

**The
Organic
Church**

Something New

in case you might be interested

We got tired of *attending* “church” and
decided to *be* the CHURCH.

We are Christians.

Our commitment to the Lord is vibrant.

— But —

We got tired of attending

“church” services as passive spectators.

Today we are Christians
gathering in homes.

WHAT IS AN ORGANIC CHURCH?

An organic church is a community of believers who are founded and function upon the daily life of Jesus Christ within them.

As Frank Viola aptly writes:

By "organic church," I mean a non-traditional church that is born out of spiritual life instead of being constructed by human institutions and held together by religious programs. Organic church life is a grass roots experience that is marked by face-to-face community, every-member functioning, open-participatory meetings (opposed to pastor-to-pew services), non-hierarchical leadership, and the centrality and supremacy of Jesus Christ as the functional Leader and Head of the gathering. Put another way, organic church life is the experience of the Body of Christ. In its purest form, it's the fellowship of the Triune God brought to earth and experienced by human beings.

We all know what the term "organic" means. It means 100% natural without any artificial or man-made ingredients added. This is a non-institutional form of church because it is born out of the experience and life of Christ within his people. No man-made structures or programs are necessary or desired.

WHO ARE WE?

We are plain, ordinary, run-of-the-mill Christians. Our backgrounds vary, but our love for the Lord Jesus identifies our hearts and is the basis of our unity.

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

We believe in the mainstream values and Biblical doctrines of Christianity. Our unity is based on our oneness with Christ. Our commitment to each other is also based on the oneness of His Body with Him as Head.

WHAT ARE OUR MEETINGS LIKE?

They are informal, as a family gathering might be. Everyone is free to participate. Our emphases is Jesus Christ. Prayer, singing, testimonies, teachings, sharing revelations, and face-to-face interaction can happen at any time in any meeting. We have discovered that no two meetings are alike. Our meetings are punctuated with lots of fun, camaraderie and, at times, mingled with tears. The Holy Spirit guides and we follow.

ARE WE A MOVEMENT OF SOME KIND?

NO!

Though there is a phenomenon of Christians who are seeking to return to the simplicity of gathering in living rooms like the early Christians did. World wide 112 million Christians do not even attend a traditional church.

A few of the countries where Organic Churches are becoming prolific are:

China	North & South Korea
England	New Zealand
Australia	The European Countries

Though America is lagging behind the rest of the world in developing organic church life, according to George Barna's research, five million Christians across America have chosen to gather in homes. We are experiencing a steady decline in traditional church attendance. Christians are "church-hopping", hoping to find the reality of Christ's headship and the vitality of Body Life.

We are discovering His leadership and Body vitality in our living rooms as we gather to worship, encourage, and build each other up. Are we perfect? Are we always right? Of course not! But we are in process. Together we are discovering freedom in Christ and a unity that supports a practical life of expressing Him.

Our fellowship extends beyond our gathering times and spills over into daily events. We are a community, not a weekly meeting.

WHAT IS OUR MOST DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTIC?

Hopefully, we do not have one.

We do try to keep things simple by keeping Christ central.

We would like to be known for our love for Jesus and one another.

HOW DO WE MAKE DECISIONS?

As a collective body, we decide by consensus.

WHAT IS THE HARDEST THING ABOUT ORGANIC CHURCH?

There is no place to hide. We come to gatherings ready to give! We worship by our participation. We are sharing the totality of our lives with one another, not just meeting once a week. We are becoming a true Christ-centered community.

IS THIS FOR YOU?

Only you can decide. We could not find the intimacy we wanted in our walk with Christ in the institutional setting. We wanted to experience Body life, and could not find it in traditional church services.

We have decided — "It is for us!" Feel free to visit an Organic Church and discover whether or not it is for you.

WHY THIS BOOKLET?

It is three fold:

- to let you know that if you have departed from the mainstream setting of the “Christian religion”, you are not departing from Christ, you are not in rebellion against Him, and you are not alone.
- to expose you to an alternative way of church that you may not be aware of.
- to give you an opportunity to visit with Christians who have departed from the “institutional setting.”

Now it's your decision.

Come and visit us and . . .

“Behold how they love one another.”

One Closing Thought

Every congregation mentioned in the New Testament was an organic church.

For more information about organic churches
in your area contact us below:

For More Resources on Organic Church:
www.HouseChurchResource.org

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