

L. Shannon Jung & Mary A. Agria

RURAL



Congregational

STUDIES

A GUIDE FOR GOOD SHEPHERDS

Rural Congregational Studies A Guide For Good Shepherds

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Rural Congregational Studies A Guide For Good Shepherds:

Rural Congregational Studies Loyle Shannon Jung, Mary A. Agria, 1997 Nearly all pastors sent to rural congregations were nurtured in larger urban congregations and nearly always educated in urbanized seminaries A wide culture gap between leaders and members often emerges among the church leaders in rural congregations This book is designed to address and study the issues that arise when ordained and lay pastors are called or appointed to rural congregations This handbook will orient seminary students and pastors who are doing ministry in rural congregations It focuses on the nature of congregational life in such a setting showing ways to deal with the issues and challenges specific to rural culture The authors tell how to best engage in evangelism and mission in the particular locations in which these congregations find themselves *Rural Congregational Studies A Guide for Good Shepherds* outlines features of different rural settings that affect life and church life Each chapter contains a section of resources sidebars ideas programs and so forth that tie it to the chapter theme

The Rural Pastor H. Andy Wiebe, 2015-11-07 Most churches are small with less than one hundred in attendance each Sunday Many of these are in the rural parts of the country in small villages or counties many miles away from the city These rural churches are served by pastors who are working hard and serving God and their church with all their heart This book is meant to encourage rural pastors as they serve in the out of way places as well as help others see the value and importance of these rural pastors

The Forgotten Church Glenn Daman, 2018-05-01 Winner of Christianity Today's Award of Merit for The Church Pastoral Leadership 2018 Whether it's because of the 2016 Presidential election or books like *Hillbilly Elegy* Americans are beginning to understand the tremendous influence people in rural areas have in our nation But rural America not urban America is also the new center of poverty Thus the rural church stands at the crossroads of strength and struggle It carries the gospel the very hope and power needed Yet its ministry efforts are hamstrung because urban and suburban churches often don't realize their need for rural churches and the rural church itself rarely understands its unique assets and values *The Forgotten Church* addresses these problems and provides an overview of rural ministry explores opportunities recent trends provide showcases the remarkable benefits of suburban urban and rural churches working together This book is essential for any pastor whether from the city or the sticks because we are one body and we need each other [Covenant Companion](#), 1999

Confessions of a Small Town Minister David John Ford, 2014-12-15 Ministry in a small town or rural context is challenging The minister and his or her family live in a fishbowl with every aspect of life under constant scrutiny In addition few seminaries or Christian colleges and universities offer courses preparing people for small town ministry Throw in limited resources and small town politics and you might begin to understand the struggle of Ben Wright minister in Madison Montana In a last ditch effort to find help before he quits ministry altogether Ben solicits the advice of another minister the aged and experienced Kain Hoddiss Ben and Kain undertake a journey of discovery as together they explore the joys and struggles of small town ministry

Indispensable Guide for Smaller Churches David R. Ray, 2009-06-01 This

book complements the author's earlier titles from The Pilgrim Press *The Big Small Church Book* and *Wonderful Worship in Smaller Churches* Ray expands on the earlier works by treating such subjects as communal theology theories and tools for understanding smaller churches worship education and finance His vision is to lead even smaller churches toward the year 2030

Dynamics of Small Town Ministry Lawrence W. Farris, 2000-05-01 Unique in character and cultural distinctions small towns present special challenges for pastors especially for those whose models of ministry may be grounded in urban or suburban contexts Writing out of his personal experience in and commitment to small town ministry Farris explores the impact and importance of such factors as local history geography the values and metaphors of small town life boundary setting and ministerial roles For everyone involved in small town ministry this book is a must read Foreword by Norma Cook Everist

Community Ministry Carl S. Dudley, 2002-12-31 In this era of faith based initiatives congregations increasingly find themselves in the business of establishing and supporting community ministries daycare for infants and toddlers respite care for elders and programs for housing rehab and home repair tutoring and social justice advocacy In this volume Carl S Dudley revises and updates his earlier book *Basic Steps toward Community Ministry* which Loren Mead called the most valuable book on parish ministry I've seen in a decade

Shepherding the Small Church Glenn C. Daman, This second edition is an indispensable source of advice and encouragement for the small church pastor including how to formulate a mission while understanding the cultures of the community and the church Chapter by chapter suggestions and several appendixes of helpful assessment tools help pastors and lay leadership work through the book together

Economic Ethics & the Black Church Wylin D. Wilson, 2017-09-07 This book examines the relationship between race religion and economics within the black church The book features unheard voices of individuals experiencing economic deprivation and the faith communities who serve as their refuge Thus this project examines the economic ethics of black churches in the rural South whose congregants and broader communities have long struggled amidst persistent poverty Through a case study of communities in Alabama's Black Belt this book argues that if the economic ethic of the Black Church remains accommodationist it will continue to become increasingly irrelevant to communities that experience persistent poverty Despite its historic role in combatting racial oppression and social injustice the Church has also perpetuated ideologies that uncritically justify unjust social structures Wilson shows how the Church can shift the conversation and reality of poverty by moving from a legacy of accommodationism and toward a legacy of empowering liberating economic ethics

Quaker Life, 1998

The Little Church that Could Steven E. Burt, Hazel Ann Roper, 2001 Filled with case studies and practical helps this guide addresses everything from congregational life cycles to size related dynamics

Healthy Esteem Tony Pappas, Anthony Pappas, 2002-04 Positive self esteem is important for any congregation but for the small membership congregation it is sometimes difficult to maintain Through discussion and humor presented in a satirical mystery play Pappas helps small congregations remember the history and strengths of the small church *Healthy Esteem* provides practical steps

for creating and maintaining healthy self regard and respect in small congregations *Whitaker's Books in Print* ,1998

Reclaiming Rural Allen T. Stanton,2021-05-15 As rural communities continue to undergo massive economic and demographic shifts rural churches are uniquely positioned to provide community leadership This book is an energetic and encouraging call for how religious leaders can develop vital church communities in rural America The Cumulative Book Index ,1998 A world list of books in the English language *Rural Ministry* Shannon Jung,1998 Grounded in social research Rural Ministry evaluates the diminishing establishment of the church in rural America which is linked to the fifty year old crisis in rural ministry It names the primary issues for leaders of Protestant and Catholic churches to ponder the graying of the population the closing of schools hospitals and factories and the corporate buyout of farms during the 1980s In addition to retelling the history of this crisis Shannon Jung and the other contributors to this volume offer a set of Christian principles that respond to social problems in rural life The situation is so intense that the book offers examples from around the heartland of cooperative or collaborative parishes that blend denominational and theological differences across the Protestant and Catholic spectrum Key Benefits Offers a vision of nationwide renewal in rural America Advocates true ecumenical solutions to issues confronting the rural church in America Sidebars feature examples and illustrations Informs new rural ministers of the culture and issues about to confront them allowing them to better handle the challenges and opportunities of the rural environment Motivates congregations to activate ministries in new and provocative ways insuring the spread of the gospel Can help troubled churches survive Subject Guide to Books in Print ,1997 *Directory of American Scholars: Philosophy, religion and law* ,1999 **American Book Publishing Record Cumulative 1998** R R Bowker Publishing,1999-03

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