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## Introduction

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## Introduction

Gary L. McIntosh, Editor

This issue marks the beginning of the fifteenth year of publication for the *Journal of the American Society for Church Growth*. Over the last decade and a half, many changes have taken place in the Church Growth Movement. However, one thing is certain. God still wants His Church to grow!

Interestingly, the current issue looks back at the past and forward to the future. J.D. Payne's article, *The Missiology of Roland Allen*, takes us back to one of the writers who contributed to Donald McGavran's Church Growth insights. Ed Stetzer draws upon the research component of Church Growth with his qualitative and quantitative study of church planting systems. Darren Cronshaw points to the *Uses and Cautions of Marketing as a Church Growth Tool*. Looking at the future, Eddie Gibbs and Ryan Bolger investigate what is taking place with younger churches in *Tracking the Emerging Church*.

Where will the next fifteen years take us? It is difficult to say. But, the mandate to "make disciples" is still our primary agenda. Remember: God wants His Church to grow!

—Editor

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