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EXTRAORDINARY LEADERS IN EXTRAORDINARY TIMES

Unadorned Clay Pot Messengers Volume 1

H. STANLEY WOOD, editor

Foreword by Eugene H. Peterson

Believe it or not, traditional mainline churches are now showing signs of new life. New-church developments are springing up all across the country. But they do require a special sort of pastor to lead them. What kinds of leaders are actually spearheading this exciting movement?

Extraordinary Leaders in Extraordinary Times is an illuminating study of the most successful pastors of new churches in seven American mainline denominations. Four expert scholars — H. Stanley Wood, Carl S. Dudley, Darrell L. Guder, and Robert S. Hoyt — carefully analyze the results of a comprehensive survey of more than 700 founding pastors of new-church developments. The insights distilled here draw a blueprint for successful ministry to the unchurched in the twenty-first century.

“Finally, we have a book that begins to provide substantive research toward clarifying the profile of pastors who engage in new-church development.”

— **CRAIG VAN GELDER**
Luther Seminary

“*Extraordinary Leaders* is an excellent amalgam of research and interpretation regarding church leadership today. It helps us not only to home in on the key qualities of new-church development pastors but also to see the kind of leadership that the church, broadly speaking, needs in this new time. Beyond that, this book provides crucial insights into the kind of churches we are called to become in the new post-Christendom era.”

— **ANTHONY B. ROBINSON**
Columbia Leadership Network

“An important basis for thinking practically about the church for some time to come. . . . As these essays attest, this is no time for maintenance; it is time rather for generative missional courage. This book merits immediate and long-term attention.”

— **WALTER BRUEGGEMANN**
Columbia Theological Seminary

“H. Stanley Wood and his coauthors give us an exceptionally clear window. . . . Everyone engaged in identifying the extraordinary leadership qualities necessary to launch a new congregation should read this book.”

— **E. STANLEY OTT**
Vital Churches Institute

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