



**FRESH  
EXPRESSIONS**

**WELCOME**

to

**SMALL  
CHURCH WEEK**





Help us help you!

We'd love you to take a quick survey so we can learn more about our audience today.



# Small Church Week

REPLAY AVAILABLE

Monday



Theo Stanford

## “Small Church, New Tricks”

How to Try New Things Without Blowing Up Your Church

Tuesday



David Blackwell

## “Small Church, Deep Bench”

How a Small Rural Church is Reaching Across Their County

STILL TO COME...

Thursday



Mary Jackson

## “Small Church, Big Table”

How 20 People Started a Dinner Church with 60 People

Friday



Jason Moore

## “Small Church, Powerful Tehcnology”

How Small Churches Use AI, Streaming and Other Technologies to Reach New People

TODAY

A circular portrait of Shannon Kiser, a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a purple top and a patterned scarf.

Shannon Kiser

## “Small Church, New Hope”

How Small Churches are Getting Out of the Rut of What’s Not Working

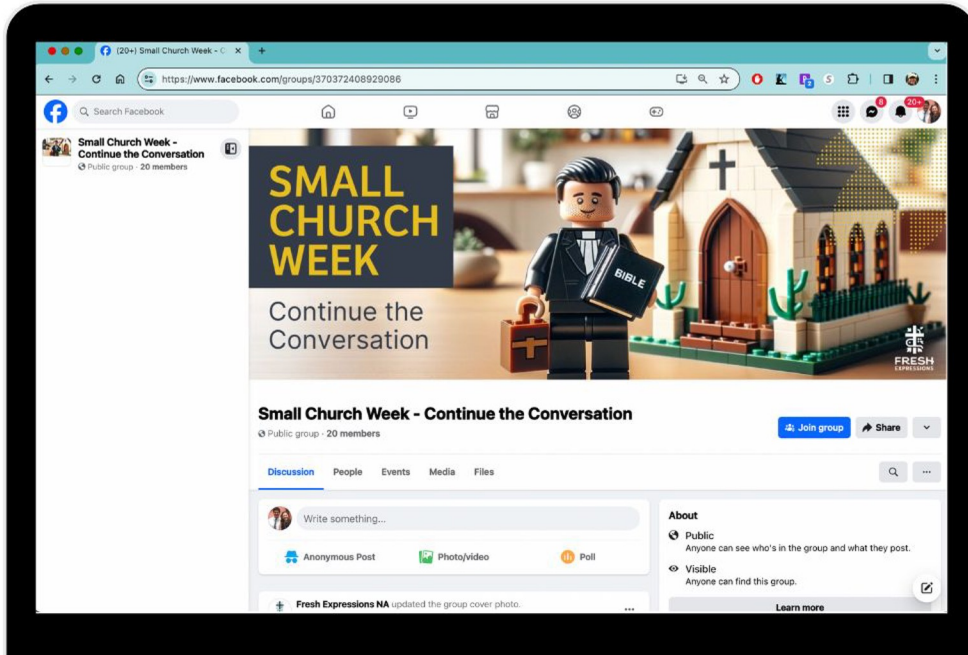


# SMALL CHURCH WEEK

## WEEK

Continue the Conversation

We'd love for you to join our Facebook Group to keep discussing ideas!





PRAYER

# The Chapel

[freshexpressions.com/prayer-ministry](https://freshexpressions.com/prayer-ministry)

Transforming prayer that fuels and supports the mission and ministry of pioneering leaders



Book a Prayer Session  
with Cheryl





BAYLOR  
TRUETT SEMINARY



ASCENT

*A Movement of Churches*



EverBless  
FOUNDATION



CHEMISTRY  
STAFFING



WINEBRENNER  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

to our  
Sponsors

Small Church Week



# SMALL CHURCH WEEK

Practical Training for  
Everyday Churches

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31ST



“SMALL CHURCH,  
NEW HOPE”

How Small Churches are Getting  
Out of the Rut of What’s Not  
Working

with Shannon Kiser

[FreshExpressions.com/smallchurchweek](https://FreshExpressions.com/smallchurchweek)

## Meet Your Guide



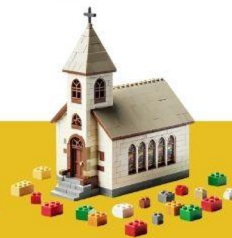
**Shannon Kiser**



Shannon Kiser serves as Director of US Ministries and training for Fresh Expressions North America. She leads a team of mission strategists and trainers in the development and implementation of in person and online training for mission innovation. She is on the pastoral staff of Riverside Presbyterian Church in Sterling, VA, a church that worships in two languages (English and Spanish), engages in several fresh expressions of church, and extends community hospitality through Ridgetop Coffee and Tea.

An ICF certified coach, Shannon coaches individual ministry leaders and pioneers, trains organizations to coach fresh expression initiatives, and coaches church teams through the process of adaptive change. Shannon lives in Springfield VA with her husband, and is the mother to two young adult daughters. Shannon enjoys the outdoors, pickleball, gardening, traveling, and her neighborhood swim club.

**Small Church Week**







FRESH  
EXPRESSIONS

# Small Church, New Hope

How to get unstuck...or what to do when  
you don't know what to do

# Small Church Week

**What's working in  
your ministry with  
children and their  
families?**



# Small Church Week

**What's NOT  
working in your  
ministry with  
children and their  
families?**



# Small Church Week

**It's Complicated!**



# Complex Environment

- **Technology integration**
- **Changing family structures**
- **Distrust in institutions**
- **Increasing awareness of mental health**
- **Globalization and cultural exposure**
- **Changing demands on time**
- **Social media impact**
- **Changing parenting styles**



# Small Church Week

How do we adapt our ministry to the evolving needs of children and their families?



# Luke 5:17-26

**One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting near by (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with them to heal. Just then, some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you."**



# Luke 5:17-26

**Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, “Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk?’ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins—he said to the one who was paralyzed—”I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.**





# Luke 5:17-26

**Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen strange things today!”**



# Small Church Week

How do we adapt our ministry to the evolving needs of children and their families?



# Adaptive vs. Technical

## Technical Challenges

- Can be solved by “experts”
- Not necessarily easy, but can be diagnosed and solved
- Solutions are concrete

## Adaptive Challenges

- Complex and ambiguous
- Reasons are hard to define and solutions to these challenges do not yet exist
- Requires learning and experimentation



# Journaling

**What is a challenge you have been not able to get traction on, no matter what you have tried?**



# Adaptive Challenges

## How do you know you've got an adaptive challenge?

- It's a challenge you keep running into
- None of your strategies have worked
- There are no experts you can hire to solve the problem



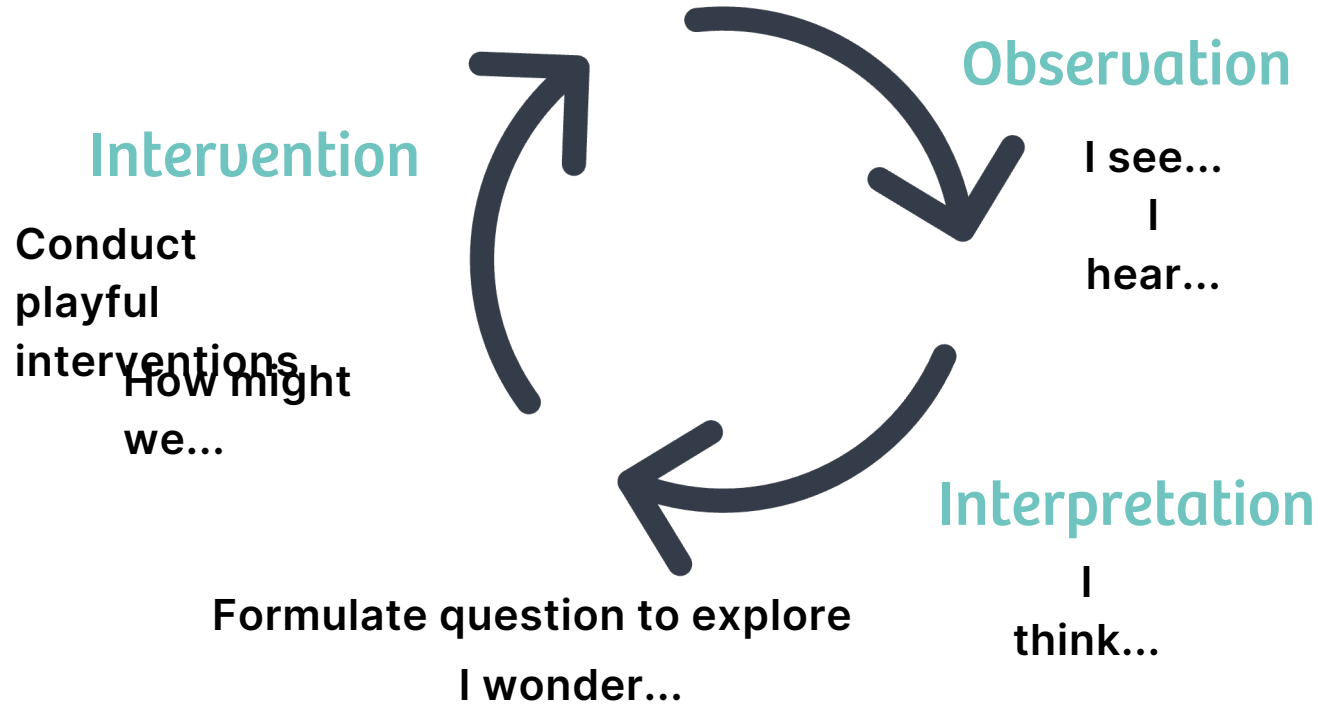
# Small Church Week

The way forward in the face of adaptive challenges is not working harder, it's unlocking imaginative gridlock.

--Tod Bolsinger

*Author of "Canoing the Mountains" and "Tempered Resilience"*

# Observation/Interpretation/Intervention



# Experimenting your way forward

**Small, lean, simple for learning**

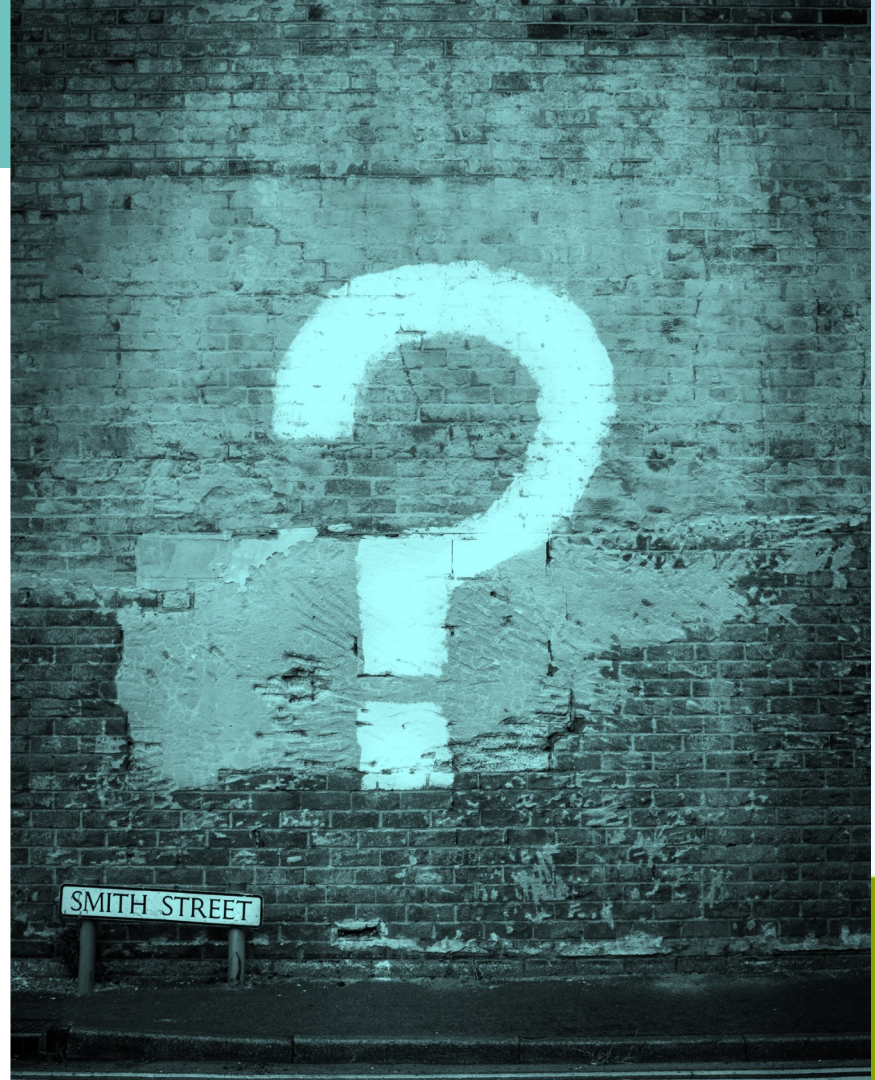
**The question is not: “Was it successful?” The question is: “What did we learn?”**





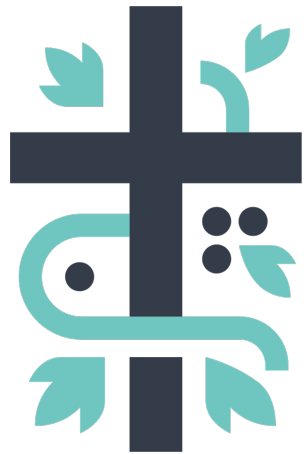
# Small Church Week

Questions?



# Small Church Week

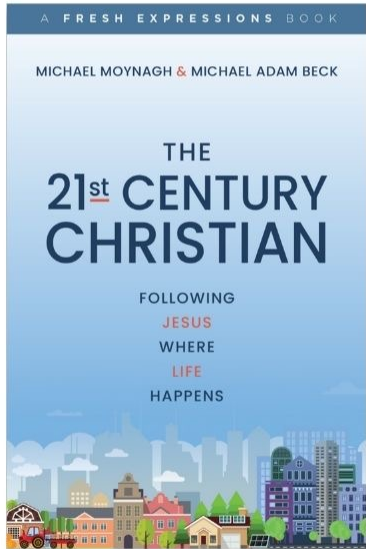
**[Shannon.kiser@freshexpressions.com](mailto:Shannon.kiser@freshexpressions.com)**  
**[www.freshexpressions.com](http://www.freshexpressions.com)**



**FRESH**  
**EXPRESSIONS**



# 21st Century Christian: Training & Consult Bundle



God is at work in your church—all seven days a week.



This bundle, which includes a book, a video course, and a one-hour consult, is designed to help small groups and leadership teams imagine new ways to join God's mission all week long.

Small Church Week



# Small Church Think Tank



God has given you the Holy Spirit, the most creative force imaginable. But it still helps to have other leaders to help you dream and pray. Join a one-time Think Tank with FX trainer Heather Jallad and other church leaders like you to explore new possibilities for your congregation and your context.



[freshexpressions.com/smallchurchthinktank](https://freshexpressions.com/smallchurchthinktank)

# SMALL CHURCH WEEK

Practical Training for  
Everyday Churches

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST



“SMALL CHURCH,  
BIG TABLE”

How 20 People Started a  
Dinner Church with 60 People

with Mary Jackson

[FreshExpressions.com/smallchurchweek](https://FreshExpressions.com/smallchurchweek)



**FRESH**  
EXPRESSIONS

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

for **SMALL**  
**CHURCH WEEK**

