# Briteringthe Vond of the Small Foreword by Douglas A. Walrath nony G. Pappas

# **Entering The World Of The Small Church**

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### **Entering The World Of The Small Church:**

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consciously every day Small churches become a family children of God and brothers and sisters of Jesus together There's no place to hide in a small church The normal human dramas of good and evil sin and repentance forgiveness and reconciliation all happen in our relationships in the family A small church is a place where people can serve an apprenticeship in faith learning from those before them and passing on their experience to those around them In a small church the pastor provides context by preaching and teaching serves as a role model in encouraging the ministry of others and by loving the people helps them see themselves through God s eyes The rest is up to the people themselves and to God Risley provides from her extensive pastoral experience an insider s view of the essential ministry of small churches today With theological depth and practical wisdom she celebrates the Christian discipleship possible in a place that fosters a shared life where everybody matters I highly recommend this work to both laity and clergy it provides questions for reflection and discussion inviting congregational study Robert W Pazmino Valeria Stone Professor of Christian Education Andover Newton Theological School Butterflies in your soul You ve finished seminary got credentialed and now you have accepted your first call to minister in a small church Well butterflies and worse are entirely appropriate because you are about to enter a whole new world BUT in Jean Risley's A Place Where Everybody Matters you have an excellent guide to the fascinating new universe of small church ministry Let Risley be your mentor in print Risley's practical wisdom and love of the small church will become infused in your pastoring and you will be a better minister for it Anthony G Pappas author of Entering the World of the Small Church and Pastoral Stress Jean Risley is an ordained minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church USA and a candidate in the Doctor of Ministry program at Andover Newton Theological School Her interests include the implications of the Jewish background of Jesus and Paul the challenge of living faithfully in contemporary culture and the relationship between religion and science Her website at www JeanRisley com provides a forum for discussing these issues **Inside the Small Church** Anthony Pappas, 2002 Even as so called megachurches capture the attention of many church watchers small congregations continue to dominate America's religious landscape in both rural and urban settings Although sometimes obscured by their larger siblings these small churches play a prominent role and hold a unique place in both local and national cultures How can leaders help to keep these often at risk churches alive and to meet their potential for ministry Small church expert Tony Pappas has gathered a cornucopia of essays into an indispensable book for anyone interested in the rich life of these small but significant congregations Drawing on classic and updated articles by a variety of writers from his own small church newsletter The Five Stones from Alban journals Action Information and Congregations and adding new pieces developed especially for this volume Pappas provides timeless ideas on learning to value pastor develop and lead the small church In addition to time honored articles by the editor other contributors to this volume include Sherry and Douglas Alan Walrath Gary Farley Lawrence W Farris Loren Mead Caroline Westerhoff Steven Burt Carl Dudley David Ray James Lowery and a host of others known for their work and love for the small church Readers of Inside the Small Church will come away with a

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<u>Handbook of Megachurches</u> Stephen J. Hunt,2019-11-26 The megachurch is an exceptional recent religious trend certainly within Christian spheres Spreading from the USA megachurches now reached reach different global contexts The edited volume Handbook of Megachurches offers a comprehensive account of the subject from various academic perspectives

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