

# Journal of the American Society for Church Growth

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## Introduction

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## Introduction

Gary L. McIntosh, Editor

This past Spring, Dr. Eddie Gibbs was installed in the Donald McGavran Chair of Church Growth at Fuller School of World Mission. His appointment followed the retirement of C. Peter Wagner from the chair in 1999. At his installation, Dr. Gibbs presented a paper, "Church Growth Viewed 'Through a Glass Darkly,'" which is reprinted as the lead article in this issue of the JASCG. Congratulations to Dr. Gibbs on receiving this important promotion.

Rev. David Cook holds the distinction of being one of the original contributors to the first issue of our journal in 1990. In this issue he writes on "The Americanization of the Church Growth Movement." You will find it fascinating to read Rev. Cook's historical review of how church growth theory and theology have spread throughout the United States.

One of the authors who is addressing the changing culture of our society is Leonard Sweet. Dan Russell reviews one of his recent books, *AquaChurch*, in this issue. If you are not familiar with this book or Leonard Sweet, this review will be helpful to you.

A new feature in this issue is the "2000 Church Growth Consultant Directory." Fifty church consulting ministries or individuals are listed in this issue. Dr. John Vaughan presented the first such directory in the 1980s and this is the first update since that time. An attempt was made to contact all individuals and ministries related to church growth theory and practice to invite participation, however, it is likely that some were left off of this year's list that would have liked to participate. If you, or anyone you know of, would like to be considered for inclusion in the

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next listing of church consultants, please send names and addresses to the editor per the address in this issue of the journal. A questionnaire will be returned to you for next year's listing.

This issue of the Journal of the ASCG completes a full eleven years of publication. It is our hope that the Journal continues to be a helpful resource to your life and ministry. Please feel free to send any suggestions and comments directly to the editor.

– Editor