]interim ministry guidelines our polity - Presbytery of Cincinnati

5. Committing to **new directions** in ministry: What has been the shape of our ministry? To what new mission is the Spirit leading us?

<http://www.presbyteryofcincinnati.org/assets/interim---ministry-guidelines-2013.pdf>

Page 3

[Images for interim ministry committing to new directions in ministry](#)

#### Interim Ministry: Positive Change in Times of Transition: Justin W. Tull

Phase III. Preparing for the **Future**

Final Steps

Staff Renewal

Final Worship Decision

Sunday School and Small Groups

New Member Sunday

Preparing for a New Senior Pastor

Preaching Plan

Pastoral Reflections

State of the Church

Insert: Looking Backward, Looking Forward

Stage Three: Moving into the **Future**

Steps towards Transition

Positive Signs of Vitality

Easter Worship  
Insert: Reflections: Signs of Easter!  
New Member Sunday  
Celebration of the New Building  
Confirmation for the Youth  
Stewardship Emphasis  
Insert: Extra-Mile Giving Letter

[http://www.amazon.com/Interim-Ministry-Positive-Transition-ebook/dp/B00A61YPE0#reader\\_B00A61YPE0](http://www.amazon.com/Interim-Ministry-Positive-Transition-ebook/dp/B00A61YPE0#reader_B00A61YPE0)  
[Images for Interim Ministry: Positive Change in Times of Transition: Justin W. Tull - Moving into the Future](#)

### Interim Pastors Prepare Congregations for Change

Specialized Ministry Helps Church-goers Plan for New Spiritual Leaders and Prepare for The Future

In his daily actions and administrative responsibilities, Hittinger plays out the role of a career clergyman content to serve one congregation. But his stay is limited, his mission well-defined.

Hittinger is an interim specialist coordinator for the Northeast Pennsylvania Synod, part of a growing, specialized ministry to help congregations ready themselves for a new spiritual leader and plan for the future.

Interim clergy are called when congregations lose their pastor through retirements, resignations or death and begin a search for a new pastor. They can be pastors who perform interim duties full-time, or retired clergy who fill in where needed.

"We've discovered this can be a very creative moment in the history of the congregation, where they're very open to new suggestions, new ideas and reviewing themselves from the standpoint of where they've been," Hittinger says.

"A person with some training can come in and really lead them through a process," he adds. "That helps them prepare better for the calling of a new pastor."

Hittinger is one of four specially trained interim pastors in a pool of 25 synod clergy that includes retirees available for full- and part-time assignments.

[http://articles.mcall.com/1997-12-14/news/3168225\\_1\\_hittinger-new-pastor-interim](http://articles.mcall.com/1997-12-14/news/3168225_1_hittinger-new-pastor-interim)  
[Images for Interim Pastors Prepare Congregations for Change](#)

### Interim reflecting, dreaming and action | The Lutheran

Trained intentional interim pastors help congregations examine five areas. These are based on the developmental tasks of interim ministry listed in *Critical Moment of Ministry: A Change of Pastors* by Loren B. Mead (Alban Institute, 1986).

1. Look back

Who were we in the past? What were some of the defining moments of our ministry? What do we miss? What are we glad is gone?

2. Who are we now?

How has our community and ministry setting changed? Who do we want to become? What new ministries do we want to embrace?

3. We're not alone

What resources do our synod and the ELCA have to offer us? How can we increase our mutual ministry with the church-at-large?

4. Who's on first? What's on second?

Who will do *what* in the new mission plan? Are the talents of each leader being used effectively where they are currently serving?

Do leaders want to change positions or stretch by doing something new?

5. Focus on the future

Give a healthy goodbye to the interim pastor and a well-planned welcome for the new settled pastor. Move ahead into a well-defined future.

[http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article\\_id=4024](http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=4024)  
[Images for Interim reflecting, dreaming and action | The Lutheran](#)  
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>  
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

### 9 Signs Your Church Needs an Intentional Interim Pastor

Mission, **Vision** and Strategic Planning. An intentional interim pastor will possess the skills necessary to guide the congregation into their own understanding of the mission. This requires the ability to work within denominational guidelines and doctrinal statements while remaining true to the text of scripture. The pastor must also know how to move from mission to vision and thence to strategic planning. The end result of this part of the transition process is that the members themselves own, they are energized by the vision, and they are committed to executing the strategic plan.

<http://pastors.com/intentional-interim/>  
[Images for Intentional Interim Pastor Mission, Vision and Strategic Planning](#)

### Preaching During the Interim - Sermons & Articles - Preaching.com

The Major Tasks of the Interim Pastor

5. Risking **Change**

<http://www.preaching.com/resources/articles/11563501/page-4/>  
[Images for Interim Pastor - Risking Change](#)

## Rethinking Transitional Ministry by Norman Bendroth » Alban at Duke Divinity School

Changing practical realities also dictate different models of transitional ministry. Margaret Bain, a United Church of Canada pastor and current president of the board of IMN notes that many congregations are looking more toward reinventing themselves. Others are exploring closing their doors and need a skilled interim to help them through that process, while others are going through a process of amalgamation, pooling resources, and sharing a common **vision** with another local church. Other interim specialists can help lead a congregation through healing after clergy sexual or financial misconduct.

### Alban at Duke Divinity School » Rethinking Transitional Ministry

<https://alban.org/archive/rethinking-transitional-ministry/>

[http://macucc.s3.amazonaws.com/71BBE2C7B9B049B0883D51809D9A1E82\\_Rethinking%20Transitional%20Ministry.pdf](http://macucc.s3.amazonaws.com/71BBE2C7B9B049B0883D51809D9A1E82_Rethinking%20Transitional%20Ministry.pdf)

Page 6

<https://alban.org/2015/03/06/norman-bendroth-transitional-ministry-today/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Transitional-Ministry-Today-Successful-Strategies/dp/156699750X>

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

[https://books.google.com/books/about/Transitional\\_Ministry\\_Today.html?id=Oy7VBQAAQBAJ](https://books.google.com/books/about/Transitional_Ministry_Today.html?id=Oy7VBQAAQBAJ)

<http://www.pts.edu/UserFiles/File/continuing/2016%20Pittsburgh%20Week%20II%20letterIa.pdf>

[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/10793952.Norman\\_B\\_Bendroth](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/10793952.Norman_B_Bendroth)

[Images for Rethinking Transitional Ministry by Norman Bendroth](#)

### Staff & Laity: Organizing for Mission – Synod Resource Center

Trust the Spirit

Risk failure and be bold in ministry endeavors.

Brace yourself to be surprised by what God can do!

[http://synodresourcecenter.org/evang/ministry/congregational\\_life/0004/organizing.html](http://synodresourcecenter.org/evang/ministry/congregational_life/0004/organizing.html)

[Images for Staff & Laity: Organizing for Mission – Synod Resource Center](#)

[Images for Staff & Laity Organizing for Mission](#)

[Images for Trust the Spirit Risk failure and be bold in ministry endeavors. Brace yourself to be surprised by what God can do!](#)

<http://www.feautor.org/uploads/contributions/11956953849/organizing.pdf>

## 4) Judicatory

### Articles by Hartford Institute faculty

Adair Lummis

**Judicatories'** Ways of Encouraging Congregations to Share or Covenant with one another in Ministry and Mission a judicatory research report summary

[http://hirr.hartsem.edu/denom/judicatories\\_research\\_lummisrpt2a.html](http://hirr.hartsem.edu/denom/judicatories_research_lummisrpt2a.html)

[Images for Judicatories' Ways of Encouraging Congregations](#)

[Images for Covenant with one another in Ministry and Mission](#)

The Middle **Judicatory** as a System of Congregations Connected to the Regional Office a judicatory research report summary

**Connections and Unity Among and Between Congregations, Middle (Regional) Judicatories and Their National Church** a judicatory research report summary

[http://hirr.hartsem.edu/denom/judicatories\\_research\\_lummisrpt1.html](http://hirr.hartsem.edu/denom/judicatories_research_lummisrpt1.html)

<http://www.religioninsights.org/resources/role-middle-judicatories-creating-connections>

[Images for Middle Judicatory](#)

The Role of **Judicatories** in Interpreting Denominational Identity  A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association Boston, 1999

<http://hirr.hartsem.edu/bookshelf/Judic99rRRA.pdf>

[Images for Role of Judicatories in Interpreting Denominational Identity](#)

The Art and Science of Subtle Proactivity: **Regional Leaders** and Their Congregations A paper presented at the Religious Research Association Annual Meetings, Columbus, Ohio October 2001.

[http://hirr.hartsem.edu/denom/judicatories\\_Lummis2.html](http://hirr.hartsem.edu/denom/judicatories_Lummis2.html)

[Images for Art and Science of Subtle Proactivity](#)

[Images for Regional Leaders and Their Congregations](#)



[http://www.hartfordinstitute.org/bookshelf/bookshelf\\_articles.html](http://www.hartfordinstitute.org/bookshelf/bookshelf_articles.html)

[Images for Articles by Hartford Institute faculty Adair Lummis](#)

<http://www.hartsem.edu/faculty/adair-lummis/>

<http://hirr.hartsem.edu/about/lummis.htm>

[http://hirr.hartsem.edu/about/lummis\\_vitae.htm](http://hirr.hartsem.edu/about/lummis_vitae.htm)

[http://hirr.hartsem.edu/bookshelf/lummis\\_article1.html](http://hirr.hartsem.edu/bookshelf/lummis_article1.html)

[https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/384127.Adair\\_T\\_Lummis](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/384127.Adair_T_Lummis)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/adair-lummis-64b65317>

[Images for Adair Lummis](#)

### Middle Judicatories - Holy Cow! Consulting

It is our mission at Holy Cow! Consulting to help regional associations and congregations, through an evidence-based discernment process, become vital, healthy organizations that better serve Christ and our communities.

<https://holycowconsulting.blog/tag/middle-judicatories/>  
[Images for Middle Judicatories - Holy Cow! Consulting](#)

### Middle judicatory | Revolvly

A middle judicatory is an administrative structure or organization found in [religious denominations](#) between the local congregation and the widest or highest national or international level. The term is meant to be neutral with regard to [polity](#), though it derives from [Presbyterianism](#) where the local, regional and national bodies are themselves respectively higher [courts](#).

<https://www.revolvly.com/page/Middle-judicatory>  
[Images for Middle judicatory | Revolvly](#)

### Middle judicatory - Wikipedia

A middle judicatory is an administrative structure or organization found in [religious denominations](#) between the local [congregation](#) and the widest or highest national or international level. The term is meant to be neutral with regard to [polity](#), though it derives from [Presbyterianism](#) where the local, regional and national bodies are themselves respectively higher [courts](#). Depending on the polity, the middle judicatory can have decisive authority over a local church, can offer standing for clergy members but little or no control over congregations, can offer counsel and services but no authority, or can serve as an informal vehicle for fellowship and communication.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle\\_judicatory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_judicatory)  
[Images for middle judicatory](#)

### The Death of Middle Judicatories - Kruse Kronicle

At their best, they help grow and maintain a strong and healthy clergy, they head off destructive conflict and help congregations engage in healthy conflict, they hold individuals and congregations accountable to the whole Gospel, they confront parochialism and interpret the work and life of the wider church, and they model health. In doing all of this they build life-giving relationships between individuals and congregations.

[https://www.krusekronicle.com/kruse\\_kronicle/2010/08/the-death-of-middle-judicatories.html#.XCqB51xKiUk](https://www.krusekronicle.com/kruse_kronicle/2010/08/the-death-of-middle-judicatories.html#.XCqB51xKiUk)  
[Images for Death of Middle Judicatories](#)  
<https://www.abc-mi.org/mlink/hamm-future-regions.pdf>  
<http://www.bobcornwall.com/2010/08/resurrecting-middle-judicatories.html>  
[Images for resurrecting-middle-judicatories](#)

## 5) Long View

### A Prayer for the Long View - Margaret Marcuson

Here's a prayer that articulates beautifully keeping the long view in ministry.

<http://margaretmarcuson.com/a-prayer-for-the-long-view/>  
[Images for Prayer for the Long View](#)  
<http://margaretmarcuson.com/how-to-keep-the-long-view/>  
[Images for Keep the Long View](#)  
<https://www.amazon.com/Leaders-Who-Last-Sustaining-Yourself/dp/1596270950>  
[Images for Leaders-Who-Last-Sustaining-Yourself](#)

### Clock of The Long Now: Time and Responsibility: The Ideas Behind the World's Slowest Computer [Stewart Brand]

Using the designing and building of the *Clock of the Long Now* as a framework, this is a book about the practical use of long time perspective: how to get it, how to use it, how to keep it in and out of sight. Here are the central questions it inspires: How do we make long-term thinking automatic and common instead of difficult and rare? Discipline in thought allows freedom. One needs the space and reliability to predict continuity to have the confidence not to be afraid of revolutions Taking the time to think of the future is more essential now than ever, as culture accelerates beyond its ability to be measured Probable things are vastly outnumbered by countless near-impossible eventualities. Reality is statistically forced to be extraordinary; fiction is not allowed this freedom This is a potent book that combines the chronicling of fantastic **technology** with equally visionary philosophical inquiry.

<http://www.amazon.com/Clock-The-Long-Now-Responsibility/dp/0465007805>  
[http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/33279.Clock\\_Of\\_The\\_Long\\_Now](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/33279.Clock_Of_The_Long_Now)  
[https://books.google.com/books/about/Clock\\_Of\\_The\\_Long\\_Now.html?id=Ed0XwaX\\_fHIC](https://books.google.com/books/about/Clock_Of_The_Long_Now.html?id=Ed0XwaX_fHIC)  
<http://longnow.org/clock/>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clock\\_of\\_the\\_Long\\_Now](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clock_of_the_Long_Now)  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewart\\_Brand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewart_Brand)  
[https://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Stewart\\_Brand](https://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Stewart_Brand)  
<https://www.amazon.com/Stewart-Brand/e/B000AQ4GYA>  
[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/18698.Stewart\\_Brand](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/18698.Stewart_Brand)

[Images for Stewart Brand, author](#)

[Images for Clock of The Long Now: Time and Responsibility: The Ideas Behind the World's Slowest Computer \[Stewart Brand\]](#)

### Take the Long View - Dallas Theological Seminary

A DALLAS SEMINARY BOARD MEMBER WHO LOST HIS SON LAST YEAR IS OFTEN HEARD to say, "Take the long view." The apostle Peter wrote, "Do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ" (1 Pet. 4:12–13). Every Christian has stories of difficulty, but we also have testimonies of inexplicable peace.

<http://www.dts.edu/read/take-the-long-view-various/>

[Images for Take the Long View - Dallas Theological Seminary](#)

### take the long view - Oxford Dictionaries

Definition of take the long view - think beyond the current situation.

[https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/take\\_the\\_long\\_view](https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/take_the_long_view)

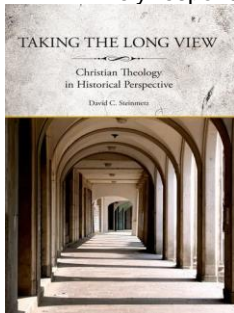
[Images for take the long view definition](#)

[Images for Definition of take the long view - think beyond the current situation.](#)

### Taking the Long View: Christian Theology in Historical Perspective by David Steinmetz (Author)

*Taking the Long View* argues in a series of engagingly written essays that remembering the past is essential for men and women who want to function effectively in the present--for without some knowledge of their own past, neither individuals nor institutions know where they have been or where they are going. The book illustrates its thesis with tough-minded examples from the Church's life and thought, ranging from more abstract problems like the theoretical role of historical criticism to such painfully concrete issues as the commandment of Jesus to forgive unforgivable wrongs.

- Collection of influential theological writings in convenient form a well-known historian of Christianity
- New readings of old sources and controversial topics (Luther, the Virgin Mary, etc.)
- Fresh interpretation of the historical work of such important interpreters of the Christian past as Jaroslav Pelikan and Heiko Oberman
- Timely responses to newsworthy issues



<https://www.amazon.com/Taking-Long-View-Historical-Perspective/dp/0199768943>

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0199830312>

[https://books.google.com/books/about/Taking\\_the\\_Long\\_View.html?id=Pq2Bpnjvnr0C](https://books.google.com/books/about/Taking_the_Long_View.html?id=Pq2Bpnjvnr0C)

<https://www.christiancentury.org/reviews/2011-10/taking-long-view-david-c-steinmetz>

<https://www.questia.com/library/journal/1P3-2783558591/taking-the-long-view-christian-theology-in-historical>

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/taking-the-long-view-9780199768936?cc=us&lang=en&>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David\\_Steinmetz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Steinmetz)

<https://credomag.com/2016/01/remembering-steinmetz-remembering-the-reformation-matthew-barrett/>

<https://divinity.duke.edu/news/david-steinmetz-dies-79>

[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4178463.David\\_Steinmetz](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/4178463.David_Steinmetz)

[Images for David Steinmetz \(Author\) long view](#)

[Images for Taking the Long View: Christian Theology in Historical Perspective by David Steinmetz \(Author\)](#)

### Taking the Long View | The Exchange | A Blog by Ed Stetzer

Live your earthly life with heaven in mind. /Ed Stetzer

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/march/taking-long-view.html>

[Images for Taking the Long View | Ed Stetzer](#)

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

### The Art of the Long View: Planning for the Future in an Uncertain World by PETER SCHWARTZ (Author)

What increasingly affects all of us, whether professional planners or individuals preparing for a better future, is not the tangibles of life—bottom—line numbers, for instance—but the intangibles: our hopes and fears, our beliefs and dreams. Only stories—scenarios—and our ability to visualize different kinds of futures adequately capture these intangibles. In *The Art of the Long View*, now for the first time in paperback and with the addition of an all—new User's Guide, Peter Schwartz outlines the "scenario" approach, giving you the tools for developing a strategic vision within your business. Schwartz describes the new techniques, originally developed

within Royal/Dutch Shell, based on many of his firsthand scenario exercises with the world's leading institutions and companies, including the White House, EPA, BellSouth, PG&E, and the International Stock Exchange.

Forget number crunching, says our foremost futurist; it's *vision* that makes things happen—and this guide to his ideas is a vital tool for planners, managers, entrepreneurs, investors, or anyone interested in tomorrow.

Presenting a revolutionary approach to developing strategic vision in business and in life, a guide for managers, entrepreneurs, and investors explains how to apply creative and intuitive skills to corporate practices.



<http://www.amazon.com/The-Art-Long-View-Uncertain/dp/0471977853>  
[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/247891.The\\_Art\\_Of\\_The\\_Long\\_View](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/247891.The_Art_Of_The_Long_View)  
<https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/240188-the-art-of-the-long-view-planning-for-the-future-in-an-uncertain-world>  
<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.ca/books/162919/the-art-of-the-long-view-by-peter-schwartz/9780385267328>  
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<https://books.google.com/books?id=fLLtwg777hsC>  
[https://books.google.com/books/about/The\\_Art\\_of\\_the\\_Long\\_View.html?id=T-r36blZA44C](https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Art_of_the_Long_View.html?id=T-r36blZA44C)  
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0307816117>  
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<https://www.slideshare.net/ramadd1951/summary-the-art-of-the-long-view>  
<http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/162919/the-art-of-the-long-view-by-peter-schwartz/9780385267328/>  
[http://www.ethicaladvisor.com/pdf/books/the\\_art\\_of\\_the\\_long\\_view.pdf](http://www.ethicaladvisor.com/pdf/books/the_art_of_the_long_view.pdf)  
<http://www.lifeandleadership.com/book-summaries/schwartz-the-art-of-the-long-view.html>  
[http://morassociates.com/readings/notes\\_Art\\_of\\_the\\_Long\\_View.pdf](http://morassociates.com/readings/notes_Art_of_the_Long_View.pdf)  
<https://www.slideshare.net/ramadd1951/summary-the-art-of-the-long-view>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter\\_Schwartz\\_\(futurist\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Schwartz_(futurist))  
<https://speakerpedia.com/speakers/peter-schwartz>  
<http://longnow.org/seminars/02003/dec/12/the-art-of-the-really-long-view/>  
<https://www.amazon.com/Peter-Schwartz/e/B000APCEM2>  
[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/31654.Peter\\_Schwartz](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/31654.Peter_Schwartz)  
[Images for PETER SCHWARTZ \(Author\) long view](#)  
[Images for The Art of the Long View: Planning for the Future in an Uncertain World by PETER SCHWARTZ \(Author\)](#)

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### **The Long View: Essays on the Discipline of Hope and Poetic Craft by Robert Pack (Author)**

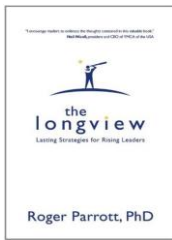
Robert Pack is a poet, critic, and director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. In this volume, he offers 20 essays on the craft of writing and the nature of lyric poetry. He pays homage to those master poets whose high achievements have inspired his own work, and he reflects on human mortality and the consolations that help us to survive - the related pleasures of poetry, laughter, and music. The first section of the book consists of three essays dealing with the poem as a form of the doubling of consciousness, poetic inheritance and the sense of tradition, and poetic art as a form of laughter. Pack examines poetic texts as a critical observer but ends each essay with subjective reflections. The second section contains 14 brief essays on various aspects of poetic craft, the sense of literary community, the relationship between poetry and music, between poetry and science, between one's psychology and one's imagination. Informal and anecdotal, these meditations combine literary analysis and insight with personal revelation. The third section is composed of three essays, all grounded in the author's reading of the "Book of Job". The first develops a comparison between Darwin's theory of evolution and the image of God as an amoral creator in the "Book of Job". The second traces the influence of the "Book of Job" on poems by Blake, Hopkins, Frost, and Stevens. The third explores the themes of betrayal and nothingness through an extended comparison of the "Book of Job" and "King Lear".

<https://www.amazon.com/Long-View-Essays-Discipline-Poetic/dp/0870237616>  
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0870237616>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_Pack\\_\(poet\\_and\\_critic\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Pack_(poet_and_critic))  
<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poets/detail/robert-pack>  
<https://www.amazon.com/Robert-Pack/e/B001IXN1AE>  
[https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/116538.Robert\\_Pack](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/116538.Robert_Pack)  
[Images for Robert Pack \(Author\) long view](#)  
[Images for The Long View: Essays on the Discipline of Hope and Poetic Craft by Robert Pack \(Author\)](#)

### **The Longview: Lasting Strategies for Rising Leaders [Dr. Roger Parrott]**

Are you rushing to find quick fixes to complex problems? Are you overwhelmed by pressure to produce immediate gains? Are you aiming at nearsighted remedies instead of long-term solutions?

Become a leader who values transformation over turnaround – one who measures eternal outcomes as well as immediate effectiveness. This book shows you how. Consider it your personal guide to a leadership lifestyle of lasting significance. *The Longview* will revolutionize the way you lead.



<http://www.amazon.com/The-Longview-Lasting-Strategies-Leaders/dp/1434767493>  
<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/21981600-the-longview>  
<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-longview-dr-roger-parrott/1112398661>  
<https://www.olivetree.com/store/product.php?productid=27592>  
<http://www.belhaven.edu/pdfs/TheLongview-Chapter8.pdf>  
<https://www.christianbook.com/longview-lasting-strategies-for-rising-leaders/roger-parrott/9781434767493/pd/767493>  
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[https://books.google.tt/books/about/The\\_Longview.html?id=A7QRKX7Fy5MC](https://books.google.tt/books/about/The_Longview.html?id=A7QRKX7Fy5MC)  
The Longview: Lasting Strategies for Rising Leaders  
The Longview: Lasting Strategies for Rising Leaders – Dr. Roger Parrott  
<https://www.cherrydale.org/grow/resources/recommended-reading/> Christian Leadership  
<https://en.wordpress.com/tag/the-longview/>  
<http://andreaschultz.blogspot.com/2010/04/longview-lasting-strategies-for-rising.html>  
<http://word-up-studies.blogspot.com/2009/10/longview-lasting-strategies-for-rising.html>  
<https://davidmays.org/BN.html> Book Notes - Missions Help For Your Church  
<http://christianstandard.com/2010/04/7172/>  
<http://www.belhaven.edu/belhaven/president.htm>  
<http://www.belhaven.edu/news/articles/University-Presidents-E-Book-Available-for-Free-2015-02-13.htm>  
<http://www.sharefaith.com/blog/2013/02/advice-leaders-dr-robert-parrott/>  
<https://mschristianliving.com/2017/columns/dr-roger-parrott-belhaven-universitys-creative-leader/>  
<https://www.faihandleadership.com/roger-parrott>  
[http://cloud.chambermaster.com/userfiles/UserFiles/chambers/609/File/Katy\\_s\\_Stuff/Business\\_Seminars/ROGERPARROTT.pdf](http://cloud.chambermaster.com/userfiles/UserFiles/chambers/609/File/Katy_s_Stuff/Business_Seminars/ROGERPARROTT.pdf)  
<https://www.longview2020.com/>  
<https://www.amazon.com/Dr.-Roger-Parrott/e/B002TKO4D8>  
[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3317038.Roger\\_Parrott](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3317038.Roger_Parrott)  
[Images for dr. roger parrott, author longview](#)  
[Images for The Longview: Lasting Strategies for Rising Leaders \[Dr. Roger Parrott\]](#)

## 6) Perception

### Jesus Optical Illusions - Brain Teasers

Jesus Illusions are great images where you can see the face of Jesus either from distance or as an afterimage - usually something different is visible at first sight.

<http://brainden.com/jesus-illusions.htm>

[Images for Jesus Optical Illusions - Brain Teasers](#)

### My Wife and My Mother-in-Law - Wikipedia

"My Wife and My Mother-in-Law" is a famous ambiguous optical illusion, which can be **perceived** either as a young girl or an old woman (the "wife" and the "mother-in-law", respectively).



"My Wife and My Mother-in-Law" from 1915

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My\\_Wife\\_and\\_My\\_Mother-in-Law](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Wife_and_My_Mother-in-Law)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:My\\_Wife\\_and\\_My\\_Mother-in-Law.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:My_Wife_and_My_Mother-in-Law.jpg)

[http://www.wikiwand.com/en/My\\_Wife\\_and\\_My\\_Mother-in-Law](http://www.wikiwand.com/en/My_Wife_and_My_Mother-in-Law)

[Images for My Wife and My Mother-in-Law](#)



Can you spot the young lady? | Wisdom from Books

<https://wisdomfrombooks.wordpress.com/2009/12/22/can-you-spot-the-young-lady/>

[Images for Can you spot the young lady? | Wisdom from Books](#)

Perception Quotes - BrainyQuote

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

[Images for perception quotes](#)

[www.wiseoldsayings.com/perception-quotes/](http://www.wiseoldsayings.com/perception-quotes/)

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

[www.notable-quotes.com/p/perception\\_quotes.html](http://www.notable-quotes.com/p/perception_quotes.html)

<http://awakenthegreatnesswithin.com/35-inspirational-quotes-on-perception/>

[www.johnpaulcaponigro.com/blog/10801/19-quotes-on-perception/](http://www.johnpaulcaponigro.com/blog/10801/19-quotes-on-perception/)

[www.sapphyr.net/smallgems/quotes-belief-perception.htm](http://www.sapphyr.net/smallgems/quotes-belief-perception.htm)

<http://www.famousquotes123.com/perception-quotes.html>

<https://www.lifehack.org/394601/20-quotes-that-can-change-your-thinking-and-perception>

[Images for quotes-that-can-change-your-thinking-and-perception](#)

Perception - Wikipedia

Perception (from the Latin perceptio) is the organization, identification, and interpretation of sensory information in order to represent and understand the the presented information, or the environment.<sup>[2]</sup>

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

<https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perception>

[Images for perception](#)

207 best LIFE IS ALL ABOUT PERCEPTION images on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/janquick58/life-is-all-about-perception/>

[Images for pinterest-life-is-all-about-perception](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/tanyatokarski/perception/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/runsmart/perception/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/mycalliecat/perception/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/successmasters/perception-quotes/>

[Images for pinterest-perception-quotes](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/auteur83/perception/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/loreincip/perception/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/mmpw5/perception/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/gerickemagda/perception/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/topics/perception/>

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

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

[https://www.openbible.info/topics/self\\_perception](https://www.openbible.info/topics/self_perception)

[Images for bible and perceptions](#)

<https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/top-8-bible-verses-about-perception/>

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

[Images for Spiritual-perception](#)

[http://wwwFOUNDATIONSforfreedom.net/References/NT/Pauline/Ephesians/Ephesians6/Ephesians6\\_12\\_Perception.html](http://wwwFOUNDATIONSforfreedom.net/References/NT/Pauline/Ephesians/Ephesians6/Ephesians6_12_Perception.html)

[Images for Ephesians\\_12\\_Perception](#)

What the Bible Says About Perceptions - Jeremy Binns

Jesus said that if our eyes are healthy, then our whole body would be full of light. The same is true for our perceptions.

<http://www.jeremybinns.com/2012/07/03/what-the-bible-says-about-perceptions/>

[Images for What the Bible Says About Perceptions - Jeremy Binns](#)

<http://www.jeremybinns.com/perceptions-series/>

<http://www.jeremybinns.com/2012/06/29/how-our-perceptions-are-formed/>

<http://www.jeremybinns.com/2012/06/25/perception-series-how-improve-self-perception/>

<http://www.jeremybinns.com/2012/06/27/how-perceptions-shape-our-lives-the-jerk/>



## 7) Possible

### Building Congregations in an Anti-Institutional Age - Alban Institute

The institutions that shape and support our lives, whether family, hospital, university, government, or congregation, he says, “represent inheritances of valued purpose with attendant rules and obligations. They constitute socially ordered grounding for human life.” Continuing to think about institutions as constraints to be avoided leads to a deadly end, one in which humans cannot fulfill their larger **possibilities**. Instead, we are invited to a hard life, an uphill, almost Sisyphean task, of thinking within institutions so that their larger purposes—those that lead people to keep starting congregations in the first place—have a chance to be fulfilled.

### The Leading Edge: Building Congregations in an Anti-Institutional Age - Alban Institute

<https://alban.org/archive/the-leading-edge-building-congregations-in-an-anti-institutional-age/>

Images for Building Congregations in an Anti-Institutional Age - Alban Institute - fulfill their larger possibilities

<https://www.amazon.com/Thinking-Institutionally-Politics-Hugh-Hecllo/dp/0199946000>

[https://books.google.com/books/about/On\\_Thinking\\_Institutionally.html?id=XeMTAQAAIAAJ](https://books.google.com/books/about/On_Thinking_Institutionally.html?id=XeMTAQAAIAAJ)

<https://alban.org/archive/expeditions-into-what-is-possible/>

<https://alban.org/archive/shared-ministry-is-good-for-all-congregations/>

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

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

<https://alban.org/author/nekduke-edu/>

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

### Possibility - Wikipedia

Possibility is the condition or **fact** of being possible. Latin origins of the word hint at **ability**.

Possibility may refer to:

- **Probability**, the measure of the likelihood that an event will occur
- **Epistemic possibility**, a topic in **philosophy** and **modal logic**
- **Possibility theory**, a mathematical theory for dealing with certain types of uncertainty and is an alternative to probability theory
- **Subjunctive possibility**, (also called alethic possibility) is a form of modality studied in modal logic.
  - **Logical possibility**, a proposition that will depend on the system of logic being considered, rather than on the violation of any single rule

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

Images for Possibility

### 214 best with God all things are possible images on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/dianeklein/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

Images for all things possible pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/lindseybcurtis/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/lisalovesrobert/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/mskarimartinez/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/onelifeonelovee/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/melindafox51/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/Tmaheu/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/michaelburchett/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/propheticsound/with-god-all-things-are-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/lindarae99/quotes-impossible-possible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/aleej11/with-god-all-things-are-possible-quotes/>

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/jaimeleseigneur/all-things-are-possible-with-god/>

### What Does the Bible Say About All Things Are Possible? - OpenBible.info

[https://www.openbible.info/topics/all\\_things\\_are\\_possible](https://www.openbible.info/topics/all_things_are_possible)

Images for Bible and Possible

<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-All-Things-Are-Possible/>

<https://empowermentmomentsblog.com/2014/03/22/15-bible-verses-about-all-things-are-possible/>

Images for bible-all-things-are-possible

<https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/All-things-being-possible>

<https://www.quora.com/Is-it-possible-to-understand-the-Bible>

<https://www.amazon.com/Things-Possible-Bible-Cover-Personalized/dp/B01MRFPE7R>

## 8) Post-Pandemic

### Five Reasons Pastors Should Have Hope in the Post-Pandemic Era

We are talking about hope today. There are many pastors who are concerned about what the **church will look like in the post-pandemic era**. Mark and Thom share five reasons pastors should have hope in this new chapter of ministry.

<https://churchanswers.com/podcasts/revitalize-and-replant/five-reasons-pastors-should-have-hope-in-the-post-pandemic-era/>

[Images for church will look like in the post-pandemic era](#)

### How the Pandemic is a 'Painful Opportunity' for the Church

So how should church leaders assess their ministries now to determine what changes in **vision** or strategy they should make for post-coronavirus ministry?

<https://factsandtrends.net/2020/04/23/how-the-pandemic-is-a-painful-opportunity-for-the-church/>

[Images for How the Pandemic is a 'Painful Opportunity' for the Church](#)

### Jesus' Re-Shaping of a Post-Pandemic Church | The Exchange

So, what might the repentant reshaping of a post-pandemic church look like? As a pastor of a local church, I, like many of you, have wrestled with this question. Although not exhaustive, here are three repentant moves toward God that I am convinced he is requiring of us.

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2020/may/jesus-re-shaping-of-post-pandemic-church.html>

[Images for Jesus' Re-Shaping of a Post-Pandemic Church | The Exchange](#)

### Nehemiah's Lessons for Post-Pandemic Church Leaders

Why the book of Nehemiah? Nehemiah was a man of God set apart by God to lead the people of God through a time of great transition. Freed from Babylonian captivity, the exiles had begun to return to Jerusalem. The temple was in the midst of being rebuilt. A sense of hope, though germinal, was beginning to grow. But there was much work that still needed to be done as God's people entered this new phase of redemptive history. Might we even call it their "new normal"?

God's task for Nehemiah was to lead the people through this time of transition. **What follows are three principles of godly leadership in a time of transition that I have gleaned from this precious portion of God's Word.**

<https://ca.thegospelcoalition.org/article/nehemiahs-lessons-for-post-pandemic-church-leaders/>

[Images for Nehemiah's Lessons for Post-Pandemic Church Leaders](#)

### Prepare Now for Post-Pandemic Ministry, Church Professionals Urge - Word&Way

The focus, Hornbeck and others advised in interviews with *Catholic News Service*, must be on the **future** so that when the lockdowns end, parishioners realize the church remains vibrant and that the role of the laity in building the community of faith is more important than ever.

<https://wordandway.org/2020/04/23/prepare-now-for-post-pandemic-ministry-church-professionals-urge/>

<https://cruxnow.com/church-in-the-usa/2020/04/prepare-now-for-post-pandemic-ministry-church-professionals-urge/>

### The post-pandemic church will need to wipe out, spread out and reach out!

Whatever the future holds, God is in control and facilities will adjust to the most effective means to support the ministry.

<https://churchexecutive.com/archives/the-post-pandemic-church-will-need-to-wipe-out-spread-out-and-reach-out>

[Images for The post-pandemic church will need to wipe out, spread out and reach out!](#)

### What Will the Post-Coronavirus Church Look Like? | Church Answers

But the coronavirus will move past its pandemic state at some point in the future. I am fascinated to see what our churches will look like on "the other side." Here are eight likely developments:

<https://churchanswers.com/blog/what-will-the-post-coronavirus-church-look-like/>

[Images for What Will the Post-Coronavirus Church Look Like? | Church Answers](#)

<https://www.christianpost.com/voices/what-will-the-post-coronavirus-church-look-like.html>

<https://www.nsnaz.org/news/35-the-christian-post/14905-what-will-the-post-coronavirus-church-look-like>

### What's next? Post-pandemic church ministry - Converge.org

COVID-19 has required congregations to adapt their ministry methods, extend grace, and to streamline budgets. Most churches have sustained in the face of such changes, but what will it be like as our congregations begin to physically meet again? A geographically representative panel of Converge Heartland ministry leaders came together to discuss this topic, and here is the refined summary of that meeting. The following are 11 practical insights that you and your church leaders are strongly encouraged consider for your church's ongoing ministry in the **forthcoming post-pandemic context.**

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[Images for What's next? Post-pandemic church ministry - Converge.org](#)

## 9) Pray

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### Recovering Prayer and Discernment in Our Agendas and Strategies

Often, our “Christian” plans are created by really smart people doing really smart things and thinking really smart thoughts. But are our organizations’ strategic plans and vision statements just secular work wrapped in Christian clothing? Add “by the grace of God” and do we have a preamble to a commanding and measurable future described in 150 words or less?

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/september/recovering-prayer-and-discernment-in-our-agendas-and-strate.html>  
Images for Recovering Prayer and Discernment in Our Agendas and Strategies

### 7 Ways for Church Leaders to Pray More – ThomRainer.com

I know there are other “prescriptions” to consider for these diagnoses, but I hope these ideas get you started in the right direction.

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## 10) Risk

[PDF] [A Church That Honors the Past but Is Willing to Risk It All on the Future.](#)

1. What's God calling you to let go of and to trust Him as you step into something new and unknown?

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Here are seven reasons why risk-taking is essential to women's success, according to the very women who have benefited from putting it all on the line.

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## The Rewards of Risk

Are you willing to color outside the lines, risk failure or step out of your comfort zone...for the glory of the Master? Don't be afraid to take risks. Have a "reckless week!"

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## What Are You Willing to Risk for Jesus? - ChurchLeaders.com

Jesus risked it all for us – not only did he risk it all, he gave it all. He left heaven's glory, became a man, was scorned, scourged, nailed to a cross, judged and punished by God to save us. He gave it all. We should be willing to take risks for him.

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## 11) Slow Hunch

### Where Good Ideas Come From [Steven Johnson]

The printing press, the pencil, the flush toilet, the battery--these are all great ideas. But where do they come from? What kind of environment breeds them? What sparks the flash of brilliance? How do we generate the breakthrough technologies that push forward our lives, our society, our culture? Steven Johnson's answers are revelatory as he identifies the seven key patterns behind genuine innovation and traces them across time and disciplines. From Darwin and Freud to the halls of Google and Apple, Johnson investigates the innovation hubs throughout modern time and pulls out the approaches and commonalities that seem to appear at moments of originality.



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## 12) Third Way

### Changing the Conversation: A Third Way for Congregations by Anthony B. Robinson (Author)

A sequel to his best-selling *Transforming Congregational Culture* (2003), *Changing the Conversations* offers Anthony Robinson's latest work and thinking on congregational renewal and leadership. Robinson here invites church leaders and members into ten crucial conversations that will change their congregation's culture and help them respond with greater vitality, effectiveness, and faithfulness to our postmodern culture and its challenges.

For congregations—particularly congregations of the mainline Protestant tradition—the way forward has everything to do with changing the conversation. Is a third way possible—a way beyond the polarized alternatives of either liberal or conservative, left or right, red or blue, traditional or contemporary, praise or classical? If it is possible, is a third way merely a compromise between extremes, a muddle in the middle, or is it a vital center and a new framing of the conversation?

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Images for Anthony B. Robinson (Author)

Images for Changing the Conversation: A Third Way for Congregations by Anthony B. Robinson (Author)

### Deep Church: A Third Way Beyond Emerging and Traditional by Jim Belcher (Author), Richard J. Mouw (Foreword)

2010 *Christianity Today* Book Award winner! 2010 Golden Canon *Leadership* Book Award winner! Feeling caught between the traditional church and the emerging church? Discover a third way: deep church. C. S. Lewis used the phrase "deep church" to describe the body of believers committed to mere Christianity. Unfortunately, church in our postmodern era has been marked by a certain shallowness. Emerging authors, fed up with contemporary pragmatism, have offered alternative visions for twenty-first-century Christianity. Traditionalist churches have reacted negatively, at times defensively. Jim Belcher knows what it's like to be

part of both of these worlds. In the 1990s, he was among the pioneers of what was then called Gen X ministry, hanging out with creative innovators like Rob Bell, Mark Oestreicher, and Mark Driscoll. But he also has maintained ties to traditionalist circles, planting a church in the Presbyterian Church of America. In *Deep Church*, Belcher brings the best insights of all sides to forge a third way between emerging and traditional. In a fair and evenhanded way, Belcher explores the proposals of such emerging church leaders as Tony Jones, Brian McLaren, and Doug Pagitt. He offers measured appreciation and affirmation as well as balanced critique. Moving beyond reaction, Belcher provides constructive models from his own church planting experience and paints a picture of what this alternate, deep church looks like--a missional church committed to both tradition and culture, valuing innovation in worship, arts and community but also creeds and confessions. If you've felt stuck between two extremes, you can find a home here. Plumb the depths of Christianity in a way that neither rejects our postmodern context nor capitulates to it. Instead of veering to the left or the right, go between the extremes--and go deep.

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Images for *Deep Church: A Third Way Beyond Emerging and Traditional* by Jim Belcher (Author), Richard J. Mouw (Foreword)

### What is a Third Way church? - GotQuestions.org

Third Way churches reject the polarization of society. They seek to “engage the culture” without being judgmental of others and without redefining their own core beliefs. They don’t wish to withdraw from society, and they don’t want to abandon their convictions. Offered the choice of either fighting or surrendering, they choose neither. The Third Way is touted as the way of acceptance, love, equality, and interaction. Theological positions take a secondary place to “love.”

<http://www.gotquestions.org/Third-Way-church.html>

Images for What is a Third Way church? - GotQuestions.org

### 13) Tomorrow

#### 58 best Quotes: Tomorrow images on Pinterest

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#### Jill Hudson: Preparing for the challenges of tomorrow | Faith and Leadership

The world that the church inhabits is changing, and pastors, congregations, and denominations need to learn new ways to define effectiveness

<http://www.faithandleadership.com/multimedia/jill-hudson-preparing-for-the-challenges-tomorrow>

Images for Preparing for the challenges of tomorrow | Faith and Leadership

<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1566997070>

### Rahner's vision of the Church of tomorrow | Catholicireland.net

Michael Brundell O.Carm. takes note of Karl Rahner's vision of the Church of tomorrow, a Church of sinners, shaken perhaps by the storms of history and of internal conflict, but still united in love of each other and love of the Church itself.

<http://www.catholicireland.net/rahners-vision-of-the-church-of-tomorrow/>  
[Images for Rahner's vision of the Church of tomorrow | Catholicireland.net](http://www.catholicireland.net/rahners-vision-of-the-church-of-tomorrow/)

### Tomorrow Quotes - BrainyQuote

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### Tomorrow - Wikipedia

Tomorrow may refer to:

- Tomorrow (time), the day after today
- The future, that which occurs after the present

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tomorrow>  
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### What Does the Bible Say About Tomorrow? - OpenBible.info

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### Why the Church of Tomorrow Starts Today - Outreach Magazine

Even during the darkest seasons of the church—times when persecution was at peak levels and the very existence of the church was teetering—the church has pulled through. Sometimes it's slow to adapt, and sometimes it's forced to change. Sometimes change means a course correction, and sometimes it's a radical shift. But ultimately the church prevails.

<https://outreachmagazine.com/features/4755-why-the-church-of-tomorrow-starts-today.html>  
[Images for Why the Church of Tomorrow Starts Today - Outreach Magazine](https://outreachmagazine.com/features/4755-why-the-church-of-tomorrow-starts-today.html)

## 14) Trends

### American Religion Statistics: Trends in U.S. Religious Composition

America's Changing Religious Landscape

<http://www.pewforum.org/2015/05/12/chapter-1-the-changing-religious-composition-of-the-u-s/>  
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### Religious Trends in Twentieth-Century America - Word and World

OVER THE LAST HALF OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, THREE IMPORTANT developments have shaped American religious life. The first is the double-sided trend of the decline of mainline churches and the growth of evangelical churches. The second is



the divisive effect of political activism on the communal life of denominations. The third is the reduction of the role of religion in public life through the enforcement of the Supreme Court's legal doctrine of separation of church and state.

[https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?article\\_id=1235](https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx?article_id=1235)

[Images for Religious Trends in Twentieth-Century America - Word and World](#)

<https://wordandworld.luthersem.edu/issues.aspx> THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. Vol. 20, No 1, Winter, 2000

[Images for Walter Sundberg \(author\)](#)

### Seven Trends for Churches in 2020 - ThomRainer.com

As we head into 2020, I see seven major trends developing. They are likely to change the landscape of churches in the next few years.

<https://thomrainer.com/2019/12/seven-trends-for-churches-in-2020/>

[Images for Seven Trends for Churches in 2020 - ThomRainer.com](#)

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[https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27470.Thom\\_S\\_Rainer](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/27470.Thom_S_Rainer)

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

### 7 Trends That Offer A Snapshot Of American Religion Today | HuffPost

Religion in the U.S. was once largely white and Christian, but the future looks increasingly diverse and non-Christian.

[https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/7-trends-that-offer-a-snapshot-of-american-religion-today\\_us\\_59b9a559e4b02da0e13eedbe](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/7-trends-that-offer-a-snapshot-of-american-religion-today_us_59b9a559e4b02da0e13eedbe)

[Images for 7 Trends That Offer A Snapshot Of American Religion Today | HuffPost](#)

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### 6 Disruptive Church Trends That Will Rule 2020 – CareyNieuwhof.com

You and I lead in an age of massive disruption. Here are 6 disruptive church trends that will rule 2020.

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

[Images for 6 Disruptive Church Trends That Will Rule 2020 – CareyNieuwhof.com](#)

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[https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3396023.Carey\\_Nieuwhof](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/3396023.Carey_Nieuwhof)

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

### Ten trends to watch: Churches need to take note, keep up - The Lutheran Magazine

Walking into [Come2Go](#), you might notice the hip vibe of this 400-seat music venue. You might notice people socializing, food and drink in hand, waiting for the show to start. During the concert, you might notice the high-quality sound and lighting system.

You probably wouldn't notice that it is also an [ELCA](#) worshipping community.

This [ELCA](#) ministry in Fort Wayne, Ind., was the idea of pastor developer Mark Minnick, who intended to reach people with little

religious background. "Music is a universal approach," he said. [Come2Go](#)'s original design was to "create community and get people into the building," he added.

[Come2Go](#)'s approach responds to several trends affecting American religious life and congregational work in faith formation, said John Roberto, author and speaker on Christian faith formation.

After compiling current research on American religious life and social and cultural trends, Roberto, president of [LifelongFaith Associates](#), Naugatuck, Conn., identified trends to which he believes congregations need to pay attention.

"We asked ourselves, 'What are the greatest uncertainties? Will people over the next decade be more receptive or less to organized religion? Will people be more or less open to God?'" he said.

As Roberto examined this research, his concern grew to a point of urgency. "We need to do something now and not wait around," he said.

[ELCA](#) congregational leaders, teachers and theologians offered their perspectives on these 10 interconnected trends as they relate to faith formation in [ELCA](#) congregations. To be clear, not all these trends are negative. Many present significant opportunities for ministry. Regardless, the message is clear: the world is changing; we need to take note and keep up.

[http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article\\_id=9970](http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=9970)

[Images for Ten trends to watch: Churches need to take note, keep up - The Lutheran Magazine](#)

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

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

### 10 (Unexpected) Church Trends to Surface by 2020

Ten years and 10 trends. Perhaps a few were more unexpected than others. I'm just one prognosticator; there is no guarantee for any of these predictions. But it is the responsibility of local church leaders to have a vision for their churches' futures. Now is the time to start planning.

<http://www.churchleaders.com/pastors/pastor-articles/157452-10-unexpected-church-trends-to-surface-by-2020.html>

[Images for 10 \(Unexpected\) Church Trends to Surface by 2020](#)

### The Church Needs to Stop Pandering to Trends – RELEVANT Magazine

Recent research from Barna Group and Cornerstone Knowledge Network has found that in reality, 67% of millennials say a quiet church is more ideal than a loud one; 67% say classic is more ideal than trendy; 77% would chose a sanctuary over an auditorium. As Dr. Clint Jenkin explained in the research, "Most millennials don't look for a church facility that caters to the whims of pop culture. They want a community that calls them to deeper meaning." Essentially, by pandering to trends they think millennials want, many churches isolate them further.

<http://www.relevantmagazine.com/god/church-needs-stop-pandering-trends>

[Images for The Church Needs to Stop Pandering to Trends – RELEVANT Magazine](#)

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<https://acculturated.com/pandering-to-millennials/>

### The State of The Church in America: When Numbers Point to A New Reality – Christianity Today

Mainline Protestants (those in the United Methodist Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America [ELCA], Episcopal Church, Presbyterian Church [U.S.A.], American Baptist Churches, United Church of Christ [UCC], and The Christian Church [Disciples of Christ]) have fared poorly in recent decades. While Christianity overall is not dying in America, Mainline Protestantism is getting closer. According to the GSS, 28% of Americans identified with a mainline church in 1972. By 2014, that number had dropped to 12.2%.

A recent [report](#) from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) corroborates this [trend](#).

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/september/state-of-church-in-america-when-numbers-point-to-new-realit.html>

[Images for The State of The Church in America – Christianity Today](#)

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### 3 Important Church Trends in the Next 10 Years | The Exchange

Trend #1: The Hemorrhaging of Mainline Protestantism

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2015/april/3-important-trends-in-church-in-next-ten-years.html>

[Images for 3 Important Church Trends in the Next 10 Years | The Exchange Trend #1: The Hemorrhaging of Mainline Protestantism](#)

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/>

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### What Are the Big-Picture Trends in Congregations? | The Parish Paper

Research reveals that during the past eight years congregations across the United States experienced rapid change in seven different areas.

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#### What Does the Bible Say About Trends? - OpenBible.info

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## 15) 21st Century Church

### A Church for the 21st Century: Bringing Change to Your Church to Meet the Challenges of a Changing Society by Leigh Anderson

Within church leadership circles, Leigh Anderson is a nationally recognized expert on how churches can and must change-- not only to survive but to thrive in the next century.

As the church confronts the rapid and complex transformations that are ushering Western society into the twenty-first century, many established churches and ministry organizations find themselves teetering between ineffectiveness and extinction. The reality is that they must change to meet the challenges of the present and upcoming generation, and they must do so quickly. But the problem is that many lay leaders and pastors don't know how to guide their churches into the kind of changes that will make their churches relevant and effective.

Within church leadership circles, Leigh Anderson is a nationally recognized expert on how churches can and must change not only to survive but to thrive in the next century. *A Church for the 21st Century* deals directly with how to change and what to change.

Anderson's purpose is to help established churches renew themselves and becoming effective vehicles of ministry and outreach.

Change can come to churches by gently and positively helping them diagnose their true condition and, secondarily, by pointing the way to a prescription. But Anderson gives no simplistic formulas. Every church situation is different, and the changes needed are as diverse as each congregation. Good church leaders, like good physicians, are careful to determine the correct diagnosis as well as prescription.

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Images for Leigh Anderson, author a church for the 21<sup>st</sup> century

Images for A Church for the 21st Century: Bringing Change to Your Church to Meet the Challenges of a Changing Society by Leigh Anderson

### A New and Right Spirit: Creating an Authentic Church in a Consumer Culture [Rick Barger]

In a postmodern culture shaped by consumerism, it's little wonder that there is confusion about what the church is supposed to be in the **21st century**. In *A New and Right Spirit*, Rick Barger argues passionately for congregations to reexamine what it means to be

an "authentic church" in a culture where authenticity is hard to come by. He demonstrates the pitfalls of technical solutions to congregational problems and shows the way to making adaptive change. Recognizing the spiritual needs of a success-oriented society, he exhorts leaders to turn away from the story of our culture and to return to the story of the church that is grounded in Christ and the resurrection.

<http://www.amazon.com/New-Right-Spirit-Creating-Authentic/dp/1566993067>

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[http://www.transformingchurch.com/resourcetoolbox/2005/10/a\\_new\\_and\\_right.php](http://www.transformingchurch.com/resourcetoolbox/2005/10/a_new_and_right.php)

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<http://www.tlsohio.edu/faculty/faculty-profiles/295-barger-rick-profile>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=watgdtJeocg> President Barger Installation at Trinity Lutheran Seminary – YouTube

<http://tlsohio.edu/about-trinity/introduction/barger-rick-bio>

<https://www.facebook.com/rick.barger.50>

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/author/rick-barger/>

<http://www.tlsohio.edu/faculty/faculty-profiles/faculty-news/474-rick-barger>

[Images for Rick Barger](#)

[Images for A New and Right Spirit: Creating an Authentic Church in a Consumer Culture \[Rick Barger\]](#)

### **A Vibrant 21st Century Church – General Conference of the Church of God**

The 18 page booklet summarizes the vision of a Vibrant 21<sup>st</sup> Century Church as a Christ-Centered, Grace-Oriented, Sabbath-Celebrating Church.

<https://cog7.org/a-vibrant-21st-century-church/>

[Images for A Vibrant 21st Century Church – General Conference of the Church of God](#)

### **Becoming a 21st Century Church: A Transformational Manual by J. Fred Lehr (Author)**

Why are 80 percent of our congregations stagnant or dying? There are a variety of reasons. This book dives deeply into one of the main reasons--the failure to adapt to the cultural changes of our day. When the Reformation began 500 years ago it sparked a number of radical changes (like worshipping in the vernacular rather than in Latin, etc.) that shocked the church. Over time many saw the merit of those changes and adapted. In the very same way today, major cultural changes are taking place. Is the church open to understanding those changes? And are congregations making the necessary effort to appropriately adapt to them without compromising our central message, the Gospel of Jesus Christ? This "transformational manual" addresses the cultural shifts and provides practical and experience-based ideas to appropriately respond while keeping a strong emphasis on the Gospel of Jesus. Are you ready to become a 21st century church? J. Fred Lehr has always focused on making the church all it can be. A student of cultural attitudes, organizational systems, and in general the practical aspects of being the church, Lehr has concentrated his recent efforts on understanding the impact of the postmodern church and how we can successfully and faithfully respond to that major cultural shift while still being true to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

<https://www.amazon.com/Becoming-21st-Century-Church-Transformational/dp/1532635435>

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[Images for J. Fred Lehr \(Author\)](#)

[Images for Becoming a 21st Century Church: A Transformational Manual by J. Fred Lehr \(Author\)](#)

### **Boiling Point: How Coming Cultural Shifts Will Change Your Life by George Barna, Mark Hatch**

Ten years ago, a groundbreaking book called "The Frog in the Kettle" changed what we believe about the evangelical Church and its influence in America. Subsequent books by George Barna have become must reading for church leaders and concerned Christians everywhere. Now Barna takes a fresh look at the Church-where we stand and where we are headed-at the dawn of the new millennium. With revealing statistics from cutting-edge research that illustrate the changing beliefs and attitudes in our society today, this book will clearly show the Church is at a crucial juncture in history-a time of rapid change in which we must begin to anticipate the world's needs in order to meet them.

The successful author of *The Frog in the Kettle* and *The Second Coming of the Church*, Barna sets out in his latest work, *Boiling Point*, to examine the future of North American life in the first decade of the **21<sup>st</sup> century**.

<http://www.amazon.com/Boiling-Point-Monitoring-Cultural-Century/dp/B005Q6IAU0>

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/388188.Boiling\\_Point](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/388188.Boiling_Point)

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<https://www.remnantbooks.org/>

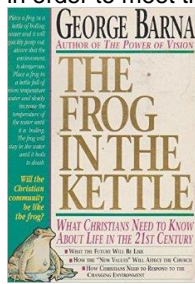
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<http://www.barna.org/>  
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 Images for george barna, author  
 Images for Boiling Point: How Coming Cultural Shifts Will Change Your Life by George Barna, Mark Hatch

### The Frog in the Kettle: What Christians Need to Know about Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century [George Barna]

In *The Frog and the Kettle*, you'll get a distinctive picture of what life will be like in the 21st century. With significant charts and diagrams that illustrate the changing beliefs and attitudes in our society today, *The Frog and the Kettle* will help you see that we are at a Crucial time in history - a time of rapid change - and a time in which we must begin to anticipate the world's needs in order to meet them.



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Images for What Christians Need to Know about Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Images for The Frog in the Kettle: What Christians Need to Know about Life in the 21st Century [George Barna]

### The Second Coming of the Church [George Barna]

In this "blueprint for survival," Christian sociologist George Barna evaluates the moral and spiritual decline of society and the corresponding stagnation within the Church. Using hard data, Barna unveils the status quo and argues convincingly that the Church must re-invent itself or face virtual oblivion by the **mid-21st century**.

<http://www.amazon.com/Second-Coming-Church-George-Barna/dp/0849914906>  
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 Images for Second Coming of the Church by George Barna

### Christianity and the church in the twenty-first century - Ministry Magazine

WHAT FORMS WILL THE CHURCH TAKE?

But there is an even larger question; a practical one: What will be the form or forms of the Church? In what types of ministry will it (we) be involved? What will the Church (we) look like? What will church leadership look like?

<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/2001/03/christianity-and-the-church-in-the-twenty-first-century.html>

[Images for Christianity and the church in the twenty-first century - Ministry Magazine](https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/)  
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### Christianity in the 21st century - Wikipedia

Catholic–Lutheran<sup>[edit]</sup>

In 2016, on the 499th anniversary of the start of the [Protestant Reformation](#), Pope Francis travelled to Sweden (where the Lutheran Church is the [national Church](#)) to commemorate the Reformation at [Lund Cathedral](#), which serves as the seat for the Lutheran [Bishop of Lund](#).<sup>[172]</sup> An official press release from the [Holy See](#) stated:<sup>[173]</sup>

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Roman Catholic Church joint event will highlight the 50 years of continuous ecumenical dialogue between Catholics and Lutherans and the joint gifts of this collaboration. The Catholic-Lutheran commemoration of 500 years of the Reformation is structured around the themes of thanksgiving, repentance and commitment to common witness. The aim is to express the gifts of the Reformation and ask forgiveness for division perpetuated by Christians from the two traditions.<sup>[173]</sup> An [ecumenical](#) service was presided over by [Munib Younan](#), the president of the [Lutheran World Federation](#), [Martin Junge](#), the General Secretary of the LWF, as well as Pope Francis.<sup>[174]</sup> Representatives from the Anglican Communion, Baptist World Alliance, Eastern Orthodox Church, and Salvation Army also participated in the predominantly Lutheran and Roman Catholic event.<sup>[175]</sup> Pope Francis, in a joint statement with Munib Younan, stated that "With gratitude we acknowledge that the Reformation helped give a greater centrality to sacred Scripture in the Church's life".<sup>[176]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity\\_in\\_the\\_21st\\_century](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity_in_the_21st_century)

[Images for Christianity in the 21st century](#)

### Church for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century » Alban

The Changing Church

At a time when fewer Americans, generally, are filling the pews of mainline denominations, more of the faithful are asking what is to be done: How do centuries-old institutions oriented around “the Word”—from gospel to doctrine, liturgy, sermon, and even music—respond to the needs of future generations of nonlinear, media-savvy, text-resistant Internet explorers? Can the church welcome and feed the spiritual hunger of this changing global society without sacrificing what is truly sacred? And, finally, could changes in worship and theology, however welcome, create entirely new theological meaning, new alignments, or even new denominations?

[Alban at Duke Divinity School » Church for the 21st Century: National Event Helps Launch “New Reformation”](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/church-for-the-21st-century-national-cathedral-event-helps-launch-new-reformation/>

[Images for Church for the 21st Century » Alban The Changing Church](#)

<https://alban.org/archive/twelve-characteristics-for-effective-21st-century-ministry-2/>

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

### Effective Small Churches in the 21st Century [Carl S. Dudley]

Dudley's work in *Making the Small Church Effective* (1978) broke new ground in understanding the dynamics of life in the small congregation. In this revised edition, Dudley revisits the small church, posing new questions reflective of the considerable changes that have swept over small churches in the last two decades. Among the most significant recent developments are shifts in institutional loyalty and individual's sense of identity in relation to larger groups and organizations. Dudley explores the key components that contribute to a small congregation's sense of unity and that motivate its members to more faithfully live out their faith.



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Images for Carl S. Dudley, author  
Images for Effective Small Churches in the 21st Century [Carl S. Dudley]

#### Leading the 21st Century Church | CT Pastors | Christianity Today

Pining for the days of the early church can distract us from leading faithfully today.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2015/june-web-exclusives/leading-21st-century-church.html>  
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#### [PDF]Religious Congregations in 21st Century America - Duke Sociology

A Report from the National Congregations Study

[http://www.soc.duke.edu/natcong/Docs/NCSIII\\_report\\_final.pdf](http://www.soc.duke.edu/natcong/Docs/NCSIII_report_final.pdf)  
Images for Religious Congregations in 21st Century America

#### Rethinking Christianity in the 21st Century | Reflections

What has changed is Christianity's global geographical distribution. The basic shifts have been from the Northern Hemisphere to the Southern and from the West to the East.

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Images for Gregory E. Sterling

#### The Church in the 21st Century Center - Boston College

...a catalyst and resource for the renewal of the Catholic Church in the United States

<http://www.bc.edu/church21.html>  
<http://www.bc.edu/church21/publications/c21resources.html>  
<http://www.bc.edu/church21/webcast.html>  
Images for The Church in the 21st Century Center – Boston College

#### The 21st Century Pastor: A Vision Based on the Ministry of Paul by David Fisher

The third millennium. It's a time of tremendous opportunity for the church--and tremendous challenge. More than ever, pastors need a model for ministry that can equip them for the rigors of a restless, increasingly secularized culture. In the 21st Century Pastor, David Fisher explores the apostle Paul's concept of ministry to offer a paradigm that is both biblical and relevant. Paul's view is fleshed out with examples from Fisher's own twenty-five years of pastoral experience, presenting a roadmap for today's pastor that is scholarly, practical, dynamic, and inspiring. The 21st Century Pastor first addresses crucial issues of pastoral identity, the significance of geography, time, and ecclesiology. It then explores Paul's metaphors for ministry (jars of clay, farmers and builders, servants and stewards, and others) to reveal an accurate portrait of an effective, biblical pastor--the kind who will speak to the heart of modern culture rather than languish on its fringes. Filling the rare role of a pastor to pastors, Fisher's sage insights help pastors answer their own identity questions, empowering them to minister to a deeply needy society. Says Fisher, "Pastors who know what time it is will, in the name and power of God, create communities of faith where the values of the Gospel are embraced, taught, and lived out."

<https://www.amazon.com/21st-Century-Pastor-David-Fisher/dp/0310201543>  
[http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/917211.21st\\_Century\\_Pastor](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/917211.21st_Century_Pastor)  
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[Images for The 21st Century Pastor: A Vision Based on the Ministry of Paul by David Fisher](#)

### 21 Challenges Facing the 21st Century Church — Brett McCracken

I've been thinking about the particular challenges facing the 21st century church. And there are many. The following 21 are in no particular order and are by no means exhaustive, and they are largely (but not exclusively) reflective of an American evangelical context. I also should note that each of them represents not only a challenge but also an opportunity. The church has historically thrived when she is tested rather than comfortable.

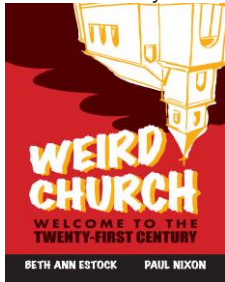
<https://www.brettmccracken.com/blog/blog/2016/10/27/21-challenges-facing-the-21st-century-church>  
[Images for 21 Challenges Facing the 21st Century Church — Brett McCracken](#)

### Weird Church: Welcome to the Twenty-First Century by Paul Nixon (Author), Beth Ann Estock (Author)

In the post-Christendom era, the institutional church just isn't what it used to be. But don't give up hope for the future of faith. Weird Church offers church leaders a clear vision of what's coming next, so long as they're willing to live into a few critical shifts. Utilizing Spiral Dynamics as a means of framing the current changes in North American culture, Nixon and Estock give a thrilling forecast of where the church is

going as we race toward the mid-century.

This book is a wake-up call for those who still think church revitalization is simply a matter of doing better the things that used to come so easily. A must-read for anybody who is designing Christian ministry for the new world that is rapidly emerging around us.



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[Images for Weird Church: Welcome to the Twenty-First Century by Paul Nixon \(Author\), Beth Ann Estock \(Author\)](#)

### Who Stole My Church: What to Do When the Church You Love Tries to Enter the 21st Century [Gordon MacDonald]

A storm hits a small New England town late one evening, but the pelting rain can't keep a small group of church members from gathering to discuss issues that lately have been brewing beneath the surface of their congregation. They could see their church was changing. The choir had been replaced by a flashy "praise band." The youth no longer dressed in their "Sunday best." The beautiful pipe organ sat unused. How will this group overcome a deepening rift in their fellowship and nourish the relationship between the young and old? Can their church survive or even thrive?

<http://www.amazon.com/Who-Stole-My-Church-Century/dp/0785230491>

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[Images for gordon macdonald, author](#)

[Images for What to Do When the Church You Love Tries to Enter the 21st Century \[Gordon MacDonald\]](#)

## 16) Vision

### Built to Last: Successful Habits of Visionary Companies by Jim Collins (Author), Jerry I. Porras (Author)

Drawing upon a six-year research project at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business, James C. Collins and Jerry I. Porras took eighteen truly exceptional and long-lasting companies and studied each in direct comparison to one of its top competitors. They examined the companies from their very beginnings to the present day -- as start-ups, as midsize companies, and as large corporations. Throughout, the authors asked: "What makes the truly exceptional companies different from the comparison companies and what were the common practices these enduringly great companies followed throughout their history?" Filled with hundreds of specific examples and organized into a coherent framework of practical concepts that can be applied by managers and entrepreneurs at all levels, *Built to Last* provides a master blueprint for building organizations that will prosper long into the 21st century and beyond.

<https://www.amazon.com/Built-Last-Successful-Visionary-Essentials/dp/0060516402>

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### Cast a ministry vision like JFK - Margaret Marcuson

An impossible dream

Can you dream something that seems impossible? Are you brave enough to say it aloud? Edwin Friedman always recommended that clergy give their "I have a dream" speech: that they take the risk to stand up and speak their ministry vision to their congregation.

I'm sure some people thought Kennedy was crazy to imagine landing on the moon. Or that it was a waste of money. If you share your dream, some will think it's crazy or impossible or unnecessary.

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### Changing a Church's Culture Changes Its Future by Curtis House | The Parish Paper

Does Our Theology Have a Visionary Focus?

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What Is Our Mission Action Plan?

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What Is Our **Vision**?

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What Is Our Mission?

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What Are Our Values?

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What Is Our Strategy?

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[Images for Changing a Church's Culture Changes Its Future by Curtis House | The Parish Paper](https://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper)  
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### Congregation Informational Meeting – Oct. 6, 2013

Mission/**Vision** Team

Dave Henningsen, spokesperson, stated the excitement of this team in doing God's work in a faithful, deliberate fashion, working towards the mission that God made us to be. With nearly 400 surveys collected from Bethany members, we have learned that Christian Education, teaching Christian values for youth, securing strong and engaging preaching, and reaching for excellence in the worship experience are our top priorities.

Remembering discipleship, he stated that Outreach will be emphasized, improving on the many ways in which we already reach out. He asks, "Where is God leading us in the next 10 years?" Our new mission statement addresses this: We INVITE all; We GROW in faith; We GO to share God's love and grace.

Because our worship attendance is decreasing, our membership declining, as in ½ of the ELCA congregations across the nation and other mainstream denominations, we will have a deliberate focus shift: That from ourselves to others; from membership to discipleship; from pastor-centered to lay empowered, from settled to sent.

<http://www.bethanyricelake.org/Portals/1475/Publications/Oct%206%202013%20Special%20Congregation%20Informational%20Meeting%20for%20print.pdf>

[Images for Congregation Mission/Vision Team](#)

### Congregational Readiness for Visioning and Planning - Alban Institute

There are three key elements to sustain change: honest assessment of the present, hopeful vision of the future, and practical steps to move forward. Although you may find that everything appears ready on the surface, one of the challenges is to try to understand the deeper readiness of the culture for change. All congregations have informal norms that they don't articulate. There are also deep, unconscious (tacit) norms that they may not be aware of. The planning team must be humble about the ability of new plans to overcome the underlying DNA of the congregation. Planners need to check readiness but to expect surprises. Let's look at some of the factors to consider.

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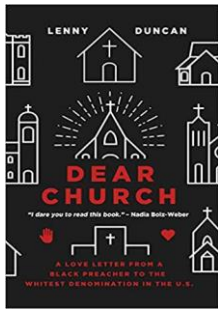
### Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US by Lenny Duncan (Author)

Lenny Duncan is the unlikeliest of pastors. Formerly incarcerated, he is now a black preacher in the whitest denomination in the United States: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Shifting demographics and shrinking congregations make all the headlines, but Duncan sees something else at work--drawing a direct line between the church's lack of diversity and the church's lack of vitality. The problems the ELCA faces are theological, not sociological. But so are the answers.

Part manifesto, part confession, and all love letter, *Dear Church* offers a bold new **vision** for the future of Duncan's denomination and the broader mainline Christian community of faith. *Dear Church* rejects the narrative of church decline and calls everyone--leaders and laity alike--to the front lines of the church's renewal through racial equality and justice.

It is time for the church to rise up, dust itself off, and take on forces of this world that act against God: whiteness, misogyny, nationalism, homophobia, and economic injustice. Duncan gives a blueprint for the way forward and urges us to follow in the revolutionary path of Jesus.

*Dear Church* also features a discussion guide at the back--perfect for church groups, book clubs, and other group discussion.



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Images for Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US by Lenny Duncan (Author)

### Developing a Vision | CT Pastors | Christianity Today

Vision is essential to a church. However, unlike the values, mission, and purpose, the vision is more subject to change. It is dynamic, not static. Over time, the vision must be renewed, adapted, and adjusted to the cultural context in which the congregation lives. The change takes place only at the margins of the vision, not at its core. The core—the Great Commission—does not change. The details of the vision and the words used to convey them will change. The vision provides us with a picture of what the mission will look like as it is realized in the community.

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Images for Developing a Vision | CT Pastors | Christianity Today

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### Developing Vision in The Smaller Congregation

Vision is not just for the large church; smaller churches need a vision for ministry as well. Understanding small-church culture is key to developing and communicating vision to its leaders. This article focuses first on the unique culture and characteristics of the smaller congregation, and second, on how to initiate change and communicate your God-given vision within the small-church context.

[http://enrichmentjournal.ag.org/200001/046\\_developing\\_vision.cfm](http://enrichmentjournal.ag.org/200001/046_developing_vision.cfm)

Images for Developing Vision in The Smaller Congregation

### Discover Your Windows: Lining up with God's Vision [Kent R. Hunter]

Unmasks the hidden “worldviews” that stand in the way of congregational vitality and mission.

They are problems with which every pastor is familiar: dwindling attendance in Sunday school classes; high levels of gossip and dissatisfaction; widespread apathy; weak financial support; inability to reach out to the unchurched. These and similar difficulties confound congregational leaders every day. Why are they often so difficult to address? Why do the programs put in place to remove these problems sometimes wind up adding to them? It is because these are not the problems themselves, but rather their symptoms.

If you wish to get to the real problem, you have to address the underlying assumptions, perspectives, and attitudes that cause these symptoms. You have to root out the false, unbiblical worldviews that lie at the heart of the problem. Discovering those worldviews is what Kent R. Hunter's proposal *Discover Your Windows* is all about.

Through years of working with individual congregations, and in the process of conducting nearly 15,000 interviews with individual church members, he has discovered the underlying perspectives that prevent churches from becoming the centers of witness and ministry God calls them to be. In this new book he summarizes what he has learned into 10 destructive worldviews and demonstrates the biblical alternative. For example, to the prevalent yet false worldview that the main purpose of Christians in the church is to provide a place of fellowship and share God's love with each other, he posits the biblical worldview that the main purpose of Christians in the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ.



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[Images for Discover Your Windows: Lining up with God's Vision \[Kent R. Hunter\]](#)

Fine-Tuning the Organizational and Communication Engine | The Parish Paper

**Vision**, Mission, Strategy, Tactics, and Values

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Good News in Exile: Three Pastors Offer a Hopeful Vision for the Church [Mr. Martin B. Copenhagen, Mr. Anthony B. Robinson, Mr. William H. Willimon]

With the recognition of the sweeping changes now taking place in North American society comes the realization that Protestant mainline churches no longer enjoy the privileged status they once did. In this forward-looking contribution to pastoral theology, three leading ministers discuss the state of church life today, explore the particular opportunities that our new world offers the church, and provide a clear picture of what a new, "post-liberal" church can look like in practice. / Speaking directly to pastors and church leaders who find the liberal/conservative polarity tired and unhelpful, the authors interact with the theoretical work of George Lindbeck, Stanley Hauerwas, and others as they trace strategies for a new way to do church.

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Images for William H. Willimon, author  
Images for Good News in Exile: Three Pastors Offer a Hopeful Vision for the Church [Mr. Martin B. Copenhaver, Mr. Anthony B. Robinson, Mr. William H. Willimon]

**Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations by Gil Rendle, Alice Mann**

Where Does **Vision** Come From?

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Images for Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations by Gil Rendle, Alice Mann

**Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America (The Gospel and Our Culture Series) by Darrell L. Guder (Editor), Lois Barrett (Editor), Inagrace T. Dietterich, George R. Hunsberger, Alan J. Roxburgh, Craig Van Gelder**

What would a theology of the Church look like that took seriously the fact that North America is now itself a mission field? This question lies at the foundation of this volume written by an ecumenical team of six noted missiologists—Lois Barrett, Inagrace T. Dietterich, Darrell L. Guder, George R. Hunsberger, Alan J. Roxburgh, and Craig Van Gelder.

The result of a three-year research project undertaken by The Gospel and Our Culture Network, this book issues a firm challenge for the church to recover its missional call right here in North America, while also offering the tools to help it do so.

The authors examine North America's secular culture and the church's loss of dominance in today's society. They then present a biblically based theology that takes seriously the church's missional vocation and draw out the consequences of this theology for the structure and institutions of the church.



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**Moving Beyond Church Growth: An Alternative Vision for Congregations by Mark A. Olson**

Mark Olson believes that trying to meet unrealistic expectations for church growth, along with expectations that pastors be all things to all people, has resulted in low morale, even burnout, among clergy and dissension within congregations. Olson's book argues that church-growth models exemplify and exacerbate the tendencies of the modern age and Constantinian Christianity, holding the church hostage to technique and marketing. These assumptions set up pastors and churches for disappointment and failure. But they also, in his opinion, miss an opportunity to envision a faithful alternative to the consumeristic church.

Olson's valuable book calls church leaders to faithful, bold, and courageous rethinking of congregational life and witness in substance, purpose, and style. His own 20 years of ministry in rural, suburban, and urban congregations inform an alternative rooted deeply in the past and anchored in strong leadership and worship, but also profoundly compassionate and engaged in the surrounding community. In this model, pastors' primary responsibilities are not to fix everything and everybody but to enable people to be present to each other and to provide hope.

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<http://fortresspress.com/product/moving-beyond-church-growth-alternative-vision-congregations>  
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**Moving toward God's Vision in Large Churches | The Parish Paper**

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II. Why Are Large Churches Becoming More Popular?	Page 4
III. Large Churches Are Different!	Page 5
IV. In What Ways Are Effective Large Churches Different?	Page 9
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VI. What Type of Leadership Produces Large Church Effectiveness?	Page 17
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[\[PDF\]Ch. Effectiveness Nuggets--Volume 26—Moving toward God's Vision in Large Churches - The Parish Paper](#)  
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/sites/default/files/resources/Church%20Effectiveness%20Nuggets-%20Volume%2026.pdf>

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<http://www.wisconsinumc.org/connections/conference-news/the-parish-paper>  
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<http://www.hcucc.org/the-parish-paper>  
<https://www.theparishpaper.com/back-issue-index> Back Issue Index | The Parish Paper

**[PDF] NEW VISION: MISSION IN FOUR MOTIONS: A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS - Clover**

A NEW VISION is on the way! A completely new and revised curriculum has been developed. New Visions will come in two designs – LIKE FIRE can be used for leadership training, mission trips; with a planning committee, the call committee and as a mission school. Brief instruction on use is included. ALL THINGS RESTORED is a 10-week adult class/forum. A new DVD, "To Mend the World", accompanies ALL THINGS RESTORED. Each course of learning has the same goal – to increase mission awareness and activity and to build a mission focused environment. Each learning experience has its own content and activity. TWO IN ONE!

<http://storage.cloversites.com/easternnorthdakotasynod/documents/NEW%20VISION.pdf>  
[Images for NEW VISION: MISSION IN FOUR MOTIONS: A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS](#)

**North Star Vision: Clustering helps rural Minnesota ministries survive and thrive - The Lutheran Magazine**

In the mid-1990s, members of Our Redeemer Lutheran didn't know how long their church doors would remain open. With about 20 active members, the Puposky, Minn., congregation struggled to call a pastor. There weren't enough teens for a youth group. Members felt alone and isolated.

Times have changed. Last summer members gutted the church, updated its wiring and refurbished the altar. The church also serves as a community center, where neighbors gather for an annual harvest festival and a day of games in February. Our Redeemer now is focused on mission, not on just surviving.

"We've learned you don't sit there and give up," says Darlene Pearson, a parishioner since 1949. "We're doing outreach. We're looking for larger community involvement and praying about it."

[http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article\\_id=2524](http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=2524)  
[Images for North Star Vision: Clustering helps rural Minnesota ministries survive and thrive - The Lutheran Magazine](#)  
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/contact-us/>  
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/issues/>

**Re-visioning Ministry**

Staccato Powell

Given the shifting context of church and society, this seminar is intended to assist and facilitate your work as you refine your vision for excellence in ministry. As a foundation for the basis of your reflection, the seminar calls for daily readings from the Bible, the life and thought of the church throughout its history, biographies and autobiographies, trends in theological articulation, and works on various practices of ministry. An important element of this seminar is an emphasis on your personal devotions, theological orientation to ministry, and analysis of your individual settings of ministry. Topics will include: • The Nature of the Church • The Nature and Tasks of the Ordained Ministry • The Cultural Context of Your Practice of Ministry • Your Vision and Strategy for Ministry



**IMN | 2017 Annual Conference - Interim Ministry Network**

<http://imnedu.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Keynote-Workshop-Descriptions.pdf> Page 1

[Images for Re-visioning Ministry Staccato Powell](#)

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[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUgPcY5a\\_74](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUgPcY5a_74) Dr. Staccato Powell: Until Everything is Accomplished – YouTube

[Images for Dr. Staccato Powell: Until Everything is Accomplished – YouTube](#)

**Stepping Forward: Synagogue Visioning and Planning [Robert Leventhal]**

Drawing on his extensive and fruitful consulting work in diverse synagogue contexts, Alban senior consultant Robert Leventhal presents his Synagogue Visioning and Planning (SVP) model to a wider audience for the first time. Using this substantial yet accessible model, Leventhal has helped numerous congregations with visioning and planning, leadership development, and team building. Congregations that engage with SVP will uncover hidden depths of vision and vitality as they grow into a clearer understanding of their God-given ministries and gifts.

He invites not just rabbis and council presidents but the many reluctant leaders of the congregation to "jump in" to SVP. This innovative model combines organizational leadership principles and core Jewish values to recruit, focus, and energize the

congregation and the community so that work can be shared and productive. By including the broadest possible array of leadership in all stages of the process, SVP can be enthusiastically embraced by the entire congregation.

<http://www.amazon.com/Stepping-Forward-Synagogue-Visioning-Planning/dp/1566993318>  
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[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1151033.Robert\\_Leventhal](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/1151033.Robert_Leventhal)  
Images for Robert Leventhal, author stepping forward  
Images for Stepping Forward: Synagogue Visioning and Planning [Robert Leventhal]

### Synod Resource Center - Evangelism

Dealing with Change: Some Basics on How People Change and How to Help It Happen in the Church

**Vision** = Purpose + Principles + Time

- Vision: often hard to remember or really see (not everyone is visionary)
- Purpose: Congregation's role in God's work
- Principles: Concrete statements of expressing the behavioral ideals we will hold to in this work
- Time: All vision moves us to the future

<http://synodresourcecenter.org/evang/> Resources [Evangelism Specialists](#) [Dealing with Change](#)  
<http://synodresourcecenter.org/evang/resources/specialists/0010/dealingwithchange.pdf>  
Images for Vision = Purpose + Principles + Time

### The Power of Vision: How You Can Capture and Apply God's Vision for Your Ministry [George Barna]

*The Power of Vision*, George Barna invites church leaders to discover the power of God's vision for ministry. Readers will learn: how God has shared His vision throughout history, how vision is different than mission, common practices and beliefs that inhibit true vision, practical steps toward practicing God's unique vision for them and ways to share and promote congregational ownership of the vision. Barna's word to all Christian leaders: Uncovering God's vision for your ministry is not an option. As Barna clearly states, "To minister authentically and authoritatively, you must first clarify your vision, then embrace it and make it the focus of your life's work and the heartbeat of your church." Vision is the insight God provides to instruct and direct our paths, a reflection of what God wants to accomplish through us in building His kingdom. With this clear picture, from Him, of where you are headed, your chances of a successful journey are increased a thousand fold.

<http://www.amazon.com/Power-Vision-Discover-Apply-Ministry/dp/0830747281>  
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[http://cdn.bakerpublishinggroup.com/processed/book-resources/files/Excerpt\\_9780801077951.pdf?1520879711](http://cdn.bakerpublishinggroup.com/processed/book-resources/files/Excerpt_9780801077951.pdf?1520879711)  
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[https://books.google.com/books/about/The\\_Power\\_of\\_Vision\\_Discover\\_and\\_Apply\\_G.html?id=vE-XuMmlCz4C](https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Power_of_Vision_Discover_and_Apply_G.html?id=vE-XuMmlCz4C)  
[https://books.google.com/books/about/The\\_Power\\_of\\_Vision.html?id=qV9FxyMF9ywC](https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Power_of_Vision.html?id=qV9FxyMF9ywC)  
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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Barna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Barna)  
<https://www.amazon.com/George-Barna/e/B000APJB4G>  
[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/32052.George\\_Barna](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/32052.George_Barna)  
Images for George Barna, author  
Images for The Power of Vision: How You Can Capture and Apply God's Vision for Your Ministry [George Barna]

### 25 best Vision Quotes images on Pinterest | Proverbs quotes, Sayings

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Images for vision quotes on pinterest  
<https://www.pinterest.com/montgomeryeye/vision-quotes-inspiration/>  
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## Vision | Definition of Vision by Oxford Dictionary on Lexico UK Dictionary

2mass noun The ability to think about or plan the future with imagination or wisdom. *'the organization had lost its vision and direction'*

<https://www.lexico.com/definition/vision>

[Images for Vision | Definition](#)

## Vision Impossible? How to Avoid Potential Pitfalls that Undermine Vision

Rebekah Simon-Peter

Bold visions are critical to helping churches move forward into a positive future. In this energizing and informative workshop, learn the five attributes of a compelling vision. Uncover the three common pitfalls that cause visions to fail, and how to get around them. Discover best practices for implementing the vision. You will map out your next steps and leave with information you can put to immediate use.



## IMN | 2017 Annual Conference - Interim Ministry Network

<http://imnedu.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Keynote-Workshop-Descriptions.pdf>

Page 8

[Images for Vision Impossible? How to Avoid Potential Pitfalls that Undermine Vision Rebekah Simon-Peter](#)

<https://www.rebekahsimonpeter.com/>

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<https://www.willmancini.com/blog/vision-quotes-from-bill-hy-bels-global-leadership-summit-2013>

[Images for vision-quotes-from-bill-hy-bels-global-leadership-summit](#)

## Vision - Wikipedia

Perception of the future<sup>[edit]</sup>

- **Foresight (psychology)**, in business, the ability to envisage future market trends and plan accordingly

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

[Images for vision](#)

## Visioneering: God's Blueprint for Developing and Maintaining Vision by Andy Stanley (Author)

Vision is a preferred future. A destination. Vision always stands in contrast to the world as it is. Visioneering, according to bestselling author Andy Stanley, is "a clear mental picture of what could be, fueled by the conviction that it should be." With warm, down-to-earth practicality, Andy Stanley explores the ordinary life of Nehemiah and his God-given vision for accomplishing the extraordinary. He shows how the life of this great ancient visionary, determined to rebuild the ruined walls of Jerusalem, reveals principles that can prepare us to find and follow God's multifaceted vision for our own lives.

In the best-selling *Visioneering*, Stanley builds a compelling case for the necessity of a clear, God-ordained vision for each of the roles of your life. Whether you're a parent with a vision for your children or a CEO pursuing a corporate vision, *Visioneering* is the perfect tool to help you develop and maintain God's unique purpose for your life.

Andy Stanley, the pastor of more than 15,000, knows a lot of people, and is well aware of the overwhelming and mutual desire nearly every Christian holds to find and fulfill God's purpose for their lives. This book was written to stir these hearts and move people forward by providing tangible steps to getting from Point A to Point B. "As Christians," states Stanley, "we do not have a right to take our talents, abilities, experiences, opportunities, and education and run off in any direction we please." This book was written to provide a specific plan for going in the right direction. It truly is "God's blueprint for developing and maintaining personal vision."

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

**When the Church Was a Family: Recapturing Jesus' Vision for Authentic Christian Community by Joseph H. Hellerman (Author)**

Spiritual formation occurs primarily in the context of community. But as the modern cultural norm of what social scientists call "radical American individualism" extends itself, many Christians grow lax in their relational accountability to the church. Faith threatens to become an "I" not "us," a "my God" not "our God" concern.

*When the Church Was a Family* calls believers back to the wisdom of the first century, examining the early Christian church from a sociohistorical perspective and applying the findings to the evangelical church in America today. With confidence, author Joseph Hellerman writes intentionally to traditional church leaders and emerging church visionaries alike, believing what is detailed here about Jesus' original vision for authentic Christian community will deeply satisfy the relational longings of both audiences.

<http://www.amazon.com/When-Church-Was-Family-Recapturing/dp/0805447792>

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[Images for Joseph H. Hellerman \(Author\)](#)

[Images for When the Church Was a Family: Recapturing Jesus' Vision for Authentic Christian Community by Joseph H. Hellerman](#)

## 17) Vision Statement

### A Vision for King of kings - King of kings Lutheran Church!

GO! MAKE!: A Vision for King of kings

GO! We are committed to actively give authentic witness to what Christ has done in our lives.

MAKE!: We are committed to follow the example of Jesus Christ in our lives by becoming disciples and encouraging others in their journey of faith.

Central Scripture for GO! MAKE!:

Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Matthew 28:18-20

<http://www.koklc.org/vision.html>

[Images for GO! MAKE!: A Vision for King of kings](#)

### A Vision Statement for Your Congregation/Ministry

Vision statements explain how individual churches know Christ and make him known. They can be 3-5 points or in a single paragraph. A vision statement explains in a paragraph or two how a church makes disciples.

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

[http://presbyterian.ca/wp-content/uploads/cmv\\_elder\\_for\\_elders\\_aug\\_2005.pdf](http://presbyterian.ca/wp-content/uploads/cmv_elder_for_elders_aug_2005.pdf)

Page 5

[Images for Vision Statement for Your Congregation/Ministry](#)

### Analyzing Saddleback's vision statement - YouTube

Saddleback's ambitious vision was created by Rick Warren when his church had only 20 members. Is your vision big enough? Is it truly a vision, or just a tagline? (Excerpted from the Society for Church Consulting's training, Aubrey Malphurs, instructor)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDGssbDb6Eg>

[Images for Analyzing Saddleback's vision statement - YouTube](#)

<https://saddleback.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7orBFwkziyq> How to write Church Vision Statements - YouTube

[Images for How to write Church Vision Statements - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pL6izHxP0gk> Vision Statements - The Hartford - YouTube

### Basics of Developing Mission, Vision and Values Statements

Developing a Vision Statement

1. The vision statement includes vivid description of the organization as it effectively carries out its operations.

<http://managementhelp.org/strategicplanning/mission-vision-values.htm>

[Images for Developing a Vision Statement](#)

### Crafting a Church Vision Statement – Rainer on Leadership #143 – ThomRainer.com

A look at church vision statements and how they must be memorable, succinct, and connected to your church's discipleship process.

<http://thomrainer.com/2015/07/crafting-a-church-vision-statement-rainer-on-leadership-143/>

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<http://thomrainer.com/2014/09/eight-things-pastors-churches-slump/> #2

<https://www.facebook.com/Thom.S.Rainer/posts/957720524287944>

<http://revitalizedchurches.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/How-to-Develop-a-Church-Vision-Statement.pdf>

[Images for Thom Rainer \(author\)](#)

### Mission and Vision Statement | Congregation B'nai B'rith

Our Vision

We envision CBB as a place where Santa Barbara Jewish people and our families...feel welcome and at home, where we are inspired to bring our gifts of energy and creativity, and where we connect to the tradition and community of our Jewish ancestors.

We aspire to be a congregation of knowledgeable and committed Jews, each individual expressing in their own unique way the seven circles of Study, Prayer, Acts of Compassion, Shabbat, the Festival Year, the Cycle of Life, and the Jewish People.

We are constantly growing as a Kehilla K'dosha, a sacred community of people whose lives are enriched with meaning, purpose, connectedness and relationship with God.

<http://cbbsb.org/our-community/mission-and-vision/>

[Images for Mission and Vision Statement | Congregation B'nai B'rith Our Vision](#)

### 30+ Examples of Church Vision Statements - churchrelevance.com

- The best vision statements are inspirational, clear, memorable, and concise.

<https://churchrelevance.com/30-church-vision-statements-examples/>

[Images for 30+ Examples of Church Vision Statements – churchrelevance.com](#)  
<http://www.blc-denver2.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/2015-TT-Bibliography-%E2%80%93-MVG.pdf>

### 30+ Examples of Church Vision Statements - Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/414120128220709852/>

[Images for Church Vision Statements on pinterest](#)

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/512003051369960048/> Discover ideas about Vision Statement Examples

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/51439620723966420/> Discover ideas about Vision And Mission Examples

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/414120128220709852/> Discover ideas about Vision Statement Examples

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/478648266638241741/> 5 Easy Steps To Writing A Church Mission, Vision and Values Statement

### 134 Those Vision Statements: There's More to Them Than Meets the Eye!

So, you have a vision statement at your church? Great! But it is only the start. Take your time. Listen carefully to the keen and the cool alike. Live the vision not in a superficial, cosmetic way but sincerely, expectantly, hopefully. Get alongside rather than tearing ahead in reckless enthusiasm.

A marvelous vision statement is a wonderful first step but there is more to learn yet: about our own leadership, about change, about people, about life. And the outcomes may be quite different. You may end up with twelve baskets of surplus blessings!

[http://www.ministryhealth.net/mh\\_articles/134\\_js\\_those\\_vision\\_statements.html](http://www.ministryhealth.net/mh_articles/134_js_those_vision_statements.html)

[Images for Vision Statements](#)

### [PDF] Vision, Mission, and Covenant: Congregations Creating a Future Together

Criteria for a Good Vision Statement 41

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<http://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/documents/congservices/visionmissioncovenant.pdf>

[Images for Vision, Mission, and Covenant: Congregations Creating a Future Together](#)

### Vision Statement | Congregation Adath Jeshurun

Imagine yourself at Adath Jeshurun, the first Conservative, egalitarian synagogue in Louisville!

- A congregation filled with children, seniors, and everyone in-between.
- A congregation that is inclusive and welcomes Jewish and interfaith households of diverse perspectives.
- A congregation nurtured and nourished by educational opportunities, introductory through advanced.
- A congregation committed to Tikkun Olam.
- A congregation where the creative soul of every member is unleashed.

We're here for you!! -- Join us!

<https://adathjeshurun.com/Vision>

[Images for Vision Statement | Congregation Adath Jeshurun](#)

<https://www.adathjeshurun.com/>

[https://www.adathjeshurun.com/AJ\\_Photo\\_Gallery](https://www.adathjeshurun.com/AJ_Photo_Gallery)

### Synod Resource Center - Administration

Visioning

<http://synodresourcecenter.org/admin/> Congregational Transitions Visioning

[Images for Synod Resource Center - Administration Visioning](#)

[http://synodresourcecenter.org/admin/transition/visioning/0001/vision\\_mission\\_statement.html](http://synodresourcecenter.org/admin/transition/visioning/0001/vision_mission_statement.html)

[Images for Vision Statement - Synod Resource Center](#)

<http://synodresourcecenter.org/evang/resources/specialists/0007/statement.html>

### Vision statement - Wikipedia

A vision statement is a company's road map, indicating both what the company wants to become and guiding transformational initiatives by setting a defined direction for the company's growth. Vision statements undergo minimal revisions during the life of a business, unlike operational goals which may be updated from year-to-year. Vision statements can range in length from short sentences to multiple pages. Vision statements are also formally written and referenced in company documents rather than, for example, general principles informally articulated by senior management.<sup>[3]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vision\\_statement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vision_statement)

[Images for vision statement](#)

A vision statement is an aspirational description of what an organization would like to achieve or accomplish in the mid-term or long-term future.<sup>[1]</sup> A vision statement is not limited to business organizations and may also be used by non-profit or governmental entities.<sup>[2]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vision\\_statement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vision_statement)

[Images for aspirational description of what an organization would like to achieve](#)