

# THE SURPRISING RETURN OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH



**SAM RAINER**

**2025 NAFWB LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

**SESSION 1**



**YOUR CHURCH ADDRESS IS NOT  
AN ACCIDENT.**



# THE RISE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH:

#1: The reality of real estate

#2: The invisible opportunity: hospitality

#3: Financial sustainability

**#4: Growing bi-vocational and co-vocational ministry**



# THE RISE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH:

#5: Diminishing stigma of small

#6: A return to local preferences

#7: More targeted ministry

**#8: The drive isn't worth it anymore**





**IF GOD CAN SAVE ANY PERSON,  
THEN HE CAN SAVE ANY CHURCH.**





The most *lethal* attitude for a Christian  
(and church) = **I can't.**





The most *lethal* attitude for a Christian  
(and church) = **I can't.**

The most *contagious* attitude = **God can.**

