

Practical implementation

Discuss these questions with your conversation partner(s):

- What corporate and structural expectations are at the center of our congregation?

Congregational preservation?

Individual satisfaction (keeping everyone happy)?

Programs and activities?

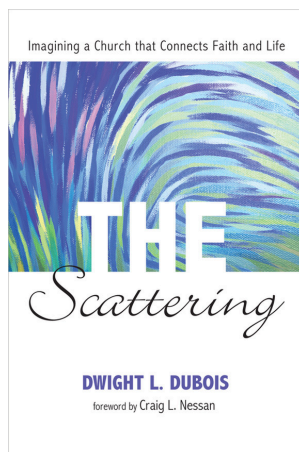
What do we need to die to in order to make the gathered–scattered church a reality in our congregation?

- What would it mean in our setting to hold both life in the church and life in the world as equal parts of a single reality?
- What traditions, programs, or ongoing expectations might need to be discontinued or put on sabbatical in order to reduce our focus on prying out bits and pieces of our members' time, energy, and resources to support our corporate life?
- What concrete things could we start doing to equip the saints for the various vocations given to us as the Body of Christ scattered?

If you want to pursue this conversation further at home, check out the resources available at

<http://LifeofFaith.info>

<http://TheScattering.org>



The Scattering: Imagining a Church that Connects Faith and Life provides helpful details about the concept of the gathered–scattered church, and it inspires readers to create an environment that equips everyday saints to connect their faith with all of life. Based on the real life struggles of pastors and members, this book lays bare our preoccupation with the health of the congregation-as-institution and provides readers with hopeful and rewarding ways to interpret who we are and what we do as the church of Jesus Christ.

Wipf & Stock (the publisher, 541-344-1528) offers a significant discount on orders of 10 or more books for group study.