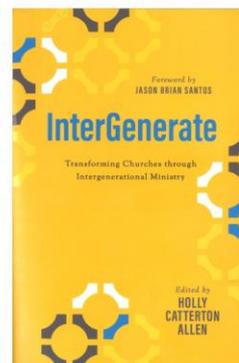


# InterGenerate

## Transforming Churches through Intergenerational Ministry



Building on the foundation laid by [Intergenerational Christian Formation](#), *InterGenerate: Transforming Churches through Intergenerational Ministry* is an invaluable resource that will assist your church in the development of a more intergenerational culture. This handout is part of a series that seeks to encourage you to dig deeper into [InterGenerate](#).

### Ch. 21 All Age Worship

Olivia B. Updegrove

[drawing on Sonja Stewart and Jerome Berryman's *Children and Worship* approach, a multisensory storytelling worship approach that follows the usual order of worship]

“Most churches do not have an intentional process for welcoming children and preparing them to engage in worship, and thus children and their families may be set up for failure. Without important conversations for the entire worshiping community, a child may never feel welcomed as an active participant in Sunday morning worship.” p.245

“[In *Children and Worship*]...Children are invited to enter into a time of singing; hearing and watching a Bible story being told; wondering; praying; and finally, a sending or blessing.” p.246

“There are no short cuts. The process matters for both the children and the adults. The primary elements that make *Children and Worship* a success work only when those in leadership consistently make sure they are staying true to its foundational processes and understandings.” p.247

“All are hearing one of God’s special stories together. Adults do not need to enter the story as children. They can come with childlike wonder, but everyone can hear the stories in a place that is authentic to them at that moment. The stories, even when heard over and over, can always provide new insight and connection for every age that is open to trusting the experience. We trust that the story is enough.” p.249

“Ultimately, support is not enough; a senior pastor and/or primary leader must be fully engaged (especially in the first few years) in the process of implementing an intergenerational version of *Children and Worship* or other ways of promoting all-age worship. If a senior pastor does not see herself or himself as one of the primary influences for children and youth, then they need to begin another type of conversation before moving into this important step.” p.249

“*Children and Worship* is much more than just stories. It is more than just ways for children to engage. It provides an intentional way for the whole body of Christ to assemble, proclaim, and learn to be God’s people with songs, prayers, offerings, and stories.” p.250

*Intrigued? Challenged? Want to find out more? Read the full chapter in [InterGenerate](#).*

*Chris Barnett July 2020*



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA



equipping Leadership for Mission