



New Books in the Library

Learning for a faithful city

New books for March 2012 include

An Introduction to Christian Ministry: Following Your Vocation in the Church of England by Gordon W Kuhrt

This handbook investigates the Christian ministry providing an introduction to what the Bible says as well as addressing developments from the history of the Church. It considers crucial issues for the contemporary Christian, including the ministry of the whole Church, women in leadership, working together and handling failure. The book also provides insight into the workings of the Church of England and how one becomes an ordained minister.

Bridges of the Spirit: Stories of Mission and Ministry Across Cultures Today by Maureen Edwards

This book offers a fascinating glimpse into the lives of men and women who are called to witness to the Gospel in different parts of the world. Not all of them are missionaries in a traditional sense, but each has a mission. Maureen Edwards tells their stories, painting a vivid picture of the varied, and often difficult situations in which they live and work, of how the cultural are bridged through the love of Christ. At the end of the book there are biblical reflections and discussion starters around issues facing Christian missionaries today

Foolishness to the Greeks by Lesley Newbigin

Attendance at Church in Western societies is shrinking. This book examines the principles and problems involved in the cross-cultural communication of the Gospel and suggests how the Church can engage creatively and effectively with Western culture.

Mission-shaped Spirituality: The Transforming Power of Mission by Susan Hope

"This book arises out of the deep well of Susan Hope's own abiding in God and the work she has done to encourage and facilitate the mission of God's Church. It leads us on what she calls 'an apostolic adventure'". -- Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Reading

After McDonaldization: Mission, Ministry, and Christian discipleship in an age of uncertainty by John W Drane

Examining the effect on the church and its mission of globalization, growing consumerism and post-modern culture, this work is the sequel to the bestselling "McDonaldization of the Church".

Reimagining Ministry by David Heywood

Reimagining Ministry is a response to growing dissatisfaction with existing models of ministry. David Heywood diagnoses the problems of our

traditional understanding and proposes a new model that embraces both the ministry of the whole Church and of the ordained within it. He places mission at the heart of the Church's life, explaining the way in which the Church's understanding of mission has developed over the past generation and showing how the shape of the Church and its ministry grow out of the mission of God. Reimagining Ministry is an intensely practical book, drawing on concrete examples, placing these within a well-argued biblical and theological framework and making proposals for the future of ministry. The Revd Dr David Heywood is Director of Pastoral Studies at Ripon College Cuddesdon. He was ordained as an Anglican Priest in 1986 and has worked in parish ministry for 20 years.

Ministry in Three Dimensions: Ordination and Leadership in the Local Church by Steven J L Croft

This is an examination of leadership in a local church context. Biblically based it is ideal for discussion and aimed at all those involved in clergy training and ordained ministers across all denominations.



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Presence and Prophecy: Study Guide - A Heart for Mission in Theological Education by Simon Barrow

"Presence and Prophecy" is an extensive resource for everyone involved in theological education to help rethink its challenges. Students and teachers in theological colleges, seminaries, courses and schemes should find it useful, but it is also relevant to those involved with Christian basics courses, local church study groups and other informal educational events. This study guide should help many different groups tackle the different issues raised in "Presence and Prophecy". It lays out some ways of engaging with the ideas in the book, linking the themes and joining in an important conversation about how the Churches in mission can really make a difference in people's lives.

A Ministry Shaped by Mission by Paul D L Avis

The book falls into three symmetrical parts, each of which is subdivided (the subdivisions are listed in the analytical Contents, making a Subject Index redundant). The first part, 'The Mission of God that Shapes our Ministry', draws on the missiological insights of Karl Barth and the Second Vatican Council concerning the *missio Dei* and directly relates this theme to the tasks entrusted to the Church in 'The Great Commission' of

Matthew 28: the ministry of the Word, the celebration of the sacraments and the exercise of pastoral responsibility. It shows how Christians share in the ministry of Christ himself. The second part, 'A Ministry Shaped by the Mission of God', carries the argument forward by clarifying the much abused term 'ministry' and offering a more rigorous and somewhat controversial definition of ministry as work for the Church that is mandated by the Church and explicitly related to its core tasks. Ministers therefore represent both Christ and his Church. The third part, 'Ordained to a Ministry Shaped by Mission', applies the insights of the earlier parts to ordained and lay ministry and offers a cogent answer to the question, What difference does ordination make? The book concludes with an agenda for the reform and development of ministry in the light of the arguments advanced.

Christian Mission in the Twentieth Century by Timothy Yates

As writing and specialist studies on Christian mission have proliferated, there has been a growing need for a single-volume overview of developments in this century. This widely-acclaimed book gives historical focus and perspective to mission by concentrating on the leading figures of each decade, beginning with the leading up to the Edinburgh Conference of 1910 and

including treatment of the other great missionary conferences. German mission theory between the wars (1918–1939) is addressed, as are the writings of Roland Allen and D. J. Fleming. In Part II (1940–1990) the responses to the religious pluralism of the modern world, Hindu, Buddhist, Jew, and Muslim, which emerged before the conferences of 1939, are pursued through the writings of figures such as Stephen Neill and Kenneth Cragg, the documents of Vatican II, and the Lausanne Conference of 1974, concluding with the varied responses of writers such as John Hick and Leslie Newbigin.

Evaluating Fresh Expressions: explorations in emerging Church by Martyn Percy

The Fresh Expressions initiative, a joint Anglican and Methodist venture launched in 2004, has attracted increasing interest from academics, clergy and laity, yet there is very little that offers critical reflection on it. This is the natural successor to John Hull's useful short critique in *Mission-Shaped Church*: a theological response, and key authors assess the impact of mission-shaped thinking and practice from a variety of angles.



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Theological Foundations for Collaborative Ministry: 5 (Explorations in Practical, Pastoral and Empirical Theology) by Stephen Pickard

This book examines the theological foundations of a collaborative approach to Christian ministry. The discovery that Christians are members 'one of another' creates energy and joy in ministry and empowers the Church in an age of mission. Outlining the present challenges for ministry, Stephen Pickard offers an historical perspective on ministry over the last century; develops a theory of collaborative ministry based on a dialogue between theology and science; and, explores some implications of collaborative ministry for lay and ordained people of the Church. This book breaks new ground in its theory of collaborative ministry through a dialogue with the sciences of emergence. It also offers fresh insights on important texts in ministry; relationships between Christology, pneumatology and ministry; a relational ontology of ministry; and, episcopacy, ecumenism, ordination vows and wisdom for team ministry.

Mission in the Gospels by R G Harris

R G Harris has produced a very readable survey of the nature and place of mission in the Gospels that shows the many and varied forms that Christian witness took in the Early Church and draws appropriate consequences for the Church today. Although he places the primary emphasis on love in action, he also stresses the need for every member of the Church to become informed and articulate in their witness as they help and encourage one another in the power of the Spirit.

Church After Christendom by Stuart Murray

How will the western church negotiate the demise of Christendom? Can it rediscover its primary calling, recover its authentic ethos and regain its nerve? If churches are to thrive or even survive disturbing questions need to be confronted and answered. In conversation with Christians who have left the church and with those who are experimenting with fresh expressions of church, Stuart Murray explores both the emerging and inherited church scenes and makes proposals for the development of a way of being church suitable for a post-denominational, post-commitment and post-Christendom era. With chapters on mission, community and worship, Church After Christendom offers a vision of church life that is healthy, sustainable, liberating, peaceful and missional.