

Summer of transformation!

Transformation Reading groups

DIVE IN!

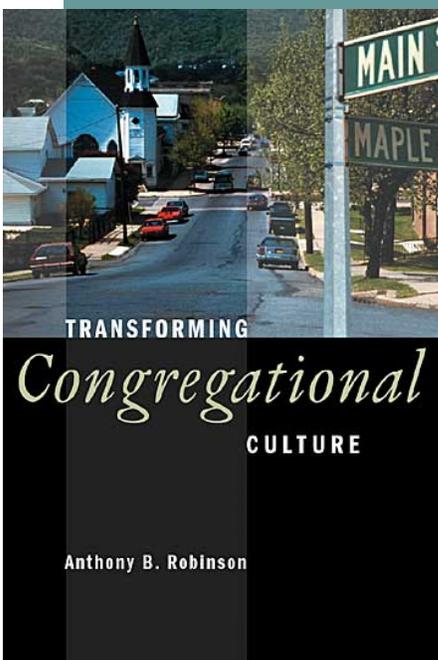


Soak in the rays of transformation in the CCNC-N this summer!

So maybe it's not beach reading...
But here are two great ways to take the splash
into serious transformation!

1) **Clergy reading groups** by geographical area. Come together with clergy in your neck of the woods to ask questions about your congregation's ministry in this changing world. Groups will gather three or four times around *The Sky Is Falling* over the summer.

2) **Congregation-wide book group.** If you don't know which book to study with your church for the transformation covenant (or if you want to jumpstart a conversation with them about the covenant), the Transformation Team is developing a study guide to accompany *Transforming Congregational Culture*.



More details on reverse. For more information, contact Sandhya:
sandhya@ccncn.org

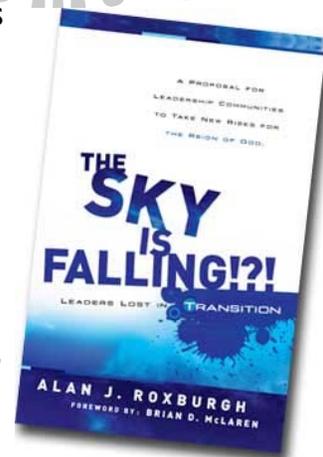
Clergy Book Groups

Alan Roxburgh spoke at the general church's transformation summit, and was perhaps the first person ever to make the modernity/postmodernity conversation both understandable and relevant to the church. His location within the scripture is both powerful and necessary for transforming congregations. If you want to buy the book, it can only be ordered online—go to www.theskyisfalling.info for all the details.

We're suggesting groups get together once a month to get through it in three months. The book has questions at the end of each chapter and can be read in three sections of around 50 pages each. All pastors of churches are encouraged to participate, but it may be most helpful to those engaging in the transformation initiative of the region in some fashion or another. Your group may decide to invite clergy from other denominations who are engaging in this work (the UCC has a congregational vitality initiative, for example), or you may find it helpful to invite a couple of key lay leaders as well—it's up to your book group.

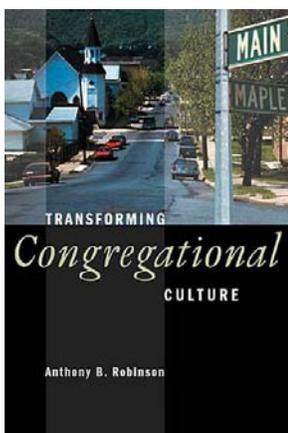
The book's biggest strength is the way it lays out society's shift from modern to post-modern, but in ways that are useful and not too abstract. Its major weakness is less of the concrete "What do we do now" stuff, because it is rooted heavily in an understanding of transformation that believes your solution relies very heavily on your specific context. (The congregational recommendation deals with more of the "What do we do" questions, which makes it a great parallel reading to this book.)

To find out if a group is going in your geographical area, contact Sandhya, who will work with a coordinator in each geographical area. (sandhya@ccncn.org or 925-556-9900)



Congregational Book Groups

Many congregations are looking for an accessible book to start the conversation about what transformation is and why we need it. *Transforming Congregational Culture* lays out a basic context of the changing world and also a theological understanding of why we need to engage in transformation. Possibly the most accessible aspect of this book is that it also looks at various structures in the church and how we can be doing those ministries differently. (For example, one chapter is entitled "From Board Culture to Ministry Culture.") This book is a slightly easier read than *The Sky is Falling* and can be ordered at amazon.com.



By late June, the Transformation Team will have completed some basic questions for the end of each chapter to help foster conversation. The book can be done in 4, 5, or 6 weeks, in 25-35 page installments. You might even think about doing a sermon series with the book.

If you have a lot of people interested and you're near another congregation doing transformation work, you may want to do this book group in partnership with them! Let Sandhya know if you'd like a copy of the chapter questions. (sandhya@ccncn.org or 925-556-9900)