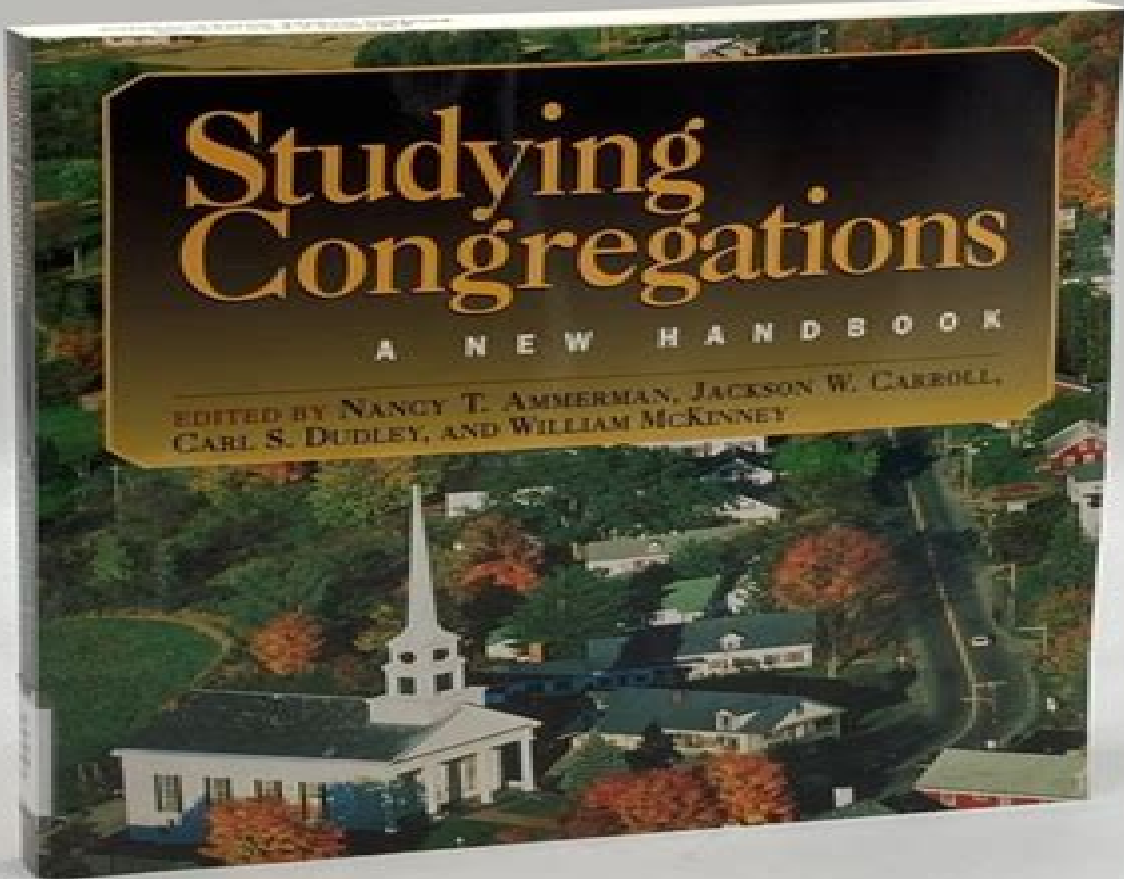


An aerial photograph of a church with a tall, white steeple, surrounded by a residential neighborhood with green lawns and trees showing autumn foliage in shades of orange and red. The church has a white facade and a dark roof. The surrounding area includes several houses and a winding road.

# Studying Congregations

A NEW HANDBOOK

EDITED BY NANCY T. AMMERMAN, JACKSON W. CARROLL,  
CARL S. DUDLEY, AND WILLIAM MCKINNEY

# Studying Congregations A New Handbook

**Larry A. Golemon**



## **Studying Congregations A New Handbook:**

**Studying Congregations** Nancy Tatom Ammerman, Jackson W. Carroll, 1998 This handbook for seminarians and clergy professionals places the congregation itself rather than individual scholarly disciplines at the center of congregational analysis Using a comprehensive systems approach to congregations this volume enables readers to analyze the ministries stories and processes that are at work in congregations It provides techniques for studying the congregation as well as a framework for understanding the nature of the congregation Studying congregations : a new handbook Nancy T. Ammerman (et al., eds), 1998 **Studying Congregations Korean Version** Nancy Ammerman, Professor of Sociology of Religion School of Theology and Department of Sociology Nancy T Ammerman, Various, 2006-05 **Studying Congregations Korean Version** **The Missional Church in Context** Craig Van Gelder, 2007-10-26 The missional church conversation continues to make a vital contribution to thinking about congregations and their contexts addressing the essential question What does it really mean to be church This book offers substantial clarifying insights into that ongoing dialogue Contributors Mark Lau Branson James Tzu Kao Chai Mary Sue Dehmlow Dreier Terri Martinson Elton Scott Frederickson Joon Ho Lee Gary M Simpson Craig Van Gelder *Practicing Care in Rural Congregations and Communities* Jeanne Hoeft, L. Shannon Jung, Joretta Marshall, 2013-07-01 Pastoral care in rural communities is different from care in other locales Despite these differences rural churches and communities also hold a particular wisdom from which the rest of the church might benefit Small towns and rural areas have particular challenges and in seeking to live out the Christian life in the midst of those local churches have unique and useful insights into what it means to care for one another Finding Our Story Larry A. Golemon, 2010-01-31 Helping a community of faith re vision its personal and collective narratives is one of the greatest leadership challenges of the age In Finding Our Story Larry Golemon lead researcher of the Alban Institute s Narrative Leadership in Ministry project has assembled essays by congregational consultants who use the power of story to help congregations heal strengthen and reinvent themselves These consultants describe how narrative therapy works explore its promise and its challenges and share the practical wisdom of their own experiences along with their favorite models of narrative change to show how congregations can be transformed by reauthoring the operative stories they live by *Holy Conversations* Gil Rendle, Alice Mann, 2003-11-01 Planning can be challenging in the contemporary congregation where people share a common faith and values but may have very different preferences and needs Much of the literature on congregational planning presents it as a technical process the leader serves as the chief problem solver and the goal is finding the solution to the problem Popular Alban consultants and authors Gil Rendle and Alice Mann cast planning as a holy conversation a congregational discernment process about three critical questions Who are we What has God called us to do or be Who is our neighbor Rendle and Mann equip congregational leaders with a broad and creative range of ideas pathways processes and tools for planning By choosing the resources that best suit their needs and context congregations will shape

their own strengthening transforming holy conversation They will find a path that is faithful to their identity and their relationship with God Resource materials are available to purchasers of the book E mail resource material rowman com for more information

**Congregations in Europe** Christophe Monnot, Jörg Stolz, 2018-05-14 This volume describes and maps congregations of Christian confessions and denominations as well as groups with Jewish Buddhist Muslim Hindu and various other spiritual faiths in different European countries Consisting of three parts it presents concrete sociological studies addressing how established and not established old and new congregations of various faiths create a new kind of religious diversity at the country level how religious congregations are challenged and thrive in large cities and how religious congregations change in the 21st century The book enlightens by its descriptive analysis and the theoretical questions it raises concerning the religious transformations happening all over Europe It addresses issues of religious diversity in the cities of Europe by presenting large studies conducted in cities such as Barcelona in Spain and Aarhus in Denmark By means of large scale censuses taken in areas such as North Rhine Westphalia in Germany and in countries like Switzerland and Italy the book shows how the historically established churches restructure their congregations and activities It clarifies for the new gatherers where and how a new diversity of religious congregations is in the process of being established Finally the book covers two important topical issues pluralisation and secularisation It provides new data on religious diversity painting a new picture of secularisation the impact and structural consequences of the long term decrease of membership in the established churches

How Am I Going to Grow Up? Enoch Wong, 2022-01-04 Second generation Chinese Canadian evangelicals inhabit a complex liminal space positioned between the world of their parents and broader Canadian society In this study Dr Enoch Wong explores the silent exodus of these Canadian born Chinese from their parents churches tracing their journeys to negotiate their cultural ethnic and faith identities for themselves Utilizing both sociology of religion and leadership studies Wong s research engages Robert Greenleaf s concept of foresight in servant leadership to examine the role of church leaders in mediating or failing to mediate these transitions for children raised in immigrant churches This multi case inquiry offers insight into the concerns of Canadian born Chinese evangelicals and the cultural and generational conflicts that prompt them to search for new communities capable of understanding their identities and supporting their yearnings whether inside or outside of the church

**The Stories Congregations Tell** Joel Thiessen, Arch Chee Keen Wong, Mark D. Chapman, 2024-11-26 Congregations are story telling communities The stories they tell which link a community s past present and future can play an important role in whether a congregation flourishes or not The Stories Congregations Tell features detailed case study research from seven dynamic Canadian congregations across theological traditions and geographical regions Readers will encounter narratives that congregations tell themselves through a myriad of congregational and social transitions accounts that shape how congregations interpret frame approach and ultimately flourish in ministry On the surface congregational descriptions appear specific to local contexts Yet cultural analysis reveals

several commonalities across distinct congregational cultures that appear resilient in the face of challenge and change. These factors include visionary leadership, clear congregational identity rooted in spiritual formation, hospitable community among members, and intentional systems and structures oriented toward a congregation's mission. This book offers social scientific analysis and theological reflection on the stories congregations tell and the function those stories play for a congregation's culture, along with practical and hopeful applications to arise from this research.

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