When Leadership And Spiritual Direction Meet Stories And Reflections For

When Leadership and Spiritual Direction Meet - Gil W. Stafford 2014-06-11 Modern church leaders need to cultivate innovative and creative leadership skills, as they navigate today's post-Christian world, and as their congregations look to them for insight and guidance. Gil Stafford takes a fresh look at this vital need, drawing upon his experience as a college coach, university president, and parish priest, and interweaving them with ancient spiritual practices found within the discipline of spiritual direction. Personal anecdotes help the reader envision their own life-transforming pilgrimage, as they delve into the type of adaptive leader that churches need in today's rapidly changing world. This book challenges church leaders to foster sacred safe space, holy listening, silence, and word. The goal is to create a context within which a person can be fully present and open to the ways of God. In the second half of the book, small group studies to conducting parish business. Gradually the leader will be able to delegate some of his responsibilities to the congregation, liberating them to be leaders, and rescuing him from trying to be all things to all people.

Forming the Leader's Soul - Morris Dirks 2013-09-11 Forming the Leader's Soul: An Invitation to Spiritual Direction encourages Christian leaders to recover the much-needed ancient discipline of spiritual direction as a pathway to nurture spiritual and emotional health amid the challenges of leading a ministry. Many Christian leaders are finding the nature of ministry to be unsustainable in today's culture, and are searching for help. They realize their initial enthusiasm and ministry training are simply not enough to reach the finish line. Leaders are discovering spiritual direction as a proven pathway to recover spiritual life and the sustainable ministry that follows. Several years ago spiritual direction was almost unheard of in the Protestant world. Today, this ministry is referred to in articles and books as well as highlighted at conferences. This book seeks to give the reader a starting point from which to explore the ministry of spiritual direction. It offers an inside look at the history, theological foundation, and the praxis of this spiritual discipline creating a desire for further exploration and participation. The author seeks to strengthen the reader's appreciation of spiritual direction by drawing upon the his own experience as a pastor for over three decades. He uses his personal journey into spiritual direction (both as a directee and director) as a window and an invitation to discover more. Each chapter ends with a short, real-life story from a leader who participates in spiritual direction.

Small Group Leadership as Spiritual Direction - Heather Parkinson Webb 2009-09-03 Don't just LEAD a small group. DIRECT it. Members of your small group look to you for answers. They bring their raw questions and intimate needs to you, looking for wisdom and understanding. How can you encourage your group to consider the Holy Spirit's voice? Spiritual direction is an ancient art of being with another person in relationship with God," writes author Heather Webb. This time-tested practice requires that you remain attentive and open to divine interactions you might otherwise miss. Field-tested through the author's years of experience, Small Group Leadership as Spiritual Direction will help you: Avoid common small-group pitfalls - Take on difficult questions - Speak God's words into others' lives - Deepen your group's desire for God. The exciting discipline of spiritual direction allows you to create a space in which the Holy Spirit can move among your group. As you begin to discern Christ's call in the lives of others, you will see your ministry with a new perspective and uncover new ways to direct your group, not just lead it.

Spiritual Direction - Henri J. M. Nouwen 2006-05-23 Spiritual Direction gives us the unique and unrivaled experience of having Henri Nouwen as our personal spiritual director, answering our questions about the spiritual life in his wise, comfortable, and engaging style. With Nouwen's guidance, we can reorient our lives and open the door to true spiritual transformation. Henri Nouwen, the world-renowned spiritual guide and counselor, understood Spiritual Direction as a journey of faith and transformation that is deepened by accountability, community, and relationships. Though he counseled many people during his lifetime, his principles of spiritual direction were never written down. Now two of his longtime students, Michael Christensen and Rebecca Laird, have taken his famous course in spiritual direction and supplemented it with his unpublished writings to create the definitive work on Nouwen's thoughts on the Christian life. Stories, readings, and thematically organized questions for reflection and guided journal writing provide an unparalleled resource for spiritual direction, both for individuals and for small groups.

Noticing the Divine - John R. Malby 2006-12-01 An essential textbook for beginning spiritual directors, Noticing the Divine uses wisdom from the religions of the world to teach the basic skills needed to offer spiritual direction to people of all traditions. It introduces the foundational concepts and techniques needed to responsibly and professionally practice the art of spiritual guidance. Among the religious traditions covered are Judaism, Christianity, Taoism, Buddhism, and Hinduism.

When Leadership and Spiritual Direction Meet - Gil W. Stafford 2014-06-12 This book challenges church leaders to foster sacred safe space, holy listening, silence, and wisdom storytelling in order to create a discerning church community. These techniques of spiritual direction can be applied to every aspect of the church, from small group studies to conducting parish business.

Supervision of Spiritual Directors - Mary Rose Bumps 2005-11-01 The last decade has seen increased interest in the practice of spiritual direction, both from people feeling called to be spiritual directors, and from those seeking direction. But with the growth in the number of directors has come an increased need to train their supervisors. This collection of essays is one of the first books in the field that help with the training of supervisors. Written by spiritual directors who have years of experience in supervision between them, this book engages some of the leading voices in the field in an exploration of a wide variety of issues, including: gender and sexuality; ethical dilemmas; working with diverse racial ethnic constituencies; working with the differently abled; the parameters of supervision; the supervision of beginning directors, and more. An excellent textbook for those who feel called to the role of supervisor, as well as an important book for those who are already practicing in the field.

Five Models of Spiritual Direction in the Early Church - George E. Demacopoulos 2006-11-15 In late antiquity the rising number of ascetics who joined the priesthood faced a pastoral dilemma. Should they follow a traditional, demonstrably administrative, approach to pastoral care, emphasizing doctrinal instruction, the care of the poor, and the celebration of the sacraments? Or should they bring to the parish the ascetic models of spiritual direction, characterized by a more personal spiritual father/spiritual disciple relationship? Five Models of Spiritual Direction in the Early Church explores the struggles of five clerics (Athanasius, Gregory Nazianzen, Augustine of Hippo, John Cassian, and Pope Gregory I) to reconcile their ascetic idealism with the reality of pastoral responsibility. Through a close reading of Greek and Latin texts, George E. Demacopoulos explores each pastor's criteria for ordination, his supervision of subordinate clergy, and his methods of spiritual direction. He argues that the evolution in spiritual direction that occurred during this period reflected and informed broader developments in religious practices. Demacopoulos describes the way in which these authors shaped the medieval pastoral traditions of the East and the West. Each of the five struggled to balance the tension between his ascetic idealism and the realities of the lay church. Each offered distinct (and at times very different) solutions to that tension. The diversity among their models of spiritual direction demonstrates both the complexity of the problem and the variable nature of early Christianity. Scholars and students of late antiquity, the history of Christianity, and historical theology will find a great deal of interest in Five Models of Spiritual Direction in the Early Church. The book will also appeal to those who are actively engaged in Christian ministry.

Small Group Leadership as Spiritual Direction - Heather Webb 2005-05-01 Spiritual direction is an ancient art of being with another person in relationship with God. As we struggle in the church to develop meaningful and lasting relationships, this spiritual practice has much to offer us. It is another way of patiently sitting with another soul listening for God's voice and looking for God's leading in a person's life. The small group phenomenon has taken root in many different Christian communities in the US and abroad. However, there have been pitfalls and traps in the small group phenomenon.

When Leadership And Spiritual Direction Meet Stories And Reflections For - Margaret Guenther 1992-01-01 Margaret Guenther shares with the reader a loving and evocative meditation on the experience of spiritual direction from the perspective of a wise and lovable spiritual director, who is also a woman, wife, mother, and priest.

Workplace Spirituality - Nancy R. Smith 2006-06-01 Workplace Spirituality: A Complete Guide for Business Leaders explains the ins and outs of workplace spirituality to business executives, managers, educators and students who are on the cutting edge of business leadership, and to all workers who want to bring their spiritual selves to work along with their bodies and minds. The book includes basic definitions, an overview of the workplace spirituality movement, specific spiritual traits and resulting on-the-job behaviors, the changing understanding of business in the 21st century, issues of ethics and corporate social responsibility, principles for a spiritual workplace, and tasks involved in incorporating spirituality into leadership and management practice. Included are reflection questions, exercises, four appendixes and an index.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered - Daniel Prechtl 2012-02-01 This book offers a detailed presentation of ten small group models, plus guidance in groupleadership dynamics. It also presents material related to group retreat work, spiritual guidance with organizations, and a peer supervision/consultation model for a variety of settings.

High Listening - Margaret Guenther 2009-07-01 Margaret Guenther shares with the reader a loving and evocative meditation on the experience of spiritual direction from the perspective of a wise and lovable spiritual director, who is also a woman, wife, mother, and priest.
The page contains a list of book titles and authors, along with brief descriptions or quotes from each. Here is the text in a plain text format:

**Two Discussions—American Assisitancy Seminar on Jesuit Spirituality 1972**

**Spiritual Direction—Gordon T. Smith 2014-04-07** We are not alone. God is present with us. And God gives us companions on the journey. A spiritual director is one such companion, offering spiritual guidance to help make sense of the faith journey and interpret the significant markers on the road. We encourage you, particularly through the more difficult transitions and valleys of our pilgrimage and, most of all, to experience the presence and friendship of Christ in our lives. For many years, we have been Christ's faithful servants. Even in our times of solitude and maturing in our faith, we still need the encouragement and guidance that might come through spiritual direction. . . . Genuine humility is evident in our realization that we need a companion, a fellow pilgrim and Christian, who can help us discern and foster an attentiveness to God's presence in our lives. This is the gift of spiritual direction. Whether you are a director, a directee or simply someone who wants to learn more about this ancient ministry, you will find this book to be a helpful guide.

**Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership—Ruth Haley Barton 2018-09-03** In this expanded edition of her spiritual formation classic, Ruth Haley Barton invites us to an honest exploration of what happens when spiritual leaders lose track of their souls. Weaving together contemporary illustrations with penetrating insight from the life of Moses, Barton explores topics such as facing the loneliness of leadership, leading from your authentic self, reenvisioning the promised land and more.

**Spiritual Director, Spiritual Companion—Tilden Edwards 2001** Updates his classic, Spiritual Friend Spiritual direction pioneer Tilden Edwards here shares the wealth of twenty years of experience he's gained since his classic book, Spiritual Friend. The fresh and insightful result covers both spiritual and practical sides of the art, from the nature of the soul to recommendations on payment rates. Both directors and directees benefit from this holistic look that considers all of the person and not just his or her prayer life. At the book's heart, though, is spiritual direction at its best. Edwards examines new methods to nurture the soul, ways to recognize a true spiritual experience, and suggestions for being truly present during the process. Practical guidelines are also given for getting started with new directees, running group spiritual direction, evaluating sessions, and setting up a spiritual director peer group. In addition, Edwards gives a brief history of this special ministry and a view of its future. He also considers spiritual companionship in other religious traditions and their relation to a Christian framework. This new title offers enormous insight and support for both spiritual directors and directees, anyone considering entering spiritual direction, and all those ministers—from pastors to Christian counselors—who so often unexpectedly find themselves in the role of spiritual director.

**Spiritual Direction and the Metamorphosis of Church—Brenda K. Buckwell 2020-11-10** The practices in this easy-to-implement book are for all who are seeking new ways for opening God-sized potential of faith, leadership, and being in community together through the art and practice of spiritual direction. From the most learned to seekers and students of faith looking for authentic community, this book will provide a pathway of discovery through the metamorphosis process of spiritual formation.

**Pursuing God's Will Together—Ruth Haley Barton 2012-04-23** Church boards and other Christian leadership teams have long relied on models adapted from the business world. Ruth Haley Barton, president of the Transforming Center, helps teams transition to a much more fitting model—the spiritual community that practices discernment together.

**Using the Bible in Spiritual Direction—Liz Hoare 2016-01-01** Spiritual direction is increasingly popular among Christians of all mainstream traditions, with demand for directors outstripping supply in many places. And although the Bible is central to the practice of spiritual direction, very little has been published on how best to use it in this form of ministry. Experienced spiritual director Liz Hoare explores the central role the Bible has played in Christian experience, in order to discourage poor, shallow or rigid use of the Bible, which can lead to damage and inhibit spiritual growth.

**Leading a Life with God—Daniel Wolpert 2006-08-01** A group of people who pray together can change the world. A community's deepening prayer life depends on an effective spiritual director. Many are willing to assume this role, but some aspiring guides have trouble making the transition from an individual practice to leading a group. Wolpert demonstrates how personal devotion can evolve into leadership practice. Bestselling spiritual leadership books "provide insights from secular leadership disciplines and then add a paragraph about how these disciplines should be 'led by the Spirit,'" writes Wolpert. "I have yet to find a resource describing in depth how to be led by the Spirit. Such is the purpose of this volume." Leading a Life with God grew out of Wolpert's previous book, Creating a Life with God, which focuses on different prayer practices and how individuals can integrate them into their personal devotions. Like his previous title, Leading a Life with God focuses on prayer that offers ways to discern God's calling and introduces you to historical figures who best illuminate each practice. These include: the Jesus Prayer, the examen, contemplative prayer, praying the Bible and more.

**Making the Most of Spiritual Direction—Antonio P. Villahoz 2017-03-31** Making the most of spiritual direction is more than simply an ongoing conversation with a spiritual director. It is a life choice that could be a key to spiritual growth in any stage of our lives. Villahoz suggests that the practice of spiritual direction is an ongoing dialogue with a spiritual director that is deeply rooted in the Christian tradition. This ongoing conversation helps us to keep in touch with our true selves and to have a deeper understanding of our relationship with God.

**Charismatic Leadership and Spiritual Direction—Julius Rogina 1976**

**Strengthening Spirit-Releasing Potential—Bernadette Miles 2021-02-09** Have you ever wondered what releasing spiritual potential in the workplace might do for your organization? In today's climate of colossal and incredibly fast global change, the world needs new ways to develop discerning leaders to consciously lead our community of life into the future. Though there are many books on leadership, they rarely engage the importance and relevance of spiritual development and spiritual accompaniment in organizational discernment and leadership development. Spiritual formation through spiritual direction has the potential to transform the way we lead organizations in secular and religious settings. Drawing on the wisdom and experience of leaders and spiritual directors, this book, first, broadens our understanding of how spiritual direction can be a resource for leadership and organizational development; second, supports spiritual directors in developing their corporate practice and their understanding of the relevance of spiritual direction for a wider community.

**Life Together in Christ—Ruth Haley Barton 2014-10-30** We've all been led down by so-called community. Why is it so hard for us to connect and grow together for the long haul? Veteran spiritual director Ruth Haley Barton helps us get personal and practical about experiencing transformation together. This interactive guide allows us to grow through and by the experience of transforming community.

**Invitation to Retreat—Ruth Haley Barton 2018-09-19** When we choose retreat we make a generous investment in our friendship with Christ. Seasoned spiritual director Ruth Haley Barton gently and eloquently leads you on an exploration of retreat as a key practice that opens us to God, guiding us through seven invitations to retreat. You will discover how to say yes to God's welcome invitation to greater freedom and surrender.

**Seeking God Together—Alice Fryling 2009-10-20** Experienced spiritual director Alice Fryling presents an overview of what group spiritual direction is and how it is practiced, offering practical step-by-step guidance for those who would like to start, lead or participate in group spiritual direction.

**Invitation to Solitude and Silence—Ruth Haley Barton 2009-08-20** Much of our faith and practice is about words—preaching, teaching, talking with others. Yet all of these words are not enough to take us into the real presence of God. This book is an invitation to meet God deeply and fully through solitude and silence. This expanded edition includes a guide for groups to use for both discussion group and personal use.
Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father’s Love
Fr. Boniface Hicks 2017
The need for spiritual direction—or the accompaniment of a spiritual guide—is becoming more prominent in a world where so many are suffering from so many wounds. With a harmonious integration of both timeless spiritual wisdom from the Catholic Church’s tradition of prayer and direction, and the insight of the psychological sciences, Fathers Thomas Acklin and Boniface Hicks offer a comprehensive guide for all who provide or seek spiritual direction. Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father’s Love fortifies priests, religious, and lay faithful who embrace the ministry of spiritual direction and accompany the wounded, assist men and women in hearing the voice of God, and model the love and mercy of the Father for the many who are seeking Him but do not know Him or have false images of Him. This book also shows how various aspects of the spiritual life can emerge from and be fostered by a one-on-one relationship with a spiritual director. Together with concrete guidelines and numerous examples from personal experience, this book refers extensively to Sacred Scripture as the foundation for spiritual direction. Furthermore, since the practice of spiritual direction goes back to the first centuries of the Church, the authors turn for guidance to the Doctors of the Church, the writings of the saints, and the papal magisterium in developing and supporting their insights. Spiritual Direction will call spiritual directors to deeper holiness even as they assist others in growing closer to the Father through His loving gaze of mercy.

Leadership and Listening
Donald E. Zimmer 2011-06-22
Church leaders must fundamentally change the way they view leadership, governance, and management in their organizations if they are to take seriously the need to listen to God’s desires before acting. In Leadership and Listening, readers will find encouragement and specific suggestions for re-imagining church governance and management. Zimmer observes that the contemporary church is rooted in both the kingdom of God and the systems and cultures of government and business. Most people who serve in governing and management roles in the church in the United States today have been formed in the corporate world and acculturated to parliamentary process. As a result, many church governing boards are about ‘business,’ rather than their primary task: discerning God’s desires for the part of the church they serve. Through research with more than one hundred church leaders, Zimmer learned that the church and the business community possess many insights and resources that can help boards shift toward a focus on seeking first the desires of God’s heart and then responding effectively. By drawing on the guidance Zimmer offers, a church board can transform itself from a group that manages the day-to-day affairs of the church to one that makes listening, prayer, worship, reflection, and community the first priority.

Starting Something New
Beth A. Booram 2015-04-05
Do you have a creative, Spirit-inspired idea stirring within you but have little or no idea how to nurture and realize that dream? Drawing from her own life-changing experience and the stories of others, spiritual director Beth Booram has written this book to guide you through the spiritual process of identifying and acting on your God-given dream.

Anglican Spiritual Direction
Peter Ball 2007
Looks at some of the leading figures from the past to illustrate the roots and development of Anglican spiritual direction: George Herbert, Lancelot Andrews, John Wesley, Somerset Ward, and Evelyn Underhill. This book was first published as "Journey Into Truth."

Spiritual Companioning
Angela H. Reed 2015-10-06
Among the smiling faces in church on Sunday mornings are those who long for deeper, more genuine relationships within their local congregations—active, intentional relationships that nurture the soul and encourage personal encounters with God. Drawing on decades of experience in spiritual direction, congregational ministry, and seminary teaching, this book offers a clear and rich introduction to the theology and practice of spiritual companioning in the Protestant tradition. The authors explore the topic in a biblically based and historically informed manner and give practical help for cultivating spiritual relationships in congregations and beyond, using stories throughout to illustrate key ideas. Discussion questions are included.

Spiritual Leadership
J. Oswald Sanders 2017-07-04
Over 1 million copies sold What every church will always need The need for talented, vigorous leaders in the church cannot be overemphasized. Such times demand active service of men and women who are guided by and devoted to Jesus Christ. With more than 1 million copies sold, Spiritual Leadership stands as a proven classic for developing such leadership. J. Oswald Sanders, a Christian leader for nearly seventy years and author of more than forty books, presents the key principles of leadership in both the temporal and spiritual realms. He illustrates his points with examples from Scripture and biographies of eminent men of God, such as Moses, Nehemiah, the apostle Paul, David Livingstone, Charles Spurgeon, and others. Featured topics include: The cost of leadership The responsibility of leadership Tests of leadership The qualities and criteria of leadership The art of reproducing leaders The one indispensable requirement of leadership Sanders holds that even natural leadership qualities are God-given, and their true effectiveness can only be reached when they are used to the glory of God. Let this classic be your guide for leadership, and watch how God works through you to do great things for His glory.

Journey of the Soul
Bill and Kristi Gaultiere 2021-02-16
The healthy Christian life is one of continuing spiritual, emotional, and relational growth. But so many of us feel stuck or stagnated at one stage of the journey. It's not always clear to us where or why we are stuck, making it difficult to take the next step on our journey of the soul. That's where Bill and Kristi Gaultiere come in. In decades in private practice as counselors and therapists, they have developed a unique model for growing in grace. In Journey of the Soul, they draw on more than 70,000 hours of providing therapy and spiritual direction to show you how to identify your current stage of faith and the next steps to take based on your unique needs and struggles. With Scripture, self-assessments, and soul care practices to support your progress along the way, this insightful and inspiring book will be a treasured companion on your journey no matter where you are or how long you've been following Jesus.

Enduring Ministry
Samuel D. Rhaberg 2017-01-15
For many Christian leaders, the experience of ministry includes enough conflict and disappointment to soon wear off the patina of one's initial enthusiasm. And yet relief and renewal seems too often out of reach. What happens in this season of ministry is more than a matter of whether or not a Christian leader can persist. It is, in fact, possible for a person to engage the call to maturity at the juncture of discipleship and leadership. Enduring Ministry is designed for those who seek this more durable way forward, one that is infused with grace and inspired by good mission. In Enduring Ministry, Samuel Rhaberg draws on insights from the monastic tradition, the ministry of spiritual direction, and the practice of Christian leadership to support and empower women and men for continued ministries in the church, helping them turn from merely enduring to lasting, effective, and vibrant Christian leadership.

Kindling Desire for God
Kay Bessler Northcutt 2009
While searching for a model of preaching that is apt for our postmodern moment, Kay Northcutt respectfully eschews earlier models and suggests the what of preaching should consist in spiritual formation or the practice of spiritual direction. Taking an evocative, rather than how-to, approach, Northcutt notes the gaps created by earlier models and makes a case not only for framing preaching as an attractive art but also for understanding the preachers authority as religious in nature. The author provides readers with a new paradigm for developing their own homiletical discipline.

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Looks at some of the leading figures from the past to illustrate the roots and development of Anglican spiritual direction: George Herbert, Lancelot Andrews, John Wesley, Somerset Ward, and Evelyn Underhill. This book was first published as "Journey Into Truth."

The Need for Spiritual Direction—or the accompaniment of a spiritual guide—is becoming more prominent in a world where so many are suffering from so many wounds. With a harmonious integration of both timeless spiritual wisdom from the Catholic Church’s tradition of prayer and direction, and the insight of the psychological sciences, Fathers Thomas Acklin and Boniface Hicks offer a comprehensive guide for all who provide or seek spiritual direction. Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father’s Love fortifies priests, religious, and lay faithful who embrace the ministry of spiritual direction and accompany the wounded, assist men and women in hearing the voice of God, and model the love and mercy of the Father for the many who are seeking Him but do not know Him or have false images of Him. This book also shows how various aspects of the spiritual life can emerge from and be fostered by a one-on-one relationship with a spiritual director. Together with concrete guidelines and numerous examples from personal experience, this book refers extensively to Sacred Scripture as the foundation for spiritual direction. Furthermore, since the practice of spiritual direction goes back to the first centuries of the Church, the authors turn for guidance to the Doctors of the Church, the writings of the saints, and the papal magisterium in developing and supporting their insights. Spiritual Direction will call spiritual directors to deeper holiness even as they assist others in growing closer to the Father through His loving gaze of mercy.
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