

Bauer: Editorial  
**EDITORIAL**

Welcome to the final issue of the *Journal of Adventist Mission Studies* for 2023, which presents six resource articles sharing methods, case studies, and practical tips on the use of house churches in Adventist missions. The theme articles begin with an article by Boubakar Sanou on the contextual, theological, and missiological perspectives of house churches in the New Testament, followed by an excellent article by John Holbrook listing principles that have created one of the most successful church planting movements in Adventism that has now grown to the fourth generation. Holbrook reinforces the widely known but little practiced principles of the need for missionaries to quickly step aside and let local people lead and the equally important principle of not cutting the nerve of local stewardship by providing outside resources for reproducing churches in surrounding areas.

Milton Adam's article shares lessons learned over the past 15 years of Simple Church with several links to various Simple Church resources listed throughout the article. Another expert on house churches and the important features needed for a rapidly growing movement is Curtis Sergeant's article on planting rapidly reproducing churches, again with links to various resources.

Peter Roennfeldt shares the importance of using Discovery Bible Reading in house churches and other small group gathering and also shares links to various resources. Monte Sahlin challenges Seventh-day Adventist leaders to rethink various objections some may have to encouraging the growth of house churches as important means for sharing the Good News.

Finally, an appeal for you, the readers of the *Journal of Adventist Mission Studies*, to encourage people who are writing on important issues in mission to send their articles for publication. We need more voices from Asia, Africa, Europe, and Central and South America to be heard. Too often long-time cross-cultural workers who have learned important mission principles have not written anything, thus denying future generations the benefits from their insights and wisdom.

Bruce L. Bauer, editor

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