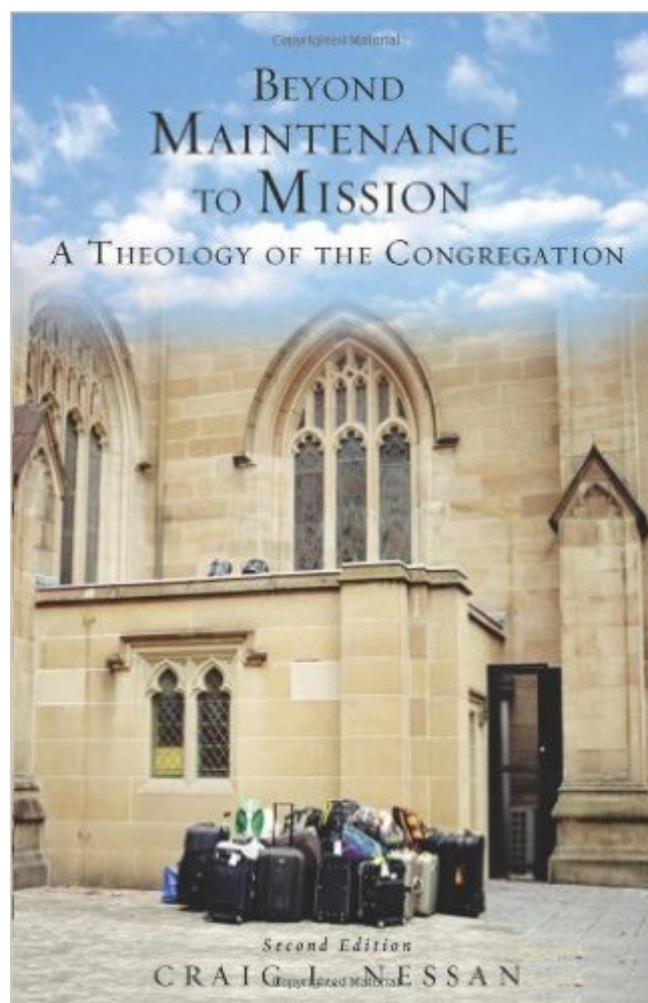


The book was found

# Beyond Maintenance To Mission: A Theology Of The Congregation



## Synopsis

Here, in a newly revised edition, is a powerful and pertinent guide for congregations wanting to move away from "maintenance thinking" to powerful, creative engagement with the world. Visionary yet practical, Nessen's influential book makes a persuasive case for the centrality of mission in the life of the church. Nessen's model of mission-driven leadership is strongly centered on the community of faith's worship and draws unique connections between the worship life of a congregation and every aspect of the church's ministry. Around the twin foci of congregational identity and mission, the chapters in this dynamic book provide solid theological and radical direction on the themes of worship, education, fellowship, stewardship, evangelism, global connections, and social ministry. Equally pertinent to seminary classroom and parish life, the new edition highlights worship's centrality, adds a new chapter on prayer and spiritual practices in this framework, significantly revises the treatments of fellowship and evangelism, and adds a full set of materials designed for congregational visioning and planning.

## Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Fortress Press; 2 edition (March 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0800663268

ISBN-13: 978-0800663261

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,018,248 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #686 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Ecclesiology](#) #1168 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Preaching](#) #2935 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Religious Studies > Christianity](#)

## Customer Reviews

I loved how Dr. Nessen uses the liturgy to explain the mission of the church. If you are liturgically oriented or challenged you will love how this book organizes the mission of the church from something you do to something we are. Happy Reading,

If I ever have the opportunity to do a new congregation plant, I would name it "Oasis" The local

congregation is a place to come, be fed and refreshed, exchange ideas, and then go out into the world. I gave copies of this to our new parish council, and it led to lively discussion, followed by a real change in our focus! Should be read by everyone in the congregation!

Too many churches spend an inordinant amount of energy re-building the proverbial wheel - in mission, strategy, program development, and conflict resolution. This book provides a solid biblical and organizational groundwork for developing and sharpening a church's mission, and then making it the center of it's actions and efforts. Churches, more than any company or human organization, need to move beyond maintenance all the way to mission!

I learned of the book from and got it for my husband who has been avidly reading it. Final assessment is that it is OK, but not enough was said on HOW to achieve mission, thinking back about it. I'd suggest the cover photo show a smaller church, not something that looks more like Europe than small town America. I would STILL like to know how one gets beyond maintenance???

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