

An Ancient Future

Sort of...

Meet the New Net Results

By Bill Tenny-Brittian

Senior Editor

As I sat down to write this “Welcome” I was torn between metaphors. The DeLorean DMC-12 from *Back to Future* caught my attention. Orwell’s *Time Machine* drifted through my mind. But in ministry I’ve always hearkened back to the book of Acts and the ancient church for today—the Ancient Future Church. The “new” *Net Results* is sort of doing the same thing.

Back when I was much younger and on my way to church planter’s training, my judicatory leader took me aside and told me that one of the best training tools available was this little-known newsletter founded and edited by Herb Miller called *Net Results*. A month or so later the first issue arrived and I discovered my “boss” was right. *Net Results* was chock full of how-to articles written for church leaders. I couldn’t wait for each issue to arrive because I *knew* there’d be something there I could put into practice.

Over the years, *Net Results* taught me how to fine-tune evangelism; how to make the church a welcoming place for first-time and returning guests; how to effectively market the church; how to build ministry teams; how to work with volunteer staff; how to ... well, you get the picture. I learned a lot.

Years later, I started submitting articles to *Net Results* and was always amazed, honored, and excited when they said, “Yes, we’d like to publish your article.” I held the writers and the staff of *Net Results* in the highest regard; after all, they were publishing the longest running (and most helpful) evangelism and church growth magazine in the nation.

And so, it is with great delight that I have been tapped to be the new Senior Editor of *Net Results*. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought I’d rise to such an auspicious post. But here I am with a commitment to you, the faithful readers and practitioners in the faith.

Now, about that commitment. I’m committed that *Net Results* will be the most practical how-to evangelism and church growth magazine. Period. We’re already published on two continents and recently we entered into conversation with a third. In addition, I’m committed to making *Net Results* a magazine that is focused on the needs of church leadership—all church leadership: the pastor; the staff; and the backbone of the church—the unsung heroes of the faith who give unceasingly of their time, talent, treasure, and testimony: the non-professional church leaders (AKA the laity).

To that end, this month we’ve got some great how-to articles from some great church leaders. Bill Easum, my personal mentor in the church, reminds us that the church will only go forward when we major on the majors in “Back to Basics.” Paul Nixon, author of *I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church*, shares the five E’s of “Worship that Works.” And speaking of worship, Cathy Townley gives us “Ten Worship Tips for Every Church.” And there’s much more. From leadership recruitment and development to taking care of yourself, this issue offers some new and renewed tools for your leadership toolbox. I think we’re off to a great start!

If you have comments, questions, or suggestions, please don’t hesitate to contact me at billtb@NetResults.org.

Tenny-Brittian is the new Senior Editor of *Net Results*. He joins an elite group of editors in an unbroken line of succession from Herb Miller. Bill is an ordained Disciples of Christ minister, a church planter, pastor, author, and a Senior Consultant with Easum, Bandy, and Associates. He lives in Columbia, Missouri with the Rev. Dr. Kris Tenny-Brittian.

