The Church as Koinonia of Salvation


This important document proposes new clarifications and pastoral steps that will serve the pilgrimage toward full unity. It provides the biblical, historical, and theological foundations for a common Catholic-Lutheran understanding of the church. The text carefully links the biblical doctrine of justification to the development of the church in the New Testament as a community of salvation whose structures and ministries serve the church's mission to the human family. A detailed exposition is given to the development of the ministries and structures in the church: councils, dioceses, parishes, bishops, presbyters, and the Petrine ministry. Book jacket.

Church as Communion

Philip Kariatlis
2010-12-15

This book innovatively explores the notion of koinonia for understanding the nature and function of the Church. Since the Scriptures assert that the Church is the Church of God, God's communal mode of existence is looked at namely, God who is a communion of three hypostases relating to one another in an interpenetrating koinonia of infinite love as a way of understanding the very being of the church as communion. Such a notion of koinonia, far from having anything to do with socio-political understandings, suggests that it is a foundational gift bestowed from above to the world as the solution par excellence to the impasse of isolationism. More often than not, however, such an ecclesiology of communion has not taken seriously the historical reality of the Church living within the fallen world along with its ceaseless temptations, divisions and even sins in history. In this way, it becomes apparent that a dialectic needs to be acknowledged in the notion of communion as both foundational gift from God, and yet one still to be fully realised. Accordingly, this work shows that the Church is not only as the gift of God's miraculous presence here on earth. The Church is also constantly striving to exist epicletically until such time as it will fully experience the final consummation in Gods eschatological kingdom. An examination of this double dimensionality of the Church is undertaken in order to assess if this is in line with the Scriptural witness of the ekklesia. Having established the gift-goal dialectic in the notion of koinonia in the New Testament Church, the study then traces the trajectory of this dynamic approach to koinonia in the Churchs worship and authoritative structures. This promises to cast both a deeper light on, and a more realistic solution to ecclesiological problems within the life of the Church today, allowing for the Churchs constant renewal.

Koinonia and the Quest for an Ecumenical Ecclesiology

Lorelei F. Fuchs 2008

The idea of koinonia has gained prominence in recent ecumenical discussions. Lorelei Fuchs proposes the theological concept of koinonia, loosely translated as communion, as the key to moving the fractured churches toward a future unity. Fuchs challenges churches to move beyond mere dialogue to apply their ecumenical insights at the local level. She begins by relating the exegetical meaning of koinonia to its ecumenical meaning.
tracing the place of koinonia both within the churches and between the churches. She then examines the concept in the extensive and fruitful dialogues that have taken place between Lutherans, Anglicans, and Roman Catholics, finally articulating a symbolic competence for communioanlity that provides a rich and workable way forward for church unity at all levels. Encompassing the latest in ecumenical thought within the Catholic, Anglican, and Lutheran milieu, Koinonia and the Quest for an Ecumenical Ecclesiology provides a framework for moving closer to the reality of Christ’s prayer that all may be one.

The Church as Koinonia of Salvation - United States Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue (Group) 2004*


Church as Communion - Philip Kariatlis 2010-12-15 This book innovatively explores the notion of koinonia for understanding the nature and function of the Church. Since the Scriptures assert that the Church is the Church of God, God's communal mode of existence is looked at namely, God who is a communion of three hypostases relating to one another in an interpenetrating koinonia of infinite love as a way of understanding the very being of the church as communion. Such a notion of koinonia, far from having anything to do with socio-political understandings, suggests that it is a foundational gift bestowed from above to the world as the solution par excellence to the impasse of isolationism. More often than not, however, such an ecclesiology of communion has not taken seriously the historical reality of the Church living within the fallen world along with its ceaseless temptations, divisions and even sins in history. In this way, it becomes apparent that a dialectic needs to be acknowledged in the notion of communion as both foundational gift from God, and yet one still to be fully realised. Accordingly, this work shows that the Church is not only as the gift of God's miraculous presence here on earth. The Church is also constantly striving to exist epielctically until such time as it will fully experience the final consummation in Gods eschatological kingdom. An examination of this double dimensionality of the Church is undertaken in order to assess if this is in line with the Scriptural witness of the ekklesia. Having established the gift-goal dialectic in the notion of koinonia in the New Testament Church, the study then traces the trajectory of this dynamic approach to koinonia in the Churches worship and authoritative structures. This promises to cast both a deeper light on, and a more realistic solution to ecclesiological problems within the life of the Church today, allowing for the Church's constant renewal.

True Community - Jerry Bridges 2014-02-27 What God Intended for the Body of Christ Fellowship among believers is more than just talking over coffee after church service. Biblical fellowship in New Testament times—or koinonia—had rich and varied meanings, including covenant relationship, partnership in the gospel, communion with God and others, and the sharing of earthly possessions. In True Community, bestselling author Jerry Bridges guides you through koinonia and its implications for today's church. With discussion questions at the end of each chapter, this book will help you dig deeper into what Christian community in the twenty-first century should look like. You will come away with a new appreciation for fellowship, the church, and what God intended the body of Christ to be. With a discussion guide for personal or group use.

The Lost Formula of the Early Church - Rick Howard 1996-04 Discussion of the need and benefits of Koinonia.

So We Believe, So We Pray - World Council of Churches. Commission on Faith and Order 1995 Worshipping and praying together have long been recognised as central to the quest for the visible unity of the church. This book treats such topics as worship as an expression and experience of common faith, worship and culture, and local experiences of worship and unity in Latin America, Africa and India and in Orthodox and united congregations. "In common worship I experience the unity which the theologians only talk about." Many Christians would agree with this statement. Yet worship remains one of the
most sensitive areas ecumenically; and in fact
Christians often appear most divided over issues
of worship, particularly when they cannot join
together at the Lord’s table. The book grew out
of a remarkable meeting at which leading
liturgical scholars, Protestant, Roman Catholic
and Orthodox theologians, worship leaders,
musicians and local pastors gathered for an
ecumenical discussion of the scriptural and
theological basis, practical possibilities and
problems of Christian worship today. Linking
theory with practice, ranging from inculturation
to icons, this volume includes papers by Gordon
Lathrop, Anscar Chupungco O.S.B., Janet
Crawford and Thomas FitzGerald, as well as
lively accounts from around the world of how
Christians today are exploring issues of worship
and unity.

The Place of KOINONIA in the Church-Leo
Siemens 1970

On the Way to Fuller Koinonia-World Council
of Churches. Commission on Faith and Order
1994 On the Way to Fuller Koinonia - Official
Report of the Fifth World Conference on Faith &
Order

The Unity of the Church as Koinonia- 1993

Ecumenism, Christian Origins and the
Practice of Communion-Nicholas Sagovsky
2000-05-04 The theology of communion, or
Koinonia, has been at the centre of the
ecumenical movement for more than thirty years.
It is central to the self-understanding of the
Anglican, Roman Catholic and Orthodox
Churches, and has been prominent in the work of
the World Council of Churches. This book, based
on the 1996 Hulsean Lectures, examines the
significance of Koinonia for contemporary
ecumenical theology, tracing the development of
contemporary understanding in critical
generation with the thoughts of Plato, Aristotle,
the Hebrew Scriptures, the New Testament, the
Cappadocian Fathers and Augustine. In each
case, reflection on community life is related to
actual communities in which texts were
produced. The importance of conflict and the
place of politics for the Koinonia that constitutes
the Christian churches is a major theme
throughout. Communion is seen as a gift to be

Toward an Adventist Version of Communio
Ecclesiology-Tihomir Lazić 2019-11-13 This
book explores how Seventh-day Adventists, like
other Christians, can benefit from generating
their own version of communio ecclesiology. It
starts by offering a critical analysis of the status
quo of the existing Adventist portrayal of church
as remnant, and suggests potential ways of
moving this tradition forward. To articulate a
more rounded and comprehensive vision of the
church’s rich and multifaceted relational nature,
this book draws on the mainstream Christian
koinonia-based framework. Consequently, it
provides possible solutions to some of the most
divisive ecclesial issues that Christian
communities face today regarding church
structure, ministry, mission, communal
interpretation, and reform. As it sets on a new
footing the conversation between Adventism and
other mainstream Christian traditions, the
methodology of this book serves as a pathway for
any Christian community to use when revisiting
and enhancing its own current theologies of the
church.

The Ecclesiology of Thomas F. Torrance-Kate
Tyler 2019-08-12 This book explores the
relationship between Thomas F. Torrance's
document of the Trinity and his ecclesiology. Tyler
utilizes the integrative motif of koinonia
(communion) in order to unfold how the Church
is correlated with the Triune communion of love,
and how this shapes the Church’s visible
existence in the world.

True Fellowship-Jerry Bridges 1985

Building Up the Church and Church Growth
in Korean Churches Through the Koinonia
of a Small Group Ministry-Tae Hyun Kim 2013
This thesis researched the development and
nurturing of koinonia in a small group setting as
a way of building up a church with spiritual
.qualitative) and numerical (quantitative) growth
as one of the results. When considering church
growth a small group ministry is an important
alternative to the standard church practice.
Chapter 2 reviewed the purpose of the church,
and explored the concept of building up the
Chapter 3 deals with the role of koinonia in building up the church and its impact on church growth. It also identifies the ministry of small groups as being the most suitable method to develop and nurture koinonia amongst members of a congregation. The ministry of small groups has a great practical potential for the church. It enables members of the congregation to identify and use their spiritual gifts and talents, and in so doing, discover their value and identity in Jesus Christ. Chapter 4 documents the findings of empirical research conducted amongst three South Korean Presbyterian churches that practice the ministry of small groups. The views of the three senior pastors were on the value of small groups were ascertained. This was followed by a detailed study, of the workings and effects of small groups covering 205 respondents spread across the three congregations. Based on the findings of the research, chapter 5 presents a proposed plan to build up the church, encouraging church growth through the development and nurturing of koinonia through a small groups ministry. The study proposes a seven fold approach to the implementation of a small group ministry designed to stimulate spiritual and numerical growth through the development and nurturing of koinonia amongst church members.

The Music of Jesus - Mark Hijleh 2001-01
This book examines four large questions: Do we need a theology of music? (And if so, why?) What is the place of art music ('classical' music) in a postmodern world? What are the characteristics of 'the music of Jesus'? How can this music be manifested in the Christian community? Each question is addressed on the basis of building a consistent Biblical worldview which includes adequate respect for the powerful force of music. Although the book focuses on the role of composers, its aim is to encourage serious musical examination, support, and action from within the entire evangelical Christian community, with an eye to affecting the culture at large. The author asserts that in the area of music the Church has become a cultural follower rather than a leader, adopting the dangerous postmodern tendency to define musical choices as matters of mere personal preference rather than seeking to define them on the basis of what God has revealed in the Word, by the Son, and through the Spirit. Specific suggestions are made by which the contemporary Christian community may resist such a tendency, even while building a dynamic, new, Christ-centered musical practice which can flourish in our postmodern world.

Koinonia - J. Paul Du Bois 1996

The Cinema and the Church - Micah Luce 2008

Sojourners and Strangers - Gregg R. Allison 2012-11-30
What is a church? This can be a difficult question to answer and Christians have offered a variety of perspectives. Gregg Allison thus explores and synthesizes all that Scripture affirms about the new covenant people of God, capturing a full picture of the biblical church. He covers the topics of the church’s identity and
characteristics; its growth through purity, unity, and discipline; its offices and leadership structures; its ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s Supper; and its ministries. Here is a rich approach to ecclesiology consisting of sustained doctrinal reflection and wise, practical application. Part of the Foundations of Evangelical Theology series.

A Psychological and Theological Examination of Koinonia Groups in the Church - Carver McGriff 1965

The Radical Disciple - Bill Lane Doulos 2015-10-15 The Radical Disciple invites the followers of Christ to take seriously the scriptural mandate to love God and neighbor. The cost of contemporary discipleship is just as high now as it was in the early days of the Christian church. But the sharp edge of the gospel mandate has become too comfortable with the economic and political status quo. But when a disciple sidesteps the call of God to radically embrace the poor of the world, then that disciple also sidesteps the comfort and the inheritance that God holds for God’s faithful people. We Christians represent a radical alternative to the greed, complacency, and violence of our age. The promise for us is the promise of community and celebration, joy and peace. But we must follow the way of the cross, which is just as relevant and compelling for us as it was for Jesus two thousand years ago. So we have set before us in these pages a prescription for the servanthood that is required of us. By assuming the yoke of a servant, we claim joy and purpose for our lives. Read this book and gain insight into the meaning of these words for Christians and the church today.

Is This What Church Was Meant to Be? - Keith Hubbs 2000-11-01 This book can be a tremendous asset to pastors, church leaders, ministry volunteers and anyone else who desires to see their local church become more real, more enjoyable, more honest... more like the model of the early Church in the Book of Acts. A balance of spiritual truth, humor, practical application, and personal experience, Keith Hubbs takes you through scripture and history to examine the five-fold ministry of Ephesians 4, carefully describing its purpose and intent, its function, and its overwhelming absence in today's Church! It will challenge what you believe about the ministry and your call as a Christian. It will challenge what you think you know about the proper order of church government. It will challenge you to examine your own motives in ministry, and help you realize how YOU fit into God’s plan for His Church!

Interracialism and Christian Community in the Postwar South - Tracy Elaine K'Meyer 1997 Koinonia Farm, an interracial cooperative founded in 1942 in southwest Georgia by two white Baptist ministers, was a beacon to early civil rights activists. K'Meyer (history, U. of Louisville) describes the influence of this single community on the history of the civil rights movement. In the process, she provides a new perspective on white liberalism as well as a nuanced exploration of an extraordinary case of religious belief informing progressive social action. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

Koinonia in the Bible and in the Church Today - 1972

The Process of Koinonia in the Local Church - David Benjamin Vaughan 1973

The Real Church - Harald Hegstad 2013-06-27 What does it mean to believe in the church? What is the relationship between the church we believe in and the church we experience? Is there an invisible church that is different from the visible? This book is an argument for an ecclesiology of the visible. The only church, the real church, is a concrete reality made up of people, just like any other fellowship. What distinguishes it as church is the presence of the triune God among those who gather in the name of Jesus, making it a sign and anticipation of the fellowship of the kingdom of God. From this premise Dr. Hegstad analyzes such issues as the relationship between church and world, mission and diakoni, church as fellowship and organization, ministries in the church, worship, and the unity of the church, as well as discussing the relationship between a sociological and a theological understanding of the church.
Agreeable Agreement-Minna Hietamäki 2010-04-22 In recent bilateral ecumenical dialogue the aim of the dialogue has been to reach some form of doctrinal consensus. The three major chapters of the book discuss the variety of forms of doctrinal consensus found in ecumenical dialogues among Anglicans, Lutherans and Roman Catholics. In general, the dialogue documents argue for agreement/consensus based on commonality or compatibility. Each of the three dialogue processes has specific characteristics and formulates its argument in a unique way. The Lutheran-Roman Catholic dialogue has a particular interest in hermeneutical questions and proposes various forms of "differentiated" or perspectival forms of consensus. The Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue emphasises the correctness of interpretations. The documents consciously look towards a "common future", not the separated past.

Koinonia-- the Soul of the Church?-Hal Lamar Edwards 1988

The Unity of the Church as Koinonia-Günther Gassmann 1993

Christian Fellowship-Jeremy Paul Oddy 2004

The Routledge Companion to the Christian Church-Gerard Mannion 2007-12-12 The nature and story of the Christian church is immensely important to theology students and scholars alike. Written by an international team of distinguished scholars, this comprehensive book introduces students to the fundamental historical, systematic, moral and ecclesiological aspects of the study of the church, as well as serving as a resource for scholars engaging in ecclesiological debates on a wide variety of issues. It divides into six parts: the church in its historical context the different denominational traditions global perspectives methods and debates in ecclesiology key concepts and themes ecclesiology and other disciplines: social sciences, philosophy, literature and film. Authoritative, accessible and easily navigable, this book is indispensable for everyone interested in the nature and history of the Christian Church.

Enhancing the Koinonia at Camp Creek Baptist Church in Union Mills, North Carolina, by Expanding "sacred Space"-Tony Dwayne McCraw 2013 Since the day of Pentecost, the defining characteristic of the church has been the extraordinary bond of unity and fellowship amongst Christians. Scripture refers to this intense sharing of life as koinonia. Fellowship, however, is often neglected in deference to earthly priorities. -- This project aimed to inspire and enable the members of Camp Creek Baptist Church to practice the type of fellowship descriptive of first-century Christianity. Through studying Scripture, analyzing social demographics, and conducting statistical analyses, a solution for enhancing the koinonia at CCBC emerged -- namely, the regular gathering of its members into one another's homes, thereby expanding "sacred space".

The Church-Gabriel J. Fackre 2007 The latest volume in Gabriel Fackre's "Christian Story" finds the dedicated ecumenist attempting to examine the connections, or lack thereof, between worldwide ecumenical progress and the character of local churches as he observes them in twenty-first-century America. Drawing from his own fifty-year experience in the church as pastor, teacher, and parishioner, Fackre breaks open the myth of the church experience and exposes the reality of modern worship on a local level. "The Church" is rich in insight and fertile in its range of suggestions, most of them aimed at pastors and aspiring pastors -- the men and women who will carry the teachings of the church, its "kerygma," into the next generation and the ones that follow.

Transforming Church Conflict-Deborah van Deusen Hunsinger 2013 Using real-world case studies and examples, Hunsinger and Latini helpfully guide pastors and lay leaders through effective and compassionate ways to deal with discord.

The Spirit-Baptized Church-Frank D. Macchia 2020-04-16 Frank D. Macchia argues that the Son of God baptized (and continues to baptize) humanity in the Spirit by pouring forth the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. All four Gospels and the book of Acts describe how the Son is sent in the Father and empowered by the Spirit to fulfill this mission; Macchia in turn claims that Christ...
succeeds by incorporating others into himself and into the love of the Father. The Spirit-Baptized Church proposes a richly pneumatological ecclesiology that is dominated by a Pentecostal confessional concern, while also open to a larger ecumenical conversation. The volume focuses not only on the dogmatic (Trinitarian) foundations and election processes of the Spirit-baptized church, but also on its marks and witnessing practices. As an exceptionally detailed study of the Spirit-baptismal metaphor, this volume is a valuable resource for scholars of ecclesiology, Pentecostalism, and systematic theology.

The Word Became Flesh - E Stanley Jones
Foundation 2006-06-01 This updated classic contains 364 daily devotionals revolving around "And the Word became flesh" (John 1:14) and its meaning for a transformed life. From his wide experience with world religions and contact with believers across the globe, E. Stanley Jones explains the difference between Christianity (in which God reaches toward humanity through Jesus Christ) and other faiths (in which humanity reaches toward God in various ways). Includes: Daily scripture reading, commentary, a prayer and affirmation for each day. Discussion guide for 52 weeks with several questions for reflection and conversation Scripture index Topical index E. Stanley Jones (1884-1973) was perhaps the most widely known and admired Christian evangelist of his time. He spent a lifetime in missionary work in India, Japan, and other countries, and touched many more lives through his writings. Praise for the original volume: "...goes to the heart of the matter, for it deals with that which makes the Christian religion unique and enduring among all religions: God becoming man, a religion rooted and grounded in human history." --Kirkus "Characteristically always spiritually motivated and down to the very hear of life itself." --Christian Herald

The Future of Anglicanism - Robert Hannaford
1996

Flying in the Face of Tradition - Louis DeThomasis, FSC 2012-06-01 The current quandary that the Roman Catholic Church finds itself in right now is what Brother Louis DeThomasis calls "a crisis of confidence" in this insightful, provocative, and hopeful new book. He points to the way of unraveling the quandary by returning the church's historic belief in tradition-the lived experience of the faithful - as a source of ongoing revelation and renewal. This is not an attack by someone intent on bringing down the church but rather a wake-up call for the church itself to recognize and embrace globalization, diversity, and democratization and begin to rebuild what DeThomasis calls "koinonia" or "communion". He uses the issue of the ordination of women as a case study of how the institutional church has fallen out of step with its own members but could work its way back to relevance and effectiveness by listening to them. Brother Louis makes it clear that he is not just criticizing others: "I know that I am guilty as anyone of many of the sins decried in this book. I too have been insensitive, closed-minded, arrogant, self-centered, too-quick-to-defend-the-indefensible, and overly protective of myself and my fellow church-members. For this I am sorry. And for this reason I offer my book as a small token of atonement." But he does insist that the institutional church has to change quickly and fundamentally if it is to recover its creditability and authority. People like him who have dedicated their entire lives to the church have to speak up, he says: "I am a 70-year-old De LaSalle Brother, entering my well-developed understandings about the church that I feel I have not only a right but a duty to present to whomever might want to listen."