

# Beyond Megachurch Myths What We Can Learn From Americas Largest Churches

## Jossey Bass Leadership Network Series

Viral Churches Church Unique Foundations for Fruitful Church Planting A Church Beyond Belief Church Transfusion Hybrid Church The Impact of Church Consultancy Growing Healthy Asian American Churches Strategies for New Churches The Unauthorized Guide to Choosing a Church Church of God Evangel The Church Related College The Publishers Weekly The Nomadic Church Shaped By God's Heart Information Technologies in Human Resource Development Church and College, a Vital Partnership New Designs for Church Leadership What People Expect from Church American Book Publishing Record Ed Stetzer Will Mancini Ken L. Davis William L. Sachs Neil Cole Dave Browning Ian G. Duncum Peter Cha Ezra Earl Jones Carmen Renee Berry David John Gyertson William M. Easum Milfred Minatrea David S. Luecke Robert L. Randall

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a groundbreaking guide for multiplying the impact of church plants based on a study that was commissioned by the leadership network this book reveals the best practices in church planting and uncovers the common threads among them a much needed resource this book will inform guide and even catalyze today s many church planting leaders the authors clearly show leaders how to plant churches that create a multiplication movement and offer inspiration for them to do so the book addresses their questions about what to do next in their church planting strategies in light of research on what s actually working best author ed stetzer heads up lifeway research provides reliable credible information about what church planting strategies work best a volume in the leadership network series offers a definitive guide for church planting and the burgeoning movement it is part of

written by church consultant will mancini expert on a new kind of visioning process to help churches develop a stunningly unique model of ministry that leads to redemptive movement he guides churches away from an internal focus to emphasize participation in their community and surrounding culture in this important book

mancini offers an approach for rethinking what it means to lead with clarity as a visionary mancini explains that each church has a culture that reflects its particular values thoughts attitudes and actions and shows how church leaders can unlock their church s individual dna and unleash their congregation s one of a kind potential

church planting is one of the most challenging yet rewarding adventures you can embark on often zealous planters and their teams launch their new church prematurely without taking time to lay a firm foundation for long term fruitful ministry failure to do so often results in a weakened new church or even the new church closing after a few years rather than focusing on methodology the how to s of church planting this book gives attention to six foundational concerns wise planters will need to nail down before they ever plant biblical foundations theological foundations ecclesiological foundations missiological foundations spiritual foundations practical foundations although helpful for a wide range of planting leaders this book is particularly written for four specific groups those who feel called to plant and are making preparations their planting teammates and launch leaders those exploring church planting those who coach and train church planters foundations for fruitful church planting serves as a comprehensive resource that will guide you to think strategically plan carefully and prepare thoroughly to birth a healthy growing and reproducing congregation each chapter includes recommended resources discussion questions and follow through exercises

addresses belonging before believing and other new patterns for remaking congregations as we move beyond the emergent or missional church paradigm pastors and other church leaders are discovering a new reality people especially younger generations are coming to church not as believers but to find a place to belong with or without faith this book describes the dilemma and the distractions that currently prevent congregations from being the place where that sense of belonging can unfold and guide newcomers in the discovery of faith the authors argue that despite elaborate talk of change spirituality transformation and conflict resolution congregations are still mired in old patterns of belonging using broad based career experiences surveys of religious life historical precedent and insights from social psychology about what it means to belong today the book suggests new and effective approaches to help churches make vital connections

just as our life is in our blood the life for christ s body is in his blood changing a church is more than a new goal or direction our churches need more than an organizational transition we need a full transfusion of jesus blood his life within every disciple anything less than that will only perpetuate more of the dysfunction and unhealthy church practices that have already plagued us for too long we are in desperate need of the internally transforming power of the gospel of grace and the presence of christ so that our salvation is then worked out in a way the rest of the world will notice it isn t enough that we believe in the facts contained in the gospel we must allow the gospel itself to infect our souls and transform us from within the dna of jesus lifeblood is needed in our churches and nothing shy of a full transfusion that touches every cell will be sufficient in this book neil cole author of organic church church transfusion and journeys to significance and phil helper co founders of church multiplication associates will first point out that change is possible with god but only with god in the second half of the book they will lay out some of the actual practical considerations to weigh if you want to release real organic health in your church using multiple examples of very different kinds of churches that have been through the process the authors present ways that leadership and practices need to change in order to release organic church movements from their midst chapters cover leaderships necessary detoxification from dependence issues how to ignite change virally how to grandparent movements how to measure success in movements this book another in the leadership network series applies organic life principles to established churches with practical help that is holistic and natural the content in this

book will be helpful whether you are pastor of an established church or wanting to revitalize a small organic church jesus didn't die and rise from the dead so that we can be like everyone else in the world our faith is more than just a better doctrine or a bigger goal with a capital giving campaign it is a better life jesus is the difference and what a difference he makes don't be satisfied with less

a hands on resource for both large and small churches it has been predicted that in the twenty first century extremely large churches would emerge in america that resemble neither an elephant nor a field of mice which is better at one time the answer would have been either or now it's both and we want both the intimacy of smallness and the impact of bigness we want a hybrid of the two hybrid church is a practical guide for clergy and leaders who want to have the best of both church worlds the intimacy of small house church groups and the impact of very large mega churches offers a guide for churches who want to capitalize on their strengths to build intimacy with impact written by the pastor of one of the fastest growing and most innovative churches in america with thousands of members organized in small house groups outlines a vision for how the church of tomorrow could look like the early church given that the trend is toward very large and very small with few churches in the middle this book will be a welcome resource for both large and small churches

this book follows the journey of ten churches who underwent church consultancies and explores in depth both the consultancy and its outcomes pre consultancy and post consultancy snapshots four to five years apart of vitality indicators and attendance figures using national church life survey and other data are used to compare these with churches that have not undertaken church consultancies theologies of church consultancy church health and church growth are also developed and examined intersecting with a wide body of literature including contemporary ecclesiologies consultancy outcomes are examined in detail this includes interviews with pastors of some of those churches reflecting on their perceptions of whether and how the church consultancy impacted the health and growth of their church conclusions are drawn about the efficacy of church consultancy in influencing the health and growth of churches as well as contexts for the best use of church consultancy this is a significant book for denominational leaders theological lecturers pastors and church leaders as they encounter lack of health in churches and seek ways forward for greater health and impact in their local communities

a guide for developing strong asian american churches focusing on eight key values for healthy asian american churches includes examples of ministry that honor asian american cultural context from churches such as evergreen baptist church newsong church and lighthouse christian church

wise and humorous this guide introduces readers to the beliefs and worship practices of major christian denominations

a guide to the opportunities and challenges facing churches that do not own their property and what established churches can learn from them across the country churches are forgoing purchase of land and construction of buildings choosing instead to rent space and allocate their resources to mission and leadership development these churches are faced with a number of challenges such as putting up and tearing down equipment every time they meet getting the word out especially to visitors on where the church will gather any given week and negotiating for additional space however being nomadic provides the church with many

important opportunities including that it allows time to build the church as a community before building it with brick and mortar it builds serious disciples by calling on members to sacrifice and it frees funds to be used on mission rather than mortgages writing for the leaders of portable congregations well as those of more established churches who want to learn from such churches easum and theodore have provided the definitive guide to ministry in the nomadic church bill easum is a president and senior managing partner in easum bandy and associates a church consulting and nurturing firm one of the most widely sought advisors on congregational health and vitality in north america he has over 30 years of congregational experience with approximately 25 years experience as pastor one of the most respected voices on emerging forms of ministry and congregational life he is the author of several books including unfreezing moves and put on your own oxygen mask first both published by abingdon press pete theodore is pastor of teaching at rolling hills community church in tualatin oregon

discover the tools to create a new kind of church and move from merely surviving to thriving drawing on an extensive two year field study of 200 churches from a variety of denominations and geographic regions milfred minatrea a missiologist urban strategist and practioner in minister presents the best practices for re energizing christian spirituality in a congregational setting he provides readers with the tools for assessing their congregation s position on the continuum between maintenance and mission and for determining the actions that will move them toward becoming a missional community he also outlines key strategies that successful churches have used to become relevant in a postmodern society without losing what is distinctly christian in their spiritual practices milfred minatrea irving tx is director of the missional church center for the baptist general convention of texas

randall demonstrates that people have four basic yearnings to be understood to understand to belong and to hope he believes that the church is in a survival mode at present because it focuses too much on maintaining structures and programs and not enough on meeting the relational yearnings that bind together a worshipping community randall shows leaders how to address these relational yearnings so that the christian congregation may be reestablished and healed through preaching teaching administration and congregational worship and social life

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