

# Journal of the American Society for Church Growth

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## Introduction

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## Introduction

Gary L. McIntosh, Editor

Discussion over whether the focus today should be on “Church Growth” or “Church Health” is addressed in this issue of the Journal of the American Society for Church Growth. Our first article comes from the Director of the Natural Church Development project in England. Philip Walker writes a balanced view titled, “The Transition from Church Growth to Church Health.”

Roger Helland continues the discussion in a slightly different direction. His article, “Here’s to your Health: The Church or the Kingdom?” asked whether our focus should shift from talking about “church” growth to “kingdom” growth.

While Church Growth has always placed an emphasis on church planting, the conversation has shifted in the last decade to mother church planting. J.D. Payne provides an up-to-date overview of “The Mother Church and Church Planting” in our third article.

In October 1981 Donald A. McGavran lectured at Manhattan Christian College on the topic of Church Growth. His lectures were record and have recently been transcribed. Over the next few issues of the JASCG, each of his lectures will be presented as articles. This continuing look at McGavran’s Church Growth missiology will be of great interest to our readers.

At the ASCG annual meeting in November 2004, Dave Ferguson presented an informative lecture on the recent trend toward congregations meeting in multi-sites. His lecture, “The Multi-Site Movement” is presented here with charts and graphs depicting this new trend in the USA.

—Editor

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