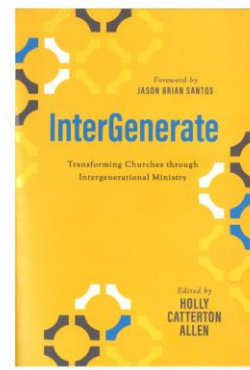


InterGenerate

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. 5 From Multigenerational to Intergenerational

Cory Seibel

“All leaders who desire to help their multigenerational churches grow as intentionally intergenerational communities of faith are destined to encounter two practical challenges. First, in many churches, attempts to implement intergenerational ministry represent a departure from the age-segmented frameworks that have predominated in recent decades...Second, thinking about change also raises the question of how to shepherd congregations through the process of change.” p.87

“Leaders who endeavour to guide their multigenerational churches toward becoming purposefully intergenerational must recognize that they face an adaptive challenge. Holly Allen and Christine Ross caution that helping churches become flourishing intergenerational communities requires more than a new method; it calls for a new mind-set. Our values, assumptions, and priorities must undergo transformation.” p.90

“Nurturing a culture of intergenerational learning necessitates providing participants with opportunities to exchange ideas and concerns, to listen to one another so that they can hear the underlying questions and issues that are being voiced. Leaders must help to bridge the “understanding gap,” creating ways for congregants to communicate with one another effectively in order to understand their differences better.” p.93

“In the face of adaptive challenges, the tendency of leaders to impose ambitious, far-reaching plans can cause anxiety and conflict. In reality, successful efforts at change often come from the margins of an institution rather than from a direct attempt to alter the centre of its life. Thus, rather than taking on “the whole system at once,” this calls for “experiments around the edges” that avoid overwhelming church members.” p.94

“The journey of adaptive change for many multigenerational churches desiring to become intergenerational in outlook and practice is indeed a journey to an unknown land. The framework explored here can help us navigate the pathway from here to there. It enables us to adopt new values, attitudes, and assumptions and to learn to live in ways that transcend our previous horizons of possibility and impossibility.” p.96

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