

Growing the Small Church in a Consumer Culture

- Session #1: Recognizing the Context--Consumer Culture
- Session #2: Realizing the Advantages of Small Churches
- Session #3: Reaping the Growth Spiritually
- Session #4: Reaping the Growth Relationally
- Session #5: Reaping the Growth Numerically

Debra speaks to the pastor and church leadership and helps them develop a specific plan for their church. The events can include one church or multiple churches.



*Dr. Debra White Smith
The Wesleyan Woman*

Biography

Dr. Debra White Smith is a seasoned author, speaker, pastor, professor, and an ordained elder in the Church of the Nazarene. After many years in national ministry, Debra co-pastored a small church with her husband, Daniel, for over 13 years. Those years in pastoral ministry plus a lifetime of serving in small churches have given Debra a heart for ministering to small churches and their pastors. Therefore, Debra's goal is to equip small-church pastors and leaders to develop vibrant small churches. Debra has earned several graduate degrees, including a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Northwest Nazarene University. She is the author of hundreds of short works and 60 books, resulting in over a million books in print. She currently teaches a continuing education course for small-church pastors at NNU. Debra has two adult children and resides in East Texas with her husband, daughter, and three spoiled cats.

Small-Church Research

Dr. Debra White Smith completed her doctoral dissertation on the topic of the education of small-church pastors, and her findings were published in the reputable journal, *Pastoral Psychology*. Her teaching is based on her research. Small churches of 100 or fewer attendees make up 70% of North American churches, and churches of 50 or fewer attendees make up almost half the churches. These churches exist in the context of a consumer culture, posing a challenge that can be navigated with the right pastoral initiatives and focus. Debra desires to empower small-church pastors and leaders with the tools necessary to navigate their churches to spiritual and organizational health, so small congregations can effectively evangelize their communities.

Booking

Fees: Debra has no set fees and is available to work within your budget or for a love offering, plus travel expenses and boarding.

Availability: Debra limits her national events to once-a-month. Regional events may be more frequent. Debra is also available for Zoom events.



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Topics & Testimonies

Other Topics Include:

Pastoral Burnout

- The Symptoms
- Proactive Measures
- Overcoming It

Church Volunteers

- Seeking a Balance
- Inspiring Commitment
- Ensuring Longevity

Testimonies:

"Debra's teaching totally changed my perspective on the importance of small churches and made me realize they aren't failures because they are small," Dr. Norita Sieffert, small-church pastor.

"Debra's small-church concepts are vitally needed and represent decades of experience plus valid scholarly research," Dr. Karl Payton, Mentor to Pastors, SNU Trustee, LeTourneau University Vice-President