

# Fulfilling The Vision Collaborative Ministry In The Parish

**Reflections on Renewal** Donna M. Eschenauer 2011-07-01 The United States bishops' document *Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord* is a vital resource for the ongoing development of lay ecclesial ministry. Building upon *Co-Workers* and affirming the recent renewal of the laity and the flowering of lay ministries, *Reflections on Renewal* contributes to efforts to reshape ministerial language and practices in the church today. It explores the theological and pastoral foundations of ministry, including how all ministry is rooted in the sacraments of initiation, and suggests ways of refining or redefining our understandings of lay ecclesial and ordained ministries so that we as church can respond more fully to the call of God in our lives and world. At the same time, the book recognizes that lay ministry developed organically as the work of the Spirit and is, foremost, a cause for rejoicing. This collection of essays is grounded in Fordham University's commitment to the church and its mission in the world. It honors the thousands of laypeople who have answered a call to serve the church in ministry.

*Ministry Issues for the Church of England* Gordon Kuhrt 2001 This survey of unprecedented scope is designed to help the reader map their way through the thinking that has shaped present-day Anglican ministry. It contains a history of strategic developments and key reports and decisions, identifying the vital issues faced by the Church of England and offering informed suggestions for reform.

*Religion and Development in Southern and Central Africa: Vol 1* Amanze, James N. 2019-12-09 This book is a result of a joint conference, which was held from 18th-22nd July 2017 under the theme *Religion, Citizenship and Development - Southern African Perspectives.* The theme of the conference was adopted in order to underline the importance and significance of religion in the socio-economic development of people in the world generally and in Southern and Central Africa in particular. The

papers in the book are divided into two volumes. Volume one consists of papers which directly discuss religion and development in one form or another. The second volume contains papers that discuss religion and other pertinent issues related to development. The papers are grouped into sub-themes for ease of reference. These include Citizenship and Development, Migration and Development, Disability and Development, Pentecostal Churches and Development and Religion and Society. All in all, despite a divergence of sub-themes in volume two, all point to issues to do with the role of religion in development in Southern and Central Africa today.

**Co-workers in the Vineyard of the Lord** Usccb 2005 *Co-workers in the Vineyard of the Lord* offers pastoral and theological reflections on the reality of lay ecclesial ministry, affirmation of those who serve in this way, and a synthesis of best thinking and practice.

*Guidelines Church Council* General Board Of Discipleship 2016-11-15 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 for *Leading Your Congregation 2017-2020* 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.

*Creative Church Leadership* John Adair 2004 Following "Management and Ministry" and "Leading Managing, Ministering", this third MODEM handbook explores an issue at the very heart of the Church - how can an ancient institution with so many encumbrances remain a living sign of

the Kingdom of God?

Mission and Ministry Kathy Colligan 1983-11

**Covenant for Renewal** National Center for Pastoral Leadership (U.S.) 1996-05 Through honest and soul-searching consultations, 500 involved and highly regarded Catholics zero in on what is working in the church and what is not, a vision for the 21st century, and what needs to be done to realize it.

**The Teaming Church** Robert C. Crosby 2012-10-01 A committee is not the same thing as a team. To become a great team, a group must have a goal that is deeply challenging, a leader who is creatively empowering, and a willingness to work within a collaborative community that honors the Bible. The Bible is full of examples of great things accomplished through teaming leaders. Scripture also provides a compelling model from which church communities and teams can learn to live and serve in light of the "Divine Team" - the Trinity. Author Robert C. Crosby provides several innovative ways in which biblical teams reflect the workings and nature of the Trinity and thus the image of God. Revealing what he calls "The Four C's of Great Teams" - The Character, The Carrot, The Coach, and The Context - Crosby shows how successful teams reach their goals more effectively. Conversely, he also addresses the "Four Fatal Teaming Errors" and how to avoid unnecessary, time-consuming missteps. This book provides biblical motivations, vivid examples, and practical approaches for creating a teaming culture in any faith community. Crosby, a leader who has built teams as a senior pastor, youth leader, and university administrator, is now training and mentoring a new generation of pastors and leaders.

Healthy Church Dna® Larry E Webb Rel D 2008-09-25 Some Protestant churches are in decline. A major mind shift is needed to create healthier and more effective congregations. Healthy Church DNA provides a new, powerful way to transform congregations and keep them healthy. A radical departure from past models, this new appreciative and solution-focused approach can open the hearts of all those involved. Healthy Church DNA and DISCERNPlus, its seven-step change process, gives instruction on how to: Break free from fixing weaknesses. Do God's work

from the gifts provided to the congregation. Turn problems into solutions. Focus on the future and the possibilities to which God is calling the congregation. Unite the congregation around a spiritually-discerned vision of a faithful future and a compelling action plan to fulfill that vision. Generate a self-fulfilling congregational conversation around stories of faith community at its present and future best. Strengthen the congregation's sense of community, build resilience and mobilize the gifts of pastor, staff and members. Guide transformational change with a sensitivity to transitions, resistance, church size, readiness for change, and stages in the church life cycle. Healthy Church DNA: Transforming the Church for Effective Ministry can help churches guide change by mirroring the sensitivity Jesus exhibited for those he touched.

*Think Big Act Small* Johnny Doherty 2005 Think Big, Act Small is about collaboration. Its origins are in a process which began with a parish mission in the year 2000, leading to a parish survey, a parish assembly and the setting up of a parish pastoral council. The book records the induction an

The Future of the United Methodist Church Bishop Scott J. Jones 2010-05-01 This book offers a renewed vision and practical steps for United Methodists to work together in mission and ministry. These bishops of The United Methodist Church urge congregations to stand together, under God's grace, to lead others to vibrant faith, steadfast hope, and joyful living. The authors call for a new partnership with God to bring God's reign to fruition for all God's people. With concrete guidance about how to create and transform disciples, readers are invited to travel the path that leads to the abundant living that Jesus talked about. This book will also inspire and motivate congregations to work together to be a vibrant presence in their neighborhoods and communities. The Seven Pathways were created by the United Methodist bishops and presented at the 2008 General Conference as a vision statement for the Church. Contributors include: Bishops Sharon Brown Christopher, Gregory Vaughn Palmer, G. Lindsey Davis, Robert Schnase, Scott J. Jones, Hee-Soo Jung, E. James Swanson Sr., Minerva G. Carcano, Thomas J. Bickerton, and Bruce R. Ough. The seven pathways are:

Planting New Congregations, Transforming Existing Congregations, Teaching the United Methodist Way, Strengthening Clergy and Lay Leadership, Children and Poverty, Expanding Racial/Ethnic Ministries, and Eliminating Poverty by Stamping out Disease.

**Collaboration** Loughlan Sofield 2000 A comprehensive look at collaborative ministry, chronicling its development and the often painful issues ministers confront.

**The Promise of Partnership** James D. Whitehead 1993 In a comprehensive and practical model for ministry in today's parish, the authors draw on their experience and scholarship to provide tools that will enable clergy and their congregations to build productive working relationships in their parishes. Winner of the Catholic Press Association Book Award.

**Families and Faith** Leif Kehrwald 2006 When the church of the home and the church of the parish work together, lasting faith formation is the result. Families and Faith: A Vision and Practice for Parish Leaders offers readers a wealth of ideas and strategies for helping families grow in faith. It focuses on practical steps for connecting faith and life, family faith and spirituality, families and Christian practice, and families and serving others. Excellent for catechetical leaders, youth ministers, and coordinators for whole community catechesis.

**Collaborative Ministry** Norman P. Cooper 1993

**The New Parish** Paul Sparks 2014-04-04 Christianity Today Award of Merit Readers' Choice Awards Honorable Mention Best Books About the Church from Byron Borger, Hearts and Minds Bookstore "When . . . faith communities begin connecting together, in and for the neighborhood, they learn to depend on God for strength to love, forgive and show grace like never before. . . . The gospel becomes so much more tangible and compelling when the local church is actually a part of the community, connected to the struggles of the people, and even the land itself." Paul Sparks, Tim Soerens and Dwight J. Friesen have seen—in cities, suburbs and small towns all over North America—how powerful the gospel can be when it takes root in the context of a place, at the intersection of geography, demography, economy and culture. This is not a new

idea—the concept of a parish is as old as Paul's letters to the various communities of the ancient church. But in an age of dislocation and disengagement, the notion of a church that knows its place and gives itself to where it finds itself is like a breath of fresh air, like a sign of new life.

**How to do Mission Action Planning** Mike Chew 2016-06-16 How to Do Mission Action Planning (SPCK, 2009) was the first book to appear on the MAP process, at a time when it was beginning to have a significant impact. In this fully revised and expanded edition, the authors offer further critical evaluation and theological reflection, by drawing on the experiences of people who have been using the MAP process in different contexts from their own: Fr Damian Feeney, parish priest and Catholic Missioner of Lichfield diocese Canon David Banbury, leader of Parish Mission Support, Blackburn diocese The Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith, Bishop of St Albans Dr Stephen Hance, Canon Missioner of Southwark diocese Linda Rayner, the United Reformed Church co-ordinator for Fresh Expressions 'This is a rare book - a refreshing meditation on planning for mission - and one that is rooted in spirituality. As the authors show, the church and its mission arise from our vision of God. And once that vision has been realised, churches are able to become more intentional about their mission. Our vocation to share God's love is not an option or an afterthought. It is the heart and soul of our faith. Mission - and our planning of it - should not fill us with fear or foreboding. Rather, as the authors argue, the call to share God's love can be evermore meaningful, even as mission becomes more methodical.' The Very Revd Prof. Martyn Percy, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford 'This is a must-read for anyone using MAP. The rich theological reflection, the detailed unpacking of the 4 MAP phases and the learning offered by the 5 guest practitioners add up to an impressive offering. This book enables good questions to be asked, overflows with wise reflection and contains oodles of practical examples, ideas and resources. I commend it to all local church leaders who are seeking to discern how best to translate the prayer 'your kingdom come' into appropriate church and congregational action.' John Dunnett, General Director, CPAS 'This timely revision is honest, well

researched and carefully put together - an important contribution to the necessary change of culture required in today's Church.' Julian Henderson, Bishop of Blackburn

**Theological Foundations for Collaborative Ministry** Rt Revd Dr Stephen Pickard 2013-06-28 This book examines the theological foundations of a collaborative approach to Christian ministry. The discovery that Christians are members 'one of another' creates energy and joy in ministry and empowers the Church in an age of mission. Outlining the present challenges for ministry, Stephen Pickard offers an historical perspective on ministry over the last century; develops a theory of collaborative ministry based on a dialogue between theology and science; and explores some implications of collaborative ministry for lay and ordained people of the Church. This book breaks new ground in its theory of collaborative ministry through a dialogue with the sciences of emergence. It also offers fresh insights on important texts in ministry; relationships between Christology, pneumatology and ministry; a relational ontology of ministry; episcopacy, ecumenism, ordination vows and wisdom for team ministry.

**Fulfilling the Vision** Howard J. Hubbard 1998 The parish community is the center of the church's life. Offering both encouragement and insight, this book shows that real opportunities exist for developing creative and future-oriented approaches to parish life.

**Combing the Tradition** Fred Herron 2007 This is a sketchbook of the twin realities of Catholic faith and Catholic schools. A theological vision of the Catholic religious imagination provides the framework for viewing these realities from different angles. Taking Pope Benedict XVI's remark that 'truth is in the Whole, ' this book looks at Catholic faith and education from the rich perspective of the sacramental or Catholic imagination. Historian John Tracy Ellis's conviction that this age will be known as 'the era of baptismal consciousness, ' reflects a growing awareness in the entire Christian community that it must take its responsibilities in evangelization seriously. Combing the Tradition is an attempt to comb the Catholic tradition from the point of view of this re-emerging baptismal consciousness. It marvels at the role that Catholic

schools, teachers, parents, and students play in recreating this great truth. It finds God's loving hand at work in the lives of citizens seeking meaning at Ground Zero, in the re-emerging theology of the domestic church, and in understanding the task of Catholic education. It raises questions concerning the impact of consumer society on the lives of our young people and finds hope in schools, which continue to shape the religious imaginations of the next generation of a community of disciples. *The Changing Face of Church* Marti R. Jewell 2010 Changes in the Catholic Church are happening everywhere, not least in the area of pastoral planning. Based on the experiences of more than 500 of today's pastoral leaders in the Catholic Church, *The Changing Face of Church* documents the best practices for approaching the massive, rapidly evolving challenge of pastoral planning. A hopeful view of the Church's future and its leadership comes through clearly from those who were interviewed for this book, and the you-can-do-it-too message is sure to bolster readers in their own pastoral planning efforts.

**The Vicar's Guide** David Ison 2014-12-09 An accessible and informative guide for vicars combining essential information, practical survival tips and theological reflection on the highs and lows of parish ministry. [Productive Leadership](#) Roy L. Spore 2021-10-07 *Productive Leadership* is a celebration of the small churches of America and the lasting legacy they have provided for the Christian landscape. Combining attributes of proven leadership with stories from the New Testament, it provides a practical guide for developing and maintaining fruitful ministry and is written for lay and clergy leaders in these small- to mid-size churches. Utilizing experiences from actual ministry situations, it uses both successes and failures to learn how to work together, taking the reader from assessing the cultural values of a church through discerning God's vision for ministry and working together in leadership. Complete with step-by-step exercises for individuals, councils, and committees, the various chapters form a map for developing effective ministry in what often seems to be a futile mission field. Readers are invited to examine leadership qualities by identifying their own characteristics and competencies and how they are best used in working within the ministry

of their local church. Well suited for individual readers, it is also a valuable resource for church councils to discover how they can best work together toward the fulfillment of their mission, making the most productive use of their time and resources. Anyone interested in the future ministry of small churches will find this book to be a valuable resource.

*Missional Church* Darrell L. Guder 1998-02-09 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.

*Aspire to Excellence in Church Ministry* Kimberly R. Mack 2008-07 Are you looking for a way to mobilize your church membership to work together towards a common goal? Do you want to find a process that will help your ministry set goals and hold your membership accountable for reaching the goals set? Are you looking for a way to free the pastor from menial administrative tasks to focus more on the spiritual aspects of the church or ministry? *ASPIRE to Excellence in Church Ministry* shows you how to implement a process to build the leadership capacity of the laity to reach your goals, using collaborative problem-solving strategies. In secular arenas, the process is called strategic planning. Based upon the scripture, Habakkuk 2:1-3, "I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run

that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith." The reader can learn step-by-step how to implement the ASPIRE process in the ministry, focusing on developing a foundation for continuous improvement of the ministry in the following areas: Importance of servant leadership that is participative, transformational, and situational Five P's of church mobilization and growth prayer, preparation, presence, promotion, and planning Development of a mission and vision for the church Steps of the ASPIRE to Excellence process (Analyze the situation; Set priorities; Plan for improvement; Implement the plan; Review, monitor, and adjust the plan; Excellence is achieved and the process begins again.) Filled with practical ideas that you can use immediately, the reader is shown how to mobilize the laity and move your church or ministry toward goal attainment. Although this book includes theories on leadership, most of the book provides practical steps to follow with handouts, surveys, and presentation materials that can be adapted and used from the Handouts section of the book.

*Forthcoming Books* Rose Army 1998

**Ordained Local Ministry in the Church of England** Andrew Bowden 2012-06-14 Ordained Anglican ministry is changing rapidly. Soon the majority of clergy are likely to be volunteers and, especially in rural areas, female. All mainstream Churches recognise that new contexts need new forms of ministry. Ordained Local Ministers (OLMs) are priests specifically called out by their local congregation and ordained to minister in that locality. Half the dioceses in England and elsewhere in the Anglican Communion including Australasia, Scotland and North America have established formal schemes to enable this type of ministry. Some dioceses believe the process has helped to revitalise parishes and raise the spiritual temperature of congregations. Others have called a halt, believing their schemes have somehow gone wrong or have not 'delivered'. The time has come for a calm assessment of available evidence about an experiment into which the Church has poured



considerable time, effort and money over the last twenty years. Does it have ongoing value, or is it just one more bright idea that has flourished for a season and has now had its day?

**ACTS Retreat Manual** ACTS Missions 2020-06-12 The intent of the ACTS Retreat Manual is to provide all priests, deacons, and lay ACTS Retreat Team leaders and members with the necessary information to facilitate the ACTS Retreat process in a way that grounds the experience in the invitation to encounter Jesus Christ and be His disciple.

*Collaborative Parish Leadership* William A. Clark 2016-12-27

Collaborative Parish Leadership draws on the experience, strengths, challenges, and insights of the long-term pastoral-academic partnerships out of which it has grown. These include "Project INSPIRE," a pastoral team-formation project sponsored by Loyola University and the Archdiocese of Chicago and funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., as part of its Sustaining Pastoral Excellence initiative. Another partner initiative is the international pastoral minister exchange "Crossing Over," involving several Catholic dioceses in northwest Germany and based at Ruhr Universität, Bochum. Authors of these essays have also been involved in Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership, the Congregational Studies Team's Engaged Scholars fellowship (both also Lilly Endowment funded projects), and other projects. Collaborative Parish Leadership employs practical-theological methods, rooted in pastoral experience and integrated with scholarly reflection. Opening essays deal with the current situation of U.S. parishes, the parish consultancy model of Project INSPIRE, and a case study of several parishes that benefited from the project. The following chapters present comparative case studies of collaborative leadership in various settings: multicultural parishes in different parts of the U.S., parish clusters consolidating into single parishes using very different processes, and parishes in Chicago and Mexico City meeting similar urban challenges. Three authors associated with CrossingOver and its participating dioceses assess the general state of parish reorganization in Germany, and the potential of the unique approach to team leadership taken in the French archdiocese of Poitiers. The final chapters reflect on the theology of parish leadership

from pastoral and systematic perspectives, and on the future needs and possibilities of collaborative approaches. Collaborative Parish Leadership engages and challenges academic and pastoral leaders in diverse social and ecclesial situations, suggests multiple models for cultivating collaboration, builds connections between collaborative action and theological development.

*Encyclopedia of Community* DAVID LEVINSON 2003-06-30 The Encyclopedia of Community is a major four volume reference work that seeks to define one of the most widely researched topics in the behavioural and social sciences. Community itself is a concept, an experience, and a central part of being human. This pioneering major reference work seeks to provide the necessary definitions of community far beyond the traditional views.

**Developing a Vision for Ministry in the 21st Century** Aubrey Malphurs 1992 Malphurs believes many churches have no clear vision for ministry--some have the wrong goal and some have too many. With practical principles and helpful worksheets, Malphurs shows how to define an organization, give it direction, and build popular support.

**Teen ACTS Retreat Manual** ACTS Missions 2020-10-16 The TEEN ACTS Retreats Manual intends to provide all priests, deacons, and lay ACTS Retreat Team leaders and members with the necessary information to facilitate the TEEN ACTS Retreat process in a way that grounds the experience in the invitation to encounter Jesus Christ and be His disciple.

*Becoming a Parish of Intentional Disciples* Sherry A. Weddell, Editor 2015-01-15 "It is not the same thing to have known Jesus as not to have known him, not the same thing to walk with him as to walk blindly, not the same thing to hear his word as not to know it.... We know that with Jesus life becomes richer."-Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel In her first book, *Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus*, Sherry Weddell, cofounder of the Catherine of Siena Institute, captured the attention of Catholics across the globe as she uncovered the life-changing power that accompanies the conscious decision to follow Jesus as his disciple. Now, in the groundbreaking *Becoming a Parish of Intentional Disciples*, she has gathered together

experienced leaders and collaborators whose exceptional field-tested wisdom and enthusiasm for transforming Catholic parishes into centers of discipleship and apostolic outreach is both inspiring and practical. The authors consider: The role of intercessory prayer in parish transformation How "fireside chats" can help a pastor connect with his parishioners and call them to personal discipleship and mission The co-responsibility of lay people and pastors in the work of making disciples The revolutionary impact of a discipleship approach to youth ministry How one parish successfully fostered a culture of intentional discipleship, and much more As Sherry asks in her own chapter, "Are we willing to answer the call and pay the price necessary to become a new generation of saints through which God can do extraordinary things in our time?"

*Partnership in Parish* Enda Lyons 1987

*Collaborative Ministry* Loughlan Sofield 1987 Collaborative or shared ministry is a topic of growing interest arising out of a call to all Christians to share their gifts in ministry. The authors focus on the necessary skills, the obstacles, the methods of organizing, the use of leadership, and the management and possible resolution of conflict.

**Collaborative Ministry; What It Is, How It Works and Why** David Robertson 2016-02-16 New in this 2016 edition: " An additional chapter of new material." " Example Team Descriptions." "Collaborative Ministry" has become a 'buzz phrase' in the church, following on from phrases such as 'every member ministry' and 'the priesthood of all believers'. It is referred to by those who speak and write about leadership, the Church and outreach, but what exactly does it mean? And does it fit with existing leadership structures? This book comprehensively explores the theology and practice of this style of 'being church', considering the implications for churches both large and small. A central section provides foundational Bible studies, unpacking the themes of authority, acceptance and covenant, while an appendix of group study material offers help for churches considering a collaborative approach. "Collaborative Ministry; What it is, how it works and why" was first published by BRF in 2007. This second edition includes a newly written

section for 2016 with an additional chapter of more recent insights and example" Team Descriptions." David Robertson is the vicar of Christ Church, South Ossett. He has ministered in rural, suburban and urban deprived areas, developing collaborative ministry for the past 30 years in three very different parts of the country. Reviews 'Intelligently biblical, spiritually wise, challenging and perceptive.' Canon Dr Jeremy Duff, Director of Lifelong Learning, Liverpool Diocese. 'David Robertson takes us to the theological heart of the matter by reminding us that collaborative ministry, properly understood, is about grace.' The Rt Revd Colin Bennetts, Bishop of Coventry 1998-2008.

**Skills for Collaborative Ministry** Paul Nash 2012-06-08 Contemporary mission and ministry, as well as best practice in secular government, emphasize partnership and working together. Yet this can be easier said than done. At its best, working together brings energy and synergy and enables you to achieve something you could never do alone. At its worst, it's a nightmare that you may well wish you had never got into. Skills for Collaborative Ministry will help you to work more effectively with other people, both inside and outside of the Church. Each chapter focuses on a particular skill - such as team building, facilitation, diversity skills, conflict resolution and evaluation techniques - outlines the theory and the theology behind it, and gives practical guidance and advice. Written by an experienced team, the book includes exercises for both individuals and groups, along with a range of ideas that can be adapted to your own context. It will enable you to work collaboratively with confidence and skill.

**Synergy** Ann A. Michel 2017-02-27 The people are the church—not just the pastor. Yet, in many congregations there is a heavy imbalance in the ownership of ministry. Clergy and paid staff are seen as God's agents in the world, and congregants as occasional participants. Sometimes, clergy and other leaders perpetuate this imbalance. Ann Michel presents a more inclusive, collaborative understanding of ministry, which affirms the gifts and calling of both clergy and lay servants. She uses the concept of "synergy" as a theological framework undergirding this approach. Michel lays out an inclusive and collaborative paradigm of ministry

affirming the work of both lay and clergy servants. Synergy also provides practical advice on the day-to-day skills of synergistic or collaborative ministry – how to engage others in ministry, how to build teams, how to manage meetings, how to develop others as leaders, etc. The book helps church workers, paid and unpaid, understand how their ministry relates to the mission of God and the ministry of the church, and provides practical guidance on the interpersonal ministry skills essential to any expression of collaborative ministry. "Synergy is both a practical and deeply spiritual resource that helps provide a more collaborative way of thinking about ministry shared between clergy and laity. Ann has captured the challenges that can present themselves as laity serve in ministry not only from her research but also from her personal experience as a lay person and respected Seminary theologian, and she offers practical ways to equip laity to fully live in this call of lay servants and lay staff members. As a lay person who has served on a church staff for more than 23 years, understanding this synergistic energy articulated so well in Ann's writing has reignited my passion and affirmed my call." - Debi Williams Nixon, Managing Executive Director, The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection

*Together for the City* Neil Powell 2019-08-27 We need a bigger vision for the city. It's not enough to plant individual churches in isolation from each other. The spiritual need and opportunity of our cities is too big for any one church to meet alone. Pastors Neil Powell and John James contend that to truly transform a city, the gospel compels us to create localized, collaborative church planting movements. They share lessons learned and principles discovered from their experiences leading a successful citywide movement. The more willing we are to collaborate across denominations and networks, the more effectively we will reach our communities—whatever their size—for Jesus. Come discover what God can do in our cities when we work together.

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