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Adoption of churches is a great countermovement.



4



Understanding the terms



5



Understanding the terms

REVITALIZATION

An attempt to move a church toward greater health using internal resources



6




Understanding the terms

FOSTERING

One church helping another for a defined period of time




7



Understanding the terms

ADOPTION

A healthier church bringing a less healthy church into its family



8



Understanding the terms

Other names used:

REPLANTING
ACQUISITION
MERGER



9



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**TRENDS IN ADOPTION**

Trend #3
One of the factors feeding the increase in horizontal growth



13

**TRENDS IN ADOPTION**

Trend #4
Decreasing resistance to adoption



14

**TRENDS IN ADOPTION**

Trend #5
Complements neighborhood church movement



15



**Back to fostering, the first
cousin of adoption**



16



**Fostering will likely become
a major source of adoption**



17



**Ultimately, adoption is
mostly about relationships**



18



**Getting started in adoption:
Be a source of
encouragement and help**



19



**Prayer: the most
important activity**



20



**Communication is key to
both churches**



21



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