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Introduction

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Introduction

Gary L. McIntosh, Editor

The Church Growth Movement has often focused on research of larger churches, as well as churches located in cities. Unfortunately, this has meant that smaller churches, and those in rural areas, have occasionally been overlooked.

In an attempt to offer some balance this issue of the *Journal of the American Society for Church Growth* presents two articles that focus on small churches located in small communities.

Rev. Martin Wixon grew up in small town America and pastored churches in smaller communities throughout the United States. His article on *Pastoring in the Small Community* offers excellent insight into the cultural dynamics of small towns. This is an article that should be mandatory reading for any young pastor about to enter ministry in a small town.

Towards a Transformed Rural Church and Community is written by Dr. Brian McGaffigan. As a student of church growth in rural churches, Dr. McGaffigan writes on how to renew churches in rural settings. He has pastored in Canada for a number of years and his insights are worth noting.

As normal, the Fall issue of the *JASCG* includes an index of all articles and book reviews to the end of this year.

May God continue to grant you, our reader, His continued blessings throughout this year and into the next.

– Editor

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