



Books on church growth – selected titles

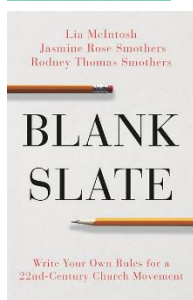
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Contact Jill Stone by e-mail at umrc@igrc.org

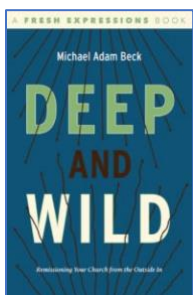
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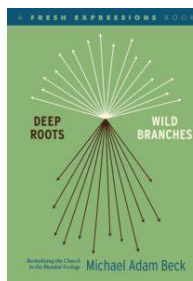
4D IMPACT: SMASH BARRIERS LIKE A SMART CHURCH (819088) Author: Brown, Olu. Olu Brown walks ministry leaders through four mission-critical aspects of 21st-century ministry and church vitality. Chapters: Smashing barriers; Your church's 4D new normal; Technology; Hospitality; Worship; Systems; Achieving your church's 4D new model. 130 Pages.



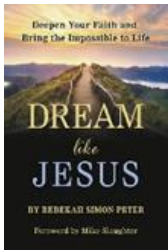
BLANK SLATE: WRITE YOUR OWN RULES FOR A 22ND-CENTURY CHURCH MOVEMENT (819060) Author: McIntosh; Smothers; Smothers. Chapters: Old rules of the Traditionalists (born 1945 or before); Old rules of the Boomers (born 1946-1964); Old rules of Generation Xers (born 1965-1980); New rules of Millennials (born 1981-1995); New rules of Generation Z (born 1996-2010); Facebook - building community and bringing the world closer together; Starbucks - onward to memorable experiences; Uber - the vision is bigger than we thought; Netflix - disrupt, customize, diversify; A Disney experience; Game time!; Seven mindsets and actions to create your own blank slate for congregational and community transformation; Interfaith and intergenerational dialogue - reaching in love and liberation; Ubuntu - a divine assignment for multicultural and intergenerational mission; Intergenerational and multicultural atonement, reconciliation, and peace; Conclusion. Includes questions for reflection or discussion. 172 Pages.



DEEP AND WILD: REMISSIONING YOUR CHURCH FROM THE OUTSIDE IN (821103) Author: Beck, Michael Adam. For better or worse, Jesus entrusted his mission to “make disciples of all nations” to us, and it starts in our own neighborhood. On the new missional frontier, being deep is not enough—God is calling forth some missional wild ones. We need to be deep and wild! Across the United States and beyond, the God who makes all things new is up to something. Amid a Christian landscape that looks and feels like a desert of decline, new oases of the Spirit are springing forth. Inherited congregations with long histories and deep roots are experimenting with cultivating wild forms of church called “fresh expressions.” Whereas revitalization often involves internal adjustments (an inside-out approach with better preaching, better coffee, better programs, etc.), remissioning through fresh expressions involves an outside-in approach. This book is a guide to help local church folks, the everyday heroes of the faith, make this much-needed journey toward vitality for the twenty-first century church. Chapters: The opening vision – a tree of life; The new missional frontier; Post-everything – six shifts; God of recycling bins, not dumpsters; Wild branches – fresh expressions; Deep roots – the blended ecology; (Re)missioning – time for a remix; Symbiosis – the hybrid organism; Closing vision – tree of life (re)mixed. Includes bibliography. 309 Pages.

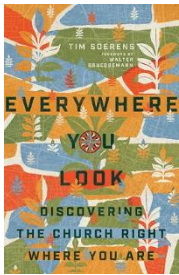


DEEP ROOTS, WILD BRANCHES: REVITALIZING THE CHURCH IN THE BLENDED ECOLOGY (819172) Author: Beck, Michael Adam. What is the future of the church in North America? One of the major pitfalls of the past few decades is ‘either/or’ thinking — either attractional or missional; traditional or contemporary; old or new. In this book, missiologist and church planter Dr. Michael Beck contends we must cultivate what he calls a “blended ecology” of church that has both deep roots and wild branches. Drawing on biblical wisdom and emerging forms of church planting, Beck introduces us to present-day models and examples that don’t leave traditional forms behind, but harness the power of “both/and.” It honors vintage models while blending fresh expressions of real evangelism. This book inspires local churches to cultivate a blended ecology of church in their communities. Includes questions for reflection and discussion. 170 Pages.



DREAM LIKE JESUS: DEEPEN YOUR FAITH AND BRING THE IMPOSSIBLE TO LIFE

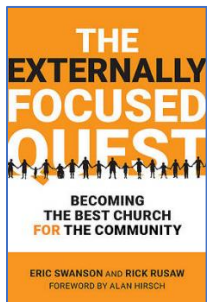
(819178) Author: Simon-Peter, Rebekah. Rebekah Simon-Peter explores her own spiritual journey and helps leaders learn to dream like Jesus, thus inspiring individuals and congregations to dream and achieve dreams previously thought impossible. Chapters: The rise and fall of Jesus' big dream; Dream like Jesus; Align others to your dream; Realize the dream; Expand the dream; The future is yours. Larger than average print. 177 Pages.



EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK: DISCOVERING THE CHURCH RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE

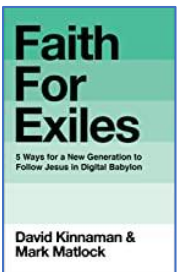
(820137) Author: Soerens, Tim. What's the point of the church anyway? The emerging generation is opting out of the church in large numbers. They're embarrassed at how the church is portrayed in the media and dismayed at what appears to be their options for participation. Is church really necessary anymore in our day? Is it even possible? Tim Soerens sees this unsettled state of affairs as an extraordinary opportunity: the church, he says, is on the edge of a new possibility at the very moment so much of it feels like it's falling apart. In his extensive travels in all kinds of neighborhoods, he has seen the beginnings of this movement firsthand. In this book, he lays out practical, actionable steps for building collaborative communities in any neighborhood. Here is a vision of the church grounded in a grassroots movement of ordinary people living out what it means to be the church in their everyday lives. Chapters:

The movement or the meltdown; The big Why; The magic of paying attention; The megachurch next door; The parish is the unit of change; The same team; Learning from local heroes; Already here. 134 Pages.



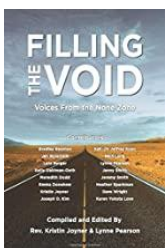
EXTERNALLY FOCUSED QUEST: BECOMING THE BEST CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY

(821001) Author: Swanson, Eric and Rusaw, Rick. This book is designed for church leaders who want to transform their churches to become less internally focused and more oriented to the world around them. Authors Eric Swanson and Rick Rusaw include clear guidelines on the changes congregations must adopt to become truly outwardly focused. This book is not about getting all churches to have an annual day of community service as a tactic, but changing the core of who they are and how they see themselves as a part of their community. It outlines changes needed for church leaders to transform their churches and presents a highly practical approach that shows leaders how to become more externally focused without having to give up programs that serve members. This book reveals what it takes to make the major shift from internal to external focus and how that affects church leadership. 166 Pages.

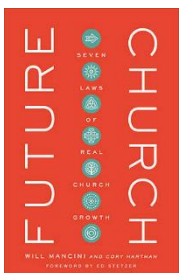


FAITH FOR EXILES: 5 WAYS FOR A NEW GENERATION TO FOLLOW JESUS IN DIGITAL BABYLON

(819177) Author: Kinnaman, David and Matlock, Mark. Chapters: Start here - digital Babylon and resilient exiles; Practice 1 - to form a resilient identity, experience intimacy with Jesus; Practice 2 - in a complex and anxious age, develop the muscles of cultural discernment; Practice 3 - when isolation and mistrust are the norms, forge meaningful, intergenerational relationships; Practice 4 - to ground and motivate an ambitious generation, train for vocational discipleship; Practice 5 - curb entitlement and self-centered tendencies by engaging in countercultural mission. What's next - finding hope in exiles. Larger than average print. 229 Pages.



FILLING THE VOID: VOICES FROM THE NONE ZONE (819124) Author: Joyner, Kristin and Pearson, Lynne, editors. The narratives of these clergy leaders in the most religiously challenging region of the United States, the Pacific Northwest, which is often referred to as the 'None Zone,' offer testimonies and evidence of vibrant church life and ministries that speak to the changing realities of 21st century society. Each chapter includes discussion questions. Larger than average print. 137 Pages.

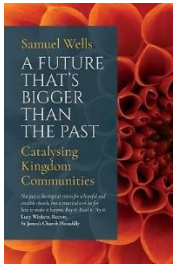


FUTURE CHURCH: SEVEN LAWS OF REAL CHURCH GROWTH (821043)

Author: Mancini, Will and Hartman, Cory. Drawing from his 20 years and 15,000 hours of consulting, author Will Mancini shares with pastors and ministry leaders the single most important insight he has learned about church growth. With plenty of salient stories and based solidly on the disciple-making methods found in Scripture, this book exposes the church's greatest challenge today, and offers seven transforming laws of real church growth so that we can faithfully and joyfully fulfill Jesus's Great Commission. Chapters: Two rooms – the best picture to expose the North American church's greatest challenge; Three churches – the most useful typology for the next twenty years; Off mission – what keeps leaders serving a functional mission that's not the great commission; Sixty years – how twentieth-century church growth influences twenty-first-century leaders; Attendance uppers – three pills prescribed by church

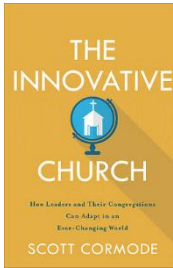
pharma; Interlude - the missional reorientation; The law of mission – real church growth starts with a culture of mission, not worship; The law of power – real church growth is powered by the Gospel, not relevance; The law of love – real church growth is validated by unity, not numbers; The law of context – real church growth is local, not imported; The law of development – real church growth is about growing people, not managing programs; The law of leadership – real church growth is led by calling, not celebrity; The law of

vision – real church growth is energized by shared imagination, not shared preference; Funnel in – how the assimilation model yields diminished returns; Funnel out – how Jesus’s model generated multiplying impact; Funnel fusion – how to make disciples without abandoning the institutional presence of the church in North America. 268 Pages.



FUTURE THAT'S BIGGER THAN THE PAST: CATALYSING KINGDOM COMMUNITIES

(820103) Author: Wells, Samuel. In this book, Samuel Wells sets out a vision for renewing the local church that is energizing, realistic, and practical for small and large congregations alike. Chapters: Introduction – a vision for church renewal; For such a time as this – the church’s opportunity; Investing in the Kingdom – the divine economy; Minding God’s business – becoming a parable; Entertaining angels unawares – it is more blessed to receive; Making our hearts sing – let all the people praise Thee; Realizing God’s presence – on earth as it is in heaven. Includes bibliography and name and subject indexes. 189 Pages.



INNOVATIVE CHURCH: HOW LEADERS AND THEIR CONGREGATIONS CAN ADAPT IN AN EVER-CHANGING WORLD (820119)

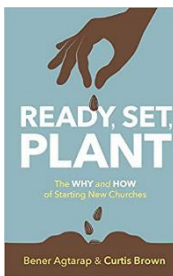
Author: Cormode, Scott. The church as we know it is calibrated for a world that no longer exists. It needs to recalibrate in order to address the questions that animate today’s congregants. Leading congregational studies researcher Scott Cormode explores the role of Christian practices in recalibrating the church for the twenty-first century, offering church leaders innovative ways to express the never-changing gospel to their ever-changing congregations. Chapters: How the church is calibrated for a world that no longer exists; The meaning of Christian innovation; Leadership begins with listening; Making spiritual sense; Reinvented practices as shared stories of hope; A process for innovation; Organizing for innovation; Innovation and change; The next faithful step; Recalibrating church for the smartphone generation. Includes index. 282 Pages.



JOURNEY’S CALL: RETURNING TO OUR PIONEER ROOTS (821057)

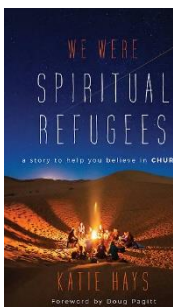
Author: Maynard, Phil. The people called Methodists are part of what was one of the greatest movements in all of history. Methodism was not conceived as a new kind of institution to do what we have always done in a more structured, restrictive way. It was a movement to reform the institutional church. It was a movement to help people rediscover the amazing relationship God has offered to us through Jesus Christ. It was a movement to recapture the change that God works in the heart through faith in Christ. For modern-day Methodists, the present challenge is to embrace adaptive change - not merely to employ technical changes to pull every trick out of the hat to preserve the institution as it has been - but to remain true to the Great Commission while modifying our approach with flourish and finesse. It's not about institutional preservation. It's about a bold, adaptive journey that ultimately honors the narrative of our heritage as Methodists and defines us as faithful and fearless disciples. This book discusses this Pioneer Theology

and how churches can implement it. Chapters: The idea of the journey; Movement; Life cycle of the church; Settler and pioneer theology; Salvation by grace; Inclusive community; Spiritual practices; Accountability for growth as a disciple; Efficacy of the sacraments; Empowerment by the Holy Spirit; Compassionate ministries; Social responsibility; Old normal vs new normal chart; Paragraph 202 principle; Reimagined worship; Reimagined hospitality; Reimagined discipleship; Reimagined service; Reimagined generosity; Reimagined leadership; Responding to twists and turns; The expedition team’s shared spirit of the journey. Larger than average print. 88 Pages.



READY, SET, PLANT: THE WHY AND HOW OF STARTING NEW CHURCHES (821041)

Author: Agtarap, Bener and Brown, Curtis. In this book, authors Bener Agtarap and Curtis Brown draw on decades of experience as church planters and coaches to show that effective planting begins and grows out of the gifts and capacities of the church planter. Using practical tools of discernment, self-discovery, community networking, team building, and partnership development, this book helps planters identify and develop their unique gifts. The authors examine best practices for starting new faith communities in today’s world, incorporating interviews with five effective church planters. Chapters: Introduction to planting; Why plant?; Why leads to who; Who is a planter?; Who leads to how; How are churches planted?; How leads to what; What is a new faith community?; What leads to where; Where to plant?; Where leads to when; When do we start? 160 Pages.



WE WERE SPIRITUAL REFUGEES: A STORY TO HELP YOU BELIEVE IN CHURCH

(820032) Author: Hays, Katie. Galileo Church is not a cool, hip, exotic breed; it's just church, reimagined for a new day. In this book, Katie Hays, planter-pastor of Galileo Church, shares the story of departing the traditional church (on good terms, though) for the frontier of the spiritual-but-not-religious and building community with Jesus-loving (or at least Jesus-curious) outsiders. Now well-established, Galileo Church "seeks and shelters spiritual refugees" in the suburbs of Fort Worth, Texas; especially young adults, LGBTQ+ people, and all the people who love them. Told in funny, poignant, and short vignettes, Galileo's story is not one of how to be cool for Christ. Like its founder, Galileo is deeply uncool and deeply devout, and always straining ahead to see what God will do next. Hays says curiosity is her greatest virtue, and she recounts learning how to share the good news with people who are half her age and intensely skeptical. 306 Pages.