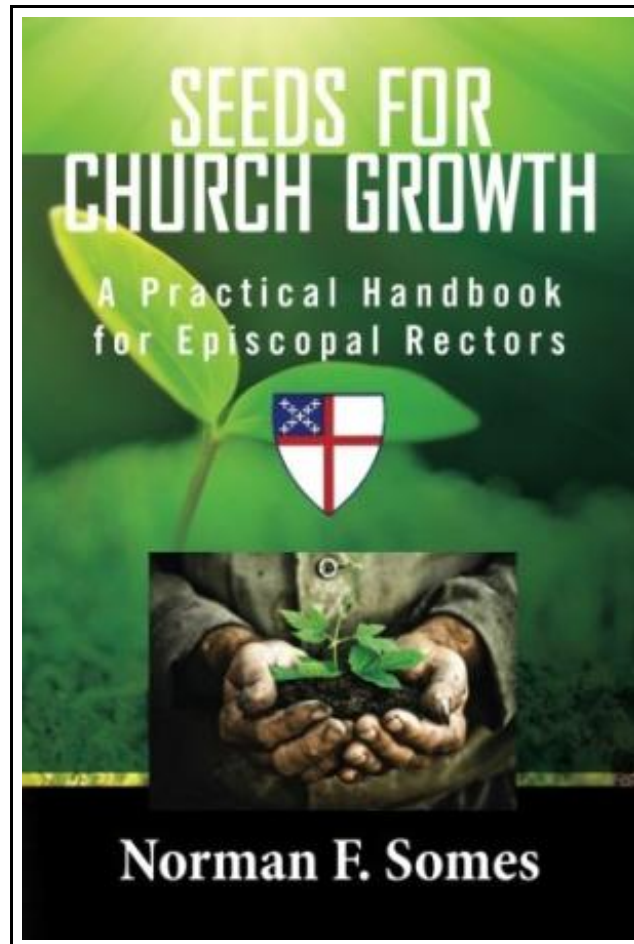


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SEEDS FOR CHURCH GROWTH A HANDBOOK FOR EPISCOPAL RECTORS

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CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 152 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.3in. Christian clergy and laypeople frequently urge their churches to adapt to changing times, to be flexible for all settings and seasons. They rally practicing Christians to spread the Gospel in ways readily understood and accepted in today's circumstances. Despite these efforts, active church membership is declining in the United States, Canada, and much of Europe, especially for mainline denominations. Nonetheless, confronting an overall rise in secularism in the West, an encouraging number of congregations have experienced growth and development in attendance and diversity. Addressing this paradox is of major concern to Christians, especially to pastors and their lay leadership. Pastor Norman Somes has addressed this paradox directly. In *Seeds for Church Growth*, he documents over eighty growth initiatives that work, most based on his own experience as rector of an Episcopal congregation on the Central Coast of California that more than doubled its Sunday attendance. Most initiatives are augmented with commentary and specific tips. Although his scholarship is targeted to Episcopal clergy, pastors of all denominations will benefit, and his work is extensively peer reviewed. As one Lutheran pastor indicates: The handbook is brief enough that it can be digested and referred to often, yet comprehensive enough to cover all the areas of ministry-growth concern. makes a solid contribution in clear language that the vestry person and member can read as well as the pastor. Those of us in other denominational cultures still receive much practical insight. Another, an Episcopal priest, comments: I can easily imagine church leaders and committee members being able to discuss, inwardly digest, and use the abundant suggestions. It is very clear. tone is so hopeful and optimistic. taken the scary stuff out of...

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