Seven Churches Does Yours Fit In

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first published almost twenty years ago this practical guide by a media professional has helped countless churches to raise their profile in their local communities and more widely packed with packed with simple clear advice and ideas for generating publicity for your church and its mission this revised third edition engages with the rise in online worship in the wake of the pandemic and includes many low cost effective ideas for churches feeling financial pressures written in clear and jargon free language

it offers advice on developing an effective communications strategy deciding the messages you want to convey creating or updating your website making the most of print social media and online channels of communication putting your building to work inside and out giving your publications a makeover liaising with the media and more illustrated throughout with examples that have worked successfully this makes communication expertise readily accessible for churches in all contexts further support is available on the companion website getyourchurchnoticed com

is your church healthy and growing or stagnant and dying if your church is afflicted with remnant theology spiritual naval gazing pastoral timidity hyper cooperativism or terminal ethnikitis changes are it s already dying on the vine on the other hand if your church is growing it s probably ad healthy church healthy churches like healthy people says the author exhibit certain vital signs wagner has his own list of 7 signs that lead can be taken as leading to good health and gives many illustrations of churches that exhibit and or don't exhibit those signs back cover

a startling 85 of churches in the us are plateaued or declining a trend that has been building for the past fifty years in the face of shrinking attendance and lagging spiritual growth pastors and church leaders are understandably discouraged and demoralized but the first step to turning things around is hope church health expert gary mcintosh offers this hope by showing church leaders the first things they need to do to make a new start for their church god can and does restore churches to new life even as he restores individuals the street smart ideas and step by step instructions found in this book are ones that pastors and church leaders can put to use immediately in their churches to bring about solid growth and renewed hope for the future

a great church website is more about ministry than technology empower your church offers step by step guidance to web implementers and other church leaders who are on the exciting journey to building an effective web ministry mark s engaging conversational style makes technology accessible he offers first hand advice on every aspect of building an internet ministry from assembling a team to designing and maintaining the website to adding powerful ministry features a first hand account from one of the true pioneers of online ministry anyone interested in online ministry ought to read this book and learn from mark s example andrew careaga author eministry connecting with the net generation a clear picture on the do s and don ts of web ministry for churches a must read for churches who want to effectively engage in web ministry walt wilson founder and chairman global media outreach a ministry of campus crusade for christ stephenson has truly unleashed the power of internet ministry for your church if you re looking for a readable and educating book on web empowered ministry look no further this book is it i can t believe how much i learned from my first reading i will be returning to the book over and over bill easum president easum bandy associates mark stephenson is director of cyberministry and technology of ginghamsburg church tipp city ohio he started the ginghamsburg cyberministry back in 1996 as an unpaid servant over the years as the ministry grew mark joined the ginghamsburg staff first part time and then full time currently ginghamsburg church has one of the largest and most innovative church internet ministries in the world and the ministry remains unpaid servant based and home grown no outside companies or consultants have been hired the website has received national acclaim from write ups in the wall street journal to the dallas morning news to christian computing magazine and television stories by wbns channel 10 in columbus ohio and on fox news visionary leaders like bill easum and len sweet champion it as a must see website mark the church cyberguy is also a well known speaker on cyberministry as he conducts presentations and workshops around north america for such organizations as leadership network united methodist communications north american christian convention brethren in christ church of north america and miami university of ohio mark has provided consulting support to numerous churches from around the world to help them develop their web ministries his passion for helping churches led him to start and lead the empowered church a ministry of the foundation for evangelism to develop free web ministry software for churches and ministries worldwide

is your church facing a period of change are you overwhelmed with too much to do or are you searching for a new vision if you are looking to take your church in a new direction then how to develop your local church can help you decide which path to follow written by an experienced practitioner it will help you to understand your congregation better how it operates what its members take for granted what their priorities are and what the character of the congregation is the book then explains some of the reasons for frustration and conflict in church life and points to positive ways forward giving guidance on planning and decision making just as no two churches are the same there is no one size fits all answer to how your church might develop rather it is only by drawing upon the collective wisdom of the local congregation that worthwhile change will begin to happen

in our communities composed of people from various cultures countries and backgrounds where does the church stand how representative is it and how can local churches best minister and evangelize within an increasingly multicultural society cultural change and your church is an invaluable resource for understanding the transformation of our cultural landscape and most importantly for learning how to embrace the resulting opportunities to minister to all people michael pocock and joseph henriques consider the bible s examples and teaching related to diversity introduce several churches currently modeling cross cultural ministry and suggest hands on ways for church leaders to encourage change and proactive thinking

you have been asked to be your church's historian or you have just found a box of old records what do you keep how do you store the materials how do you preserve them what good is all this as part of celebrating you church's anniversary you want to write a history of your church how do you start some of your church's leaders are aging you

want to record their memories how do you prepare to interview them and what do you ask this booklet offers some answers and suggested ways to get more help this is one of the twenty six guidelines that cover church leadership areas including church council and small membership church the administrative areas of finance and trustees and ministry areas focused on nurture outreach and witness including worship evangelism stewardship christian education age level ministries communications and more to see a full list of guidelines search by typing keywords guidelines for leading your congregation 2013 2016 and click search

the church is more than a building it is an assembly of people joined together across distances and even through time to fulfill god s purposes in the world each local gathering of that assembly needs a vision to help its members accomplish the work god has called them to do but how do you inspire your church to create and follow through on a vision mike milton provides tested biblical ideas to get everyone in the church involved in a plan to help the congregation grow each chapter develops an awareness of what needs to be done provides questions for review and includes prayers by elders and ministers of churches that have put these ideas to use

by culture george b thompson jr means not just racial ethnic economic or regional culture but also a congregation s way of doing things its history customs conventions and procedures in order to launch and maintain a successful ministry pastors and other church leaders must come to grasp that unique culture of their parish they must develop a culture capital within their congregations meaning that they invest themselves deeply in how their church does its work and goes about its ministries the author presses clergy to answer such questions as how well do i know what i m getting into and have i been adopted yet and even is it time to move on the book is ideal for pastors in solo settings but pastors in multiple staff settings will also find the author s insights helpful

if you are a pastor and want your church to make a much bigger spiritual impact on your community you will need to become better informed about your community and focus on improving it rather than using your resources to increase the size of your church you must have the blessings of god and that is attained by obedience to god your priority must be to equip elders and boomers and disciple parents and students if you are a staff member and want to change your church to have more spiritual effectiveness on her members and her community you should boldly proclaim the need for an obedience driven mind set and set the pace with your personal example if you are a layperson and want to change your church to have more spiritual impact on you your family and your community start a more disciplined lifestyle by becoming christlike and by aggressively acting on the obedience assignments in this book all must forsake good traditional projects and focus on the bestobedience to christ your church can be more active as a spiritual influence in her culture work to break down barriers of separation between christian denominations ethnicities and economics

download and apply the obedience assignments in the free copy of lets change your church workbook from equippingstudents com

this compact prayer manual shows how to build and participate in a praying church and includes stories and examples from a cross section of churches evaluation charts and discussion questions so both church staff and lay leaders can use it individually or in group settings

if you ve been part of a church you have probably suffered a church hurt or know someone who has maybe the pastor had an affair or the congregation fought over money or the leaders were disguising gossip as prayer stephen mansfield knows how it feels though he is now a new york times bestselling author he was a pastor for more than 20 years and he loved it until he learned how much a church can hurt yet he also learned how to dig out of that hurt break through the bitterness and anger stop making excuses and get back to where he ought to be with god and his people if you re ready to choose the tough path to healing mansfield will walk you through it with brotherly love showing you how you can be better than ever on the other side of this mess if you re willing to start healing your church hurt previously published as rechurch

with pressure on budgets and soaring energy costs this small book will be worth its weight in gold to every local church it offers expert advice that will equip non professionals to make informed decisions on making their church buildings more sustainable understand sustainability technologies help navigate changing permission processes and thus save time and money and serve the anglican mark of mission to care for creation nigel walter demystifies the topic of sustainability and provides a wealth of practical advice and quick wins he includes guidance on developing a plan that suits your church improving your maintenance practices alternative ways to heat your church where and how to get professional help navigating the new permission processes a helpful appendix lists numerous sources of further advice and guidance comprehensive in scope authoritative in content practical in outlook and written in lively accessible language no church should be without a copy of this essential guide

why seems to be on the lips of many church judicatory and denominational leaders today why has our church plateaued why are so few young leaders going into church based ministries why are so few interested in church these days recovering hope uncovers the whys creating space to embrace new realities commit to the tough road of recovery and develop new skills structures and ministry designs through a process of spiritual discernment congregational coaching and a deeper reliance on the work and ministry of the holy spirit eddie hammett a professional certified coach and church and clergy coach for the cooperative baptist fellowship of north carolina provides a step by step process of hope and health to encourage guide and inspire pastors leaders churches regions and denominations that recovery of hope is possible a tcp leadership series title

a large and growing number of congregations are setting up church based nonprofit organizations in order to operate community development or educational programs once formed the nonprofit structure allows for new opportunities for accessing additional funding and drawing new collaborative partners and volunteers into the ministry joy skjegstad outlines the step by step procedures for setting up a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization connected to a congregation using simple easy to understand terminology and plenty of examples from churches that have already taken on this task whether a congregation is setting up new program or has an established nonprofit that needs to be restructured or redefined congregations will find helpful guidance in this practical experience based book

sharing buildings with another ministry allows church members to engage other cultures see a young ministry develop and thrive and practice good stewardship but these arrangements present unique challenges too utility maintenance and renovation costs must be fairly divided personality differences arise and communication barriers may emerge particularly with perceptions of turf and identity sharing your church building is a one of a kind resource that will help you navigate these often unfamiliar waters and avoid potential pitfalls it offers management insights specific problem solving guidelines and strategies for preparing a congregation to share its facilities either as a host or as a guest it will help with establishing healthy boundaries that allow all the ministries in the building to flourish

all local churches experience a predictable life cycle of growth and decline but if a church is on a downward trend how can it turn around taking your church to the next level explains the impact of age and size on churches and outlines the improvements that must be made at each point for a church to remain fruitful and faithful to its mission mcintosh deftly describes the cycles of fruitfulness and the importance of continual improvement to diminish destructive forces that keep a congregation from its mission church leaders pastors and all who care about the church and desire to see it experience biblical growth will benefit from the sage wisdom offered in these pages

this book gives a unique insight into the changing shape of contemporary religion examining the new role that pentecostal charismatic christianity plays in the lives of young professional black women who are enjoying career success and becoming part of south africa s new middle class amongst these women an interesting relationship has emerged between work and religion as they feel that the social networks and self confidence they gain from their religious communities are as important as their spiritual experiences but not all the women who join these churches remain and this book explores why some women leave the churches in which they had previously felt they gained so much

the church council exists to create and supervise the strategic plan for your local congregation fulfills its mission of making disciples of jesus christ this twofold function includes both leadership and management this guideline is designed to help equip you

and your ministry team to navigate these two functions this is one of the twenty six guidelines that cover church leadership areas including pastor parish relations and small membership church the administrative areas of finance and trustees and ministry areas focused on nurture outreach and witness including worship evangelism stewardship and christian education age level ministries communications and more to see a full list of guidelines search by typing keywords guidelines for leading your congregation 2013 2016 and click search

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