

RIPPLES OF
Transformation



2018 | IMPACT REPORT

BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

"Our communities are becoming more and more vibrant with color and ethnic diversity, youthful energy and fresh perspectives interacting with mature experience and wisdom."

1

1. Continue offering the Transforming Community® experience, guiding leaders in establishing sacred rhythms for ongoing transformation and long-term sustainability.

2. Redesign and enlarge staffing model to accommodate our vision for the future—starting with hiring a Chief Operations Officer.

3. Reimagine Transforming Community 15 and beyond to draw a more diverse generation of emerging leaders

- by providing scholarships to draw emerging and under-resourced pastors
- to call forth young leaders for the future of the Church and the Transforming Center
- to continue developing creative academic partnerships

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4. Upgrade and redesign website and promotional materials to better communicate to a younger and more diverse audience.

5. License a version of the Transforming Community experience (including recorded teachings) that would enable us

- to equip leaders to take this time-tested learning experience back to their churches
- to make it possible to “go regional” as God leads

6. Expand spiritual direction ministries in order to

- provide supervision and professional development for current spiritual directors
- proactively cultivate and train new directors prepared specifically to work with us in meeting the soul-care needs of pastors and leaders—including Sabbatical guidance

3

7. Nurture the Transforming Church® Initiative by

- continuing program development
- producing published resources
- cultivating the Transforming Church network
- developing a cadre of coaches and consultants
- providing subsidies for leadership groups

8. As part of the Transforming Church Initiative, plant a transforming church to

- provide those local to the Transforming Center an opportunity to worship together regularly
- be a model for the kind of church we are championing
- provide a lab for continued learning
- become a teaching church where pastors and leaders can learn with us

4

9. Transforming Travel® to provide

- pilgrimages that will give leaders an opportunity to “go farther” in their faith journeys and “go deeper” in the themes and practices they have experienced in Transforming Community
- serving trips to foster mutually-influencing relationships with pastors and ministries in other parts of the world to share hope, help, and encouragement

10. Retreat Center (8-12 rooms) on property with Transforming Center offices, enabling us to

- establish a setting for spiritual direction ministries
- offer a variety of retreat options for individuals (silent retreats, private directed retreats, preached retreats)
- welcome boards, elders, and other leadership groups for guided retreats

5



The growth and development of human relationships depends, in large part, upon our ability to communicate effectively for the purpose of deepening our understanding and commitment. It is in the rhythm of speaking and listening, giving and receiving that human relationships take shape and become meaningful.

You are receiving this ministry report because you are important to us and our relationship with you really matters. You have caught the vision God gave us for building a Bridge to the Future, supporting us with your prayers, your service, and your financial participation this past year. For this we are most grateful!

2018 has been a big year as we have sought to be faithful in walking across the Bridge to the Future God is building. We are as committed as ever to leading Transforming Communities—now with an emphasis on reaching a younger and more diverse generation of pastors, leaders, and influencers. We have three Transforming Communities going at once, and if you were to visit us you would notice that they are becoming more and more vibrant with color and ethnic diversity, youthful energy and fresh perspectives interacting with mature experience and wisdom. Our move to the Q Center in St. Charles has enabled us to welcome more participants and provide comfortable retreat accommodations. We have re-envisioned our staffing model and hired new staff—with more on the way. And we have recently completed a rebranding process that has resulted in a bold new look, compelling promotional materials, and an evocative website with new functionalities.

All of these efforts are foundational to the work that is ahead as we continue to envision and cultivate the *Transforming Church*® Initiative, publish more *Transforming Resources*®, re-envision spiritual direction ministries, and search out a new home for the TC that would combine more office space with a retreat center for hosting leaders and leadership groups. There is much to pray about and look forward to as we continue to walk into our future. Our deep desire is that you would continue to walk with us in mutually-influencing relationships that will strengthen us all!

Many of you have been gracious enough to share with us how the ministry of the Transforming Center is strengthening the soul of your leadership—whether it be through participating in a *Transforming Community*®, listening to a podcast, engaging with *Transforming Resources*, or bringing your leadership team to a *Transforming Church*® event. Such sharing strengthens our relationship each and every time. Now it is our turn to keep the rhythm of communication going by offering information and perspective on how God is at work among us. We hope you are blessed to see how your support is contributing to this kingdom effort.

Sharing the journey together,

Founder and CEO

Your generosity makes our impact possible

We'd love to hear from you! If you would like to pass along a comment or question about our report, share your thoughts with David Hughes at dhughes@transformingcenter.org, or 630-588-8133, ext. 304. Feel free to ask for a follow-up call if there is anything you would like to discuss.



Visit our new site at transformingcenter.org

RETREATS & RELATIONSHIPS

Through prayer and intentional efforts, *Transforming Community*® 15 represents significant steps towards a community experience that mirrors the diversity of the body of Christ. As we welcomed this new community in July, we witnessed almost immediately the richness and vitality that comes with diversity. While we still have a long way to go, these first steps have created a stronger ministry team and a community that is more beautiful and engaged than ever before.

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY 15 (TC15) HAS 117 RETREATANTS OUR LARGEST COMMUNITY TO DATE

Diversity of Race



Diversity of Vocational Leadership



Diversity of Age
(% under 50 years of age)



“Transforming Community became for me a spiritual container by which I felt carried, cared for and loved. The practical tools gained

for tending to my soul deepened all my relationships and healed my grieving heart. I cannot imagine just how I did life before!”

**DANIELE EVANS (TC13),
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR**

“Not only did the [Pursuing God’s Will Together] Summit renew our leaders by offering us an invitation to continual spiritual transformation, it gave us practical steps needed to immediately begin incorporating spiritual discernment into our congregational visioning and decision-making. As a result, our team is now better aligned to lead from a place of abundance and many in our church have joined us as we walk towards a more meaningful spiritual journey.”



**ALEX GALLIMORE (TC12), SENIOR PASTOR
BAYSHORE BAPTIST CHURCH**





"Because I'm a pastor by vocation, I derived my identity and significance from my ability to give. Over the years, I began to ignore my soul and my body. I was angry and felt under-appreciated. I came to TC discouraged and frustrated. I knew that something was wrong but I couldn't even say what it was. TC has made me a new person, a stronger person, more able to deal with my own false self. I wholeheartedly recommend this community to every Christian leader that I know!"

**PAUL LAM (TC12), CHURCH LIFE AND LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATE
CANADIAN BAPTISTS OF ONTARIO AND QUEBEC**

NEW SPACE AND NEW RELATIONSHIPS BROUGHT REFRESHING CHANGES AND TRANSFORMING INVITATIONS

After outgrowing our beloved Marytown, we began the search for a new venue. Our search eventually led us to the Q Center in St. Charles, where we could welcome and provide more comfortable retreat accommodations for all.

The space is beautiful – the lodging, the grounds, the food! But, helping a business conference center understand what it means to be on retreat has been no small feat.

Our retreatants were gracious as we found our way — negotiating logistics, building our business relationships with Q staff into friendships and an abundance of hard work and prayer. Now with a few retreats behind us this large corporate space has been made to feel more intimate and sacred.

"Personal tragedy placed me in a challenging season of life in 2016, and I joined TC12 in desperation. I had tormenting questions that weren't directly answered, but instead received steadfast support and compassion. God's grace abounded, and I experienced God's presence in a new and profound way. My community assisted me in bearing a burden that seemed too heavy. I was now living Paul's words: "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

**ELIZABETH LONG (TC12)
LICENSED CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR**



2018 Ministry Highlights

- Welcomed 1,012 retreatants
- Led fifteen retreats and cared for leaders in 3 communities
- Commissioned 65 transforming leaders at conclusion of TC13 in November.
- Intentionally increased the number and diversity of liturgists to enrich our liturgical experience.
- *Pursuing God's Will Together*-Discernment Retreat in March 2018: Several teams shared with us that the discernment process we led them through was critical in navigating difficult situations in their church.
- Alumni Retreat: *A Spirituality of Race* led by David Bailey. This retreat was a stake-in-the-ground event deepening our commitment to transforming communities that are reconciling communities.

**VISIT TRANSFORMINGCENTER.ORG/IMPACT
TO READ MORE TESTIMONIES**

RESOURCES

Transforming Resources® continues to guide leaders and their communities in experiencing spiritual transformation.



Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership podcast is ministering to leaders in many surprising ways:

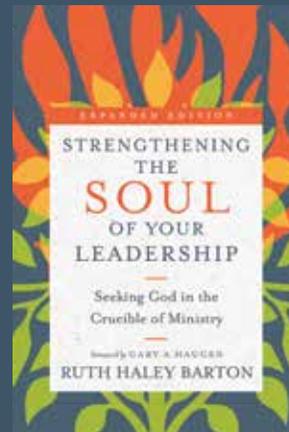
- **Encourages leaders to stay on the journey of transforming leadership.** Many alumni have shared that it serves as a refresher course.
- **Promotes the *Transforming Community* experience.** We regularly receive applicants who indicate that they heard about the community through the podcast.
- **Resources leaders.** Leaders regularly forward podcasts to teams and other leaders to start conversations about transforming leadership.

Transforming Resources online store revenue grew 85% in 2018 over 2017.

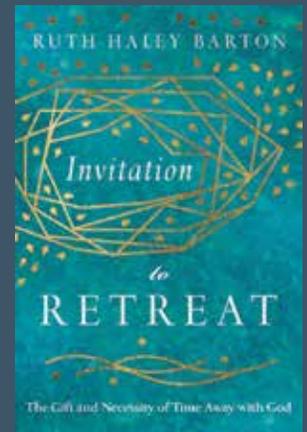


- COMMUNITY
- DISCIPLESHIP
- LEADERSHIP
- SPIRITUAL FORMATION

11 volumes now published with InterVarsity Press



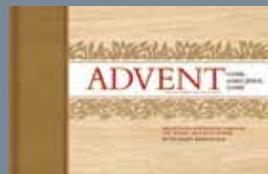
Expanded Edition launched in April 2018. This evergreen *Transforming Resource* has been an IVP bestseller since it was published in 2008. The edition is reaching a new generation of leaders.



Ruth Haley Barton's newest book launched in September 2018 and immediately made IVP's Best Seller list.

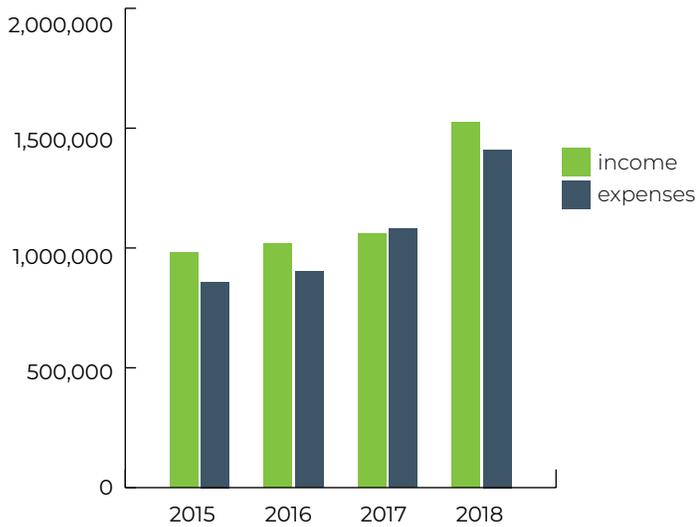
Guiding leaders and communities through the church calendar continues to grow. Our exclusive *Seasons of Transformation: Resources for the Church Year* reaches people through

- blog posts
- self-published resources
- music
- social media



Advent Reflections sales increased 54% over the year before; we are resourcing whole communities with 200% growth in 100 packs.

2018 FINANCIALS



54%
increase in donations support in 2018

130 new recurring donors in 2018 supporting the podcast

INCOME

Book, DVD & CD Sales	\$109,819
Donations & Contributions	\$652,428
Other Income	\$3,473
Program Revenue	\$757,535

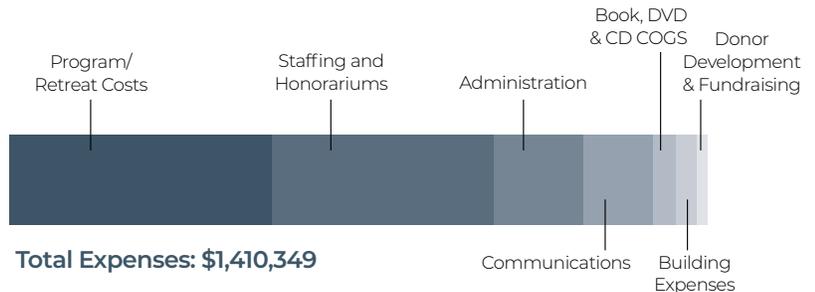
EXPENSES

Book, DVD & CD COGS	\$47,926
Program/Retreat Costs	\$529,441
Building Expenses	\$40,920
Communications	\$139,853
Administration	\$180,513
Donor Development & Fundraising	\$22,775
Staffing and Honorariums	\$448,921

Net income: \$112,906



Total income: \$1,523,255



Total Expenses: \$1,410,349



TRANSFORMING GIFT CREATES ENDOWMENT FUND FOR SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2018

Transforming Community alumna, Anjali Seth Nayak (TC8) gave the Transforming Center's first estate gift. In keeping with Anjali's wishes, the money will be set up as an endowment fund, and the annual income will be used to provide scholarship funds to help those, especially minorities in the Chicago area, who need financial assistance to attend a *Transforming Community*. Search for "Nayak" on our blog to read more about her transforming impact story.

We are championing a new reality for the church and living it into existence.

We exist to create space for God to strengthen leaders and transform communities. We serve leaders and influencers of purposeful communities – churches, non-profits, and businesses – who long for new rhythms that allow them to flourish in their life and leadership. If we're honest, over time many Christian leaders experience a disconnect between their outer life and their inner life – the presence of God deep within. For this reason, we walk with pastors and leaders, helping them distinguish God's voice beyond all the noise so they can lead from that place.



Strengthening leaders from every denomination and from organizations around the world

INCLUDING:

American Baptist Churches-USA
Anglican
Baptist
Canadian Baptists
Canadian Baptists of Ontario & Quebec
Church of Christ
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Evangelical Free Church of America
Evangelical Covenant Church
Free Methodist
Great Commission Churches
International Justice Mission
Navigators
Nazarene
Non-denominational
Presbyterian Church-USA
Presbyterian
Salvation Army
Southern Baptist Convention
United Methodist Church
Vineyard

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A PCUSA Missional Church
Community



Apply for a *Transforming Community* before May 31, and we will waive your application fee when you use promo code: **TC6397A**

In the frenzy of building families, churches, and ministries, how do we cultivate intimacy with God?

Begin a journey of transforming leadership

A *Transforming Community*[®] is a retreat-based spiritual formation experience over two years. It is designed for pastors, leaders and influencers ready to forge a stronger connection between their soul and their leadership.

Start here: transformingcenter.org/tc
LED BY RUTH HALEY BARTON, AND THE TRANSFORMING CENTER TEAM

