

Fresh Expressions: Embodying Healing Communities in Everyday Life







CURRENT ATTITUDES TOWARDS CHURCH IN US

20%

Attend church regularly

20%

Don't attend church but say they do

20%

Say they would attend church if invited by a friend

40%

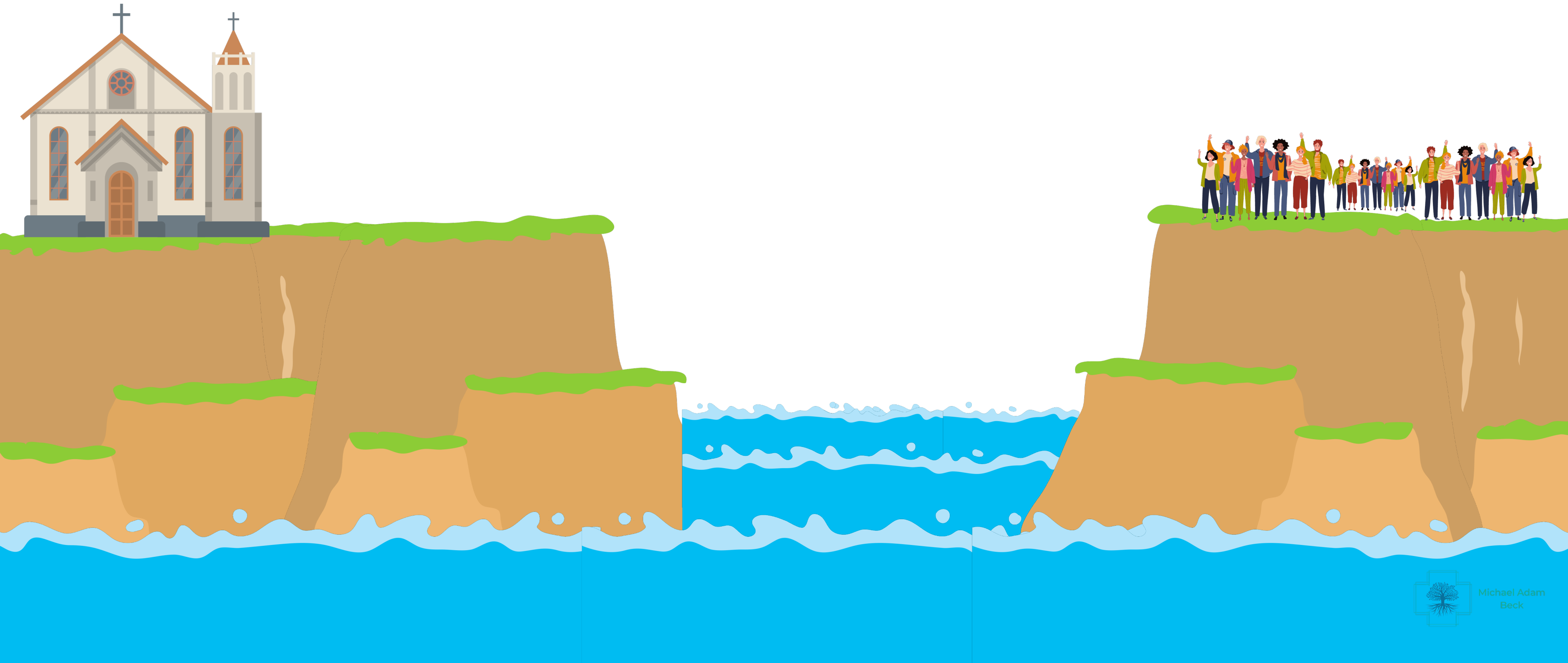
Have no interest in church and won't walk into one on a Sunday AM



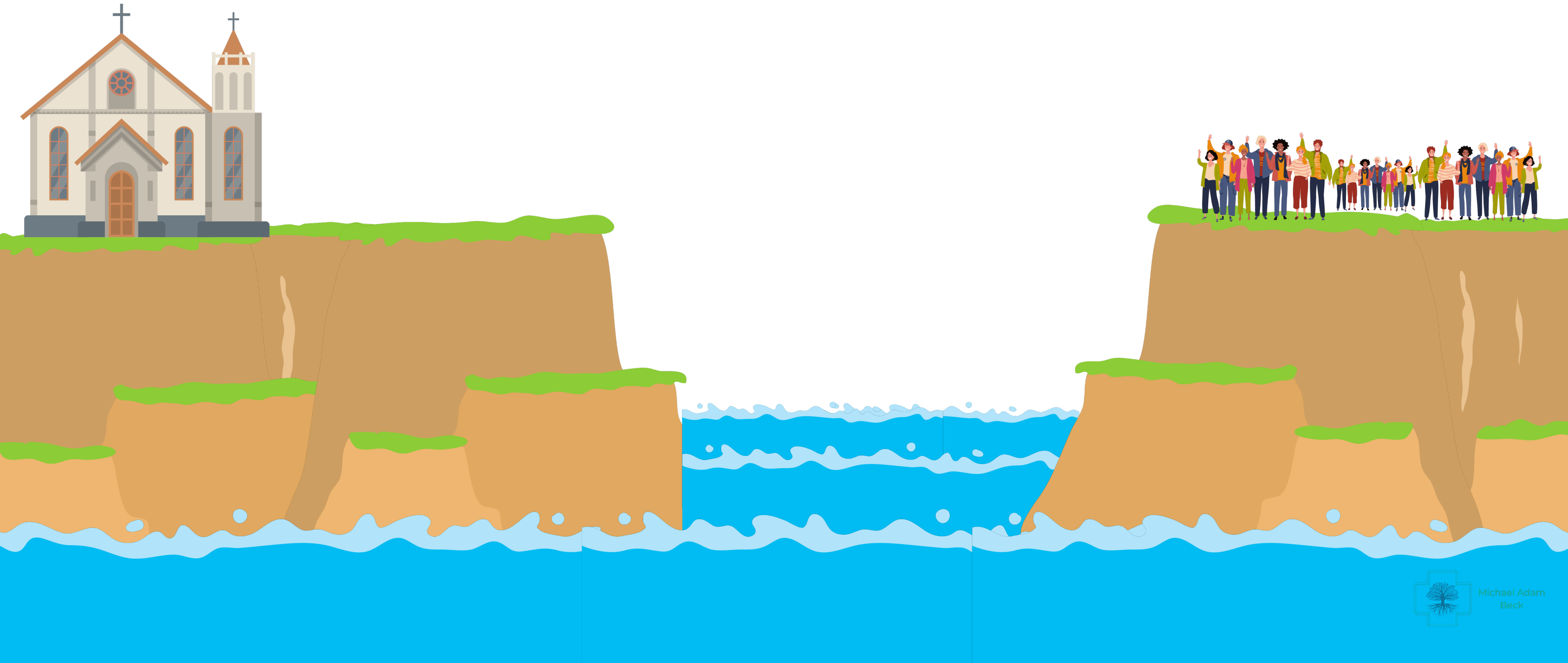
Michael Adam Beck

(Pew Research and American Church Research Project)

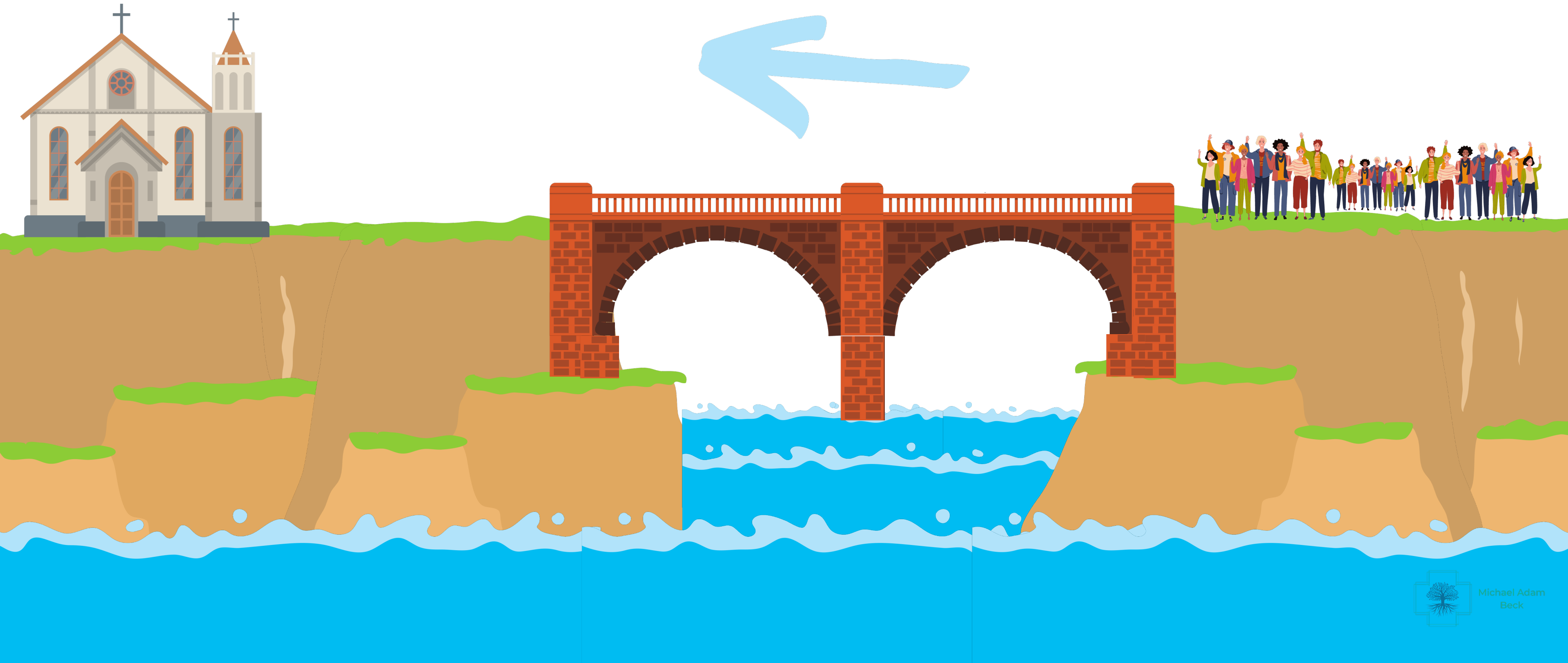
What should the church do?



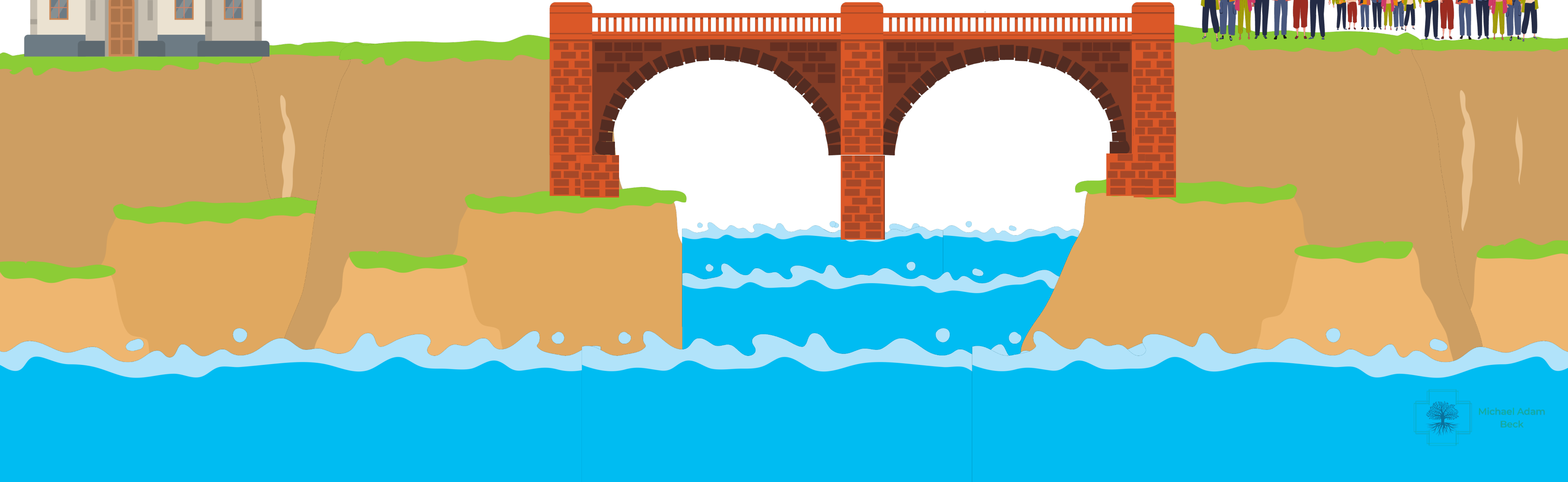
Option 1: Pray and Wait



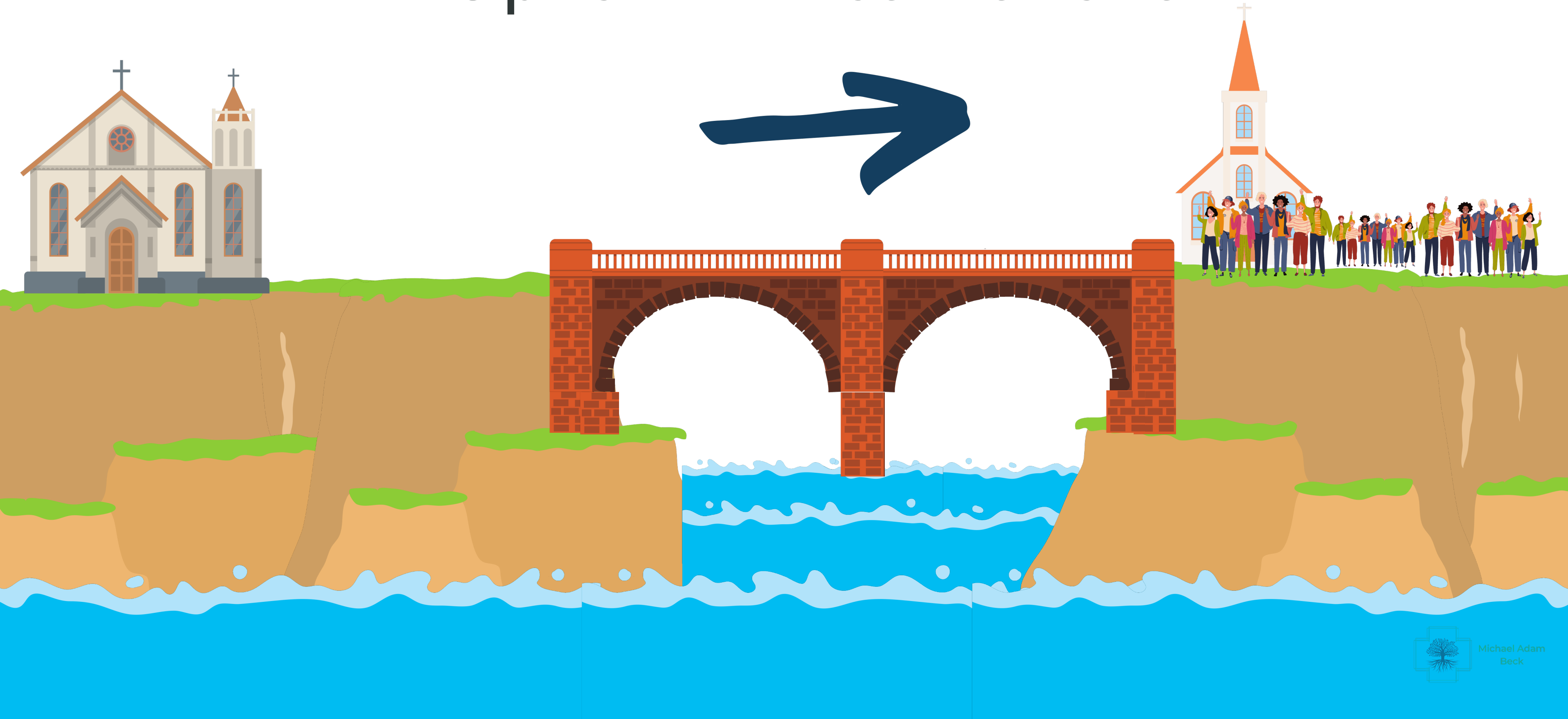
Option 2: Attractional



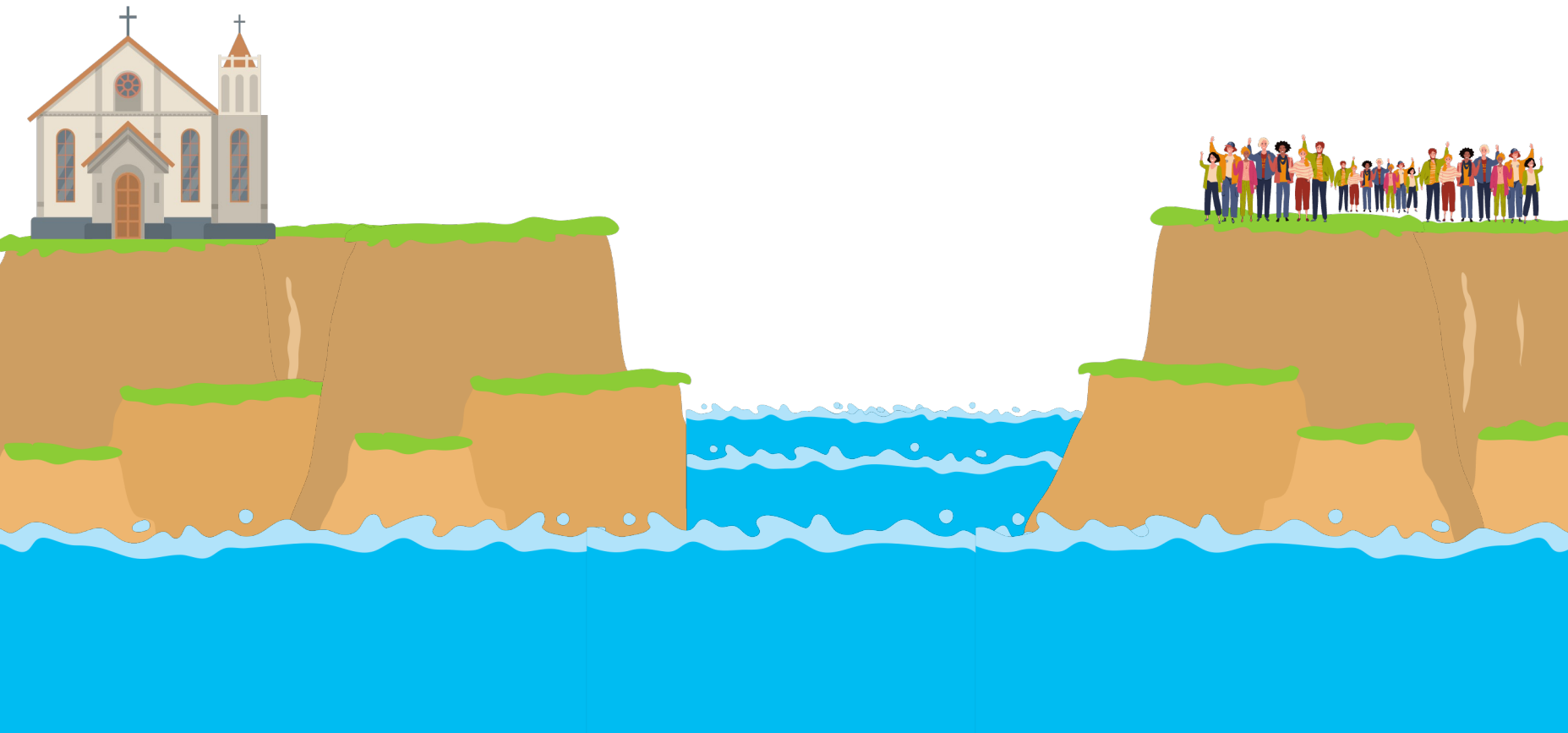
Option 3: Engaged



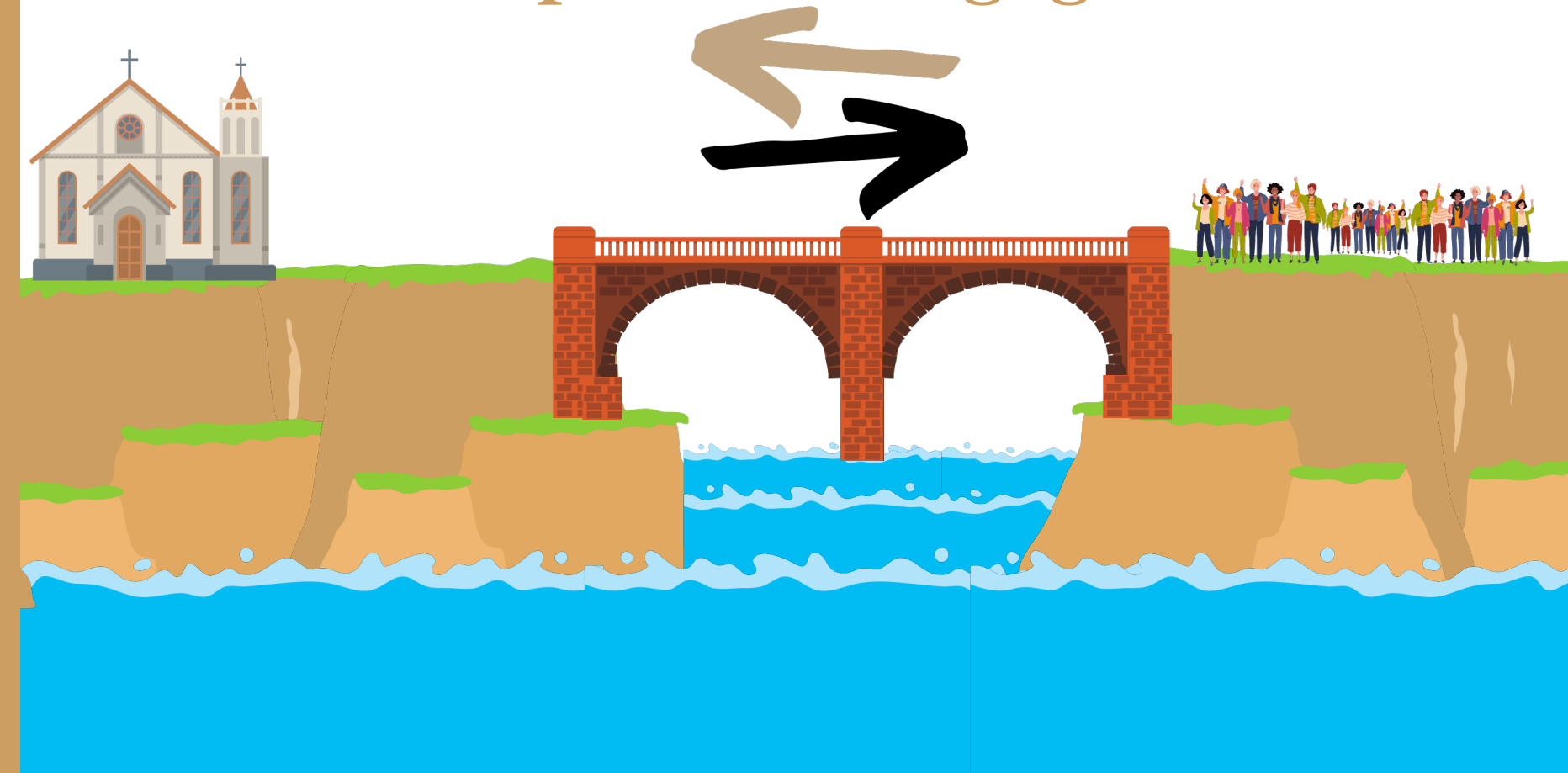
Option 4: Incarnational



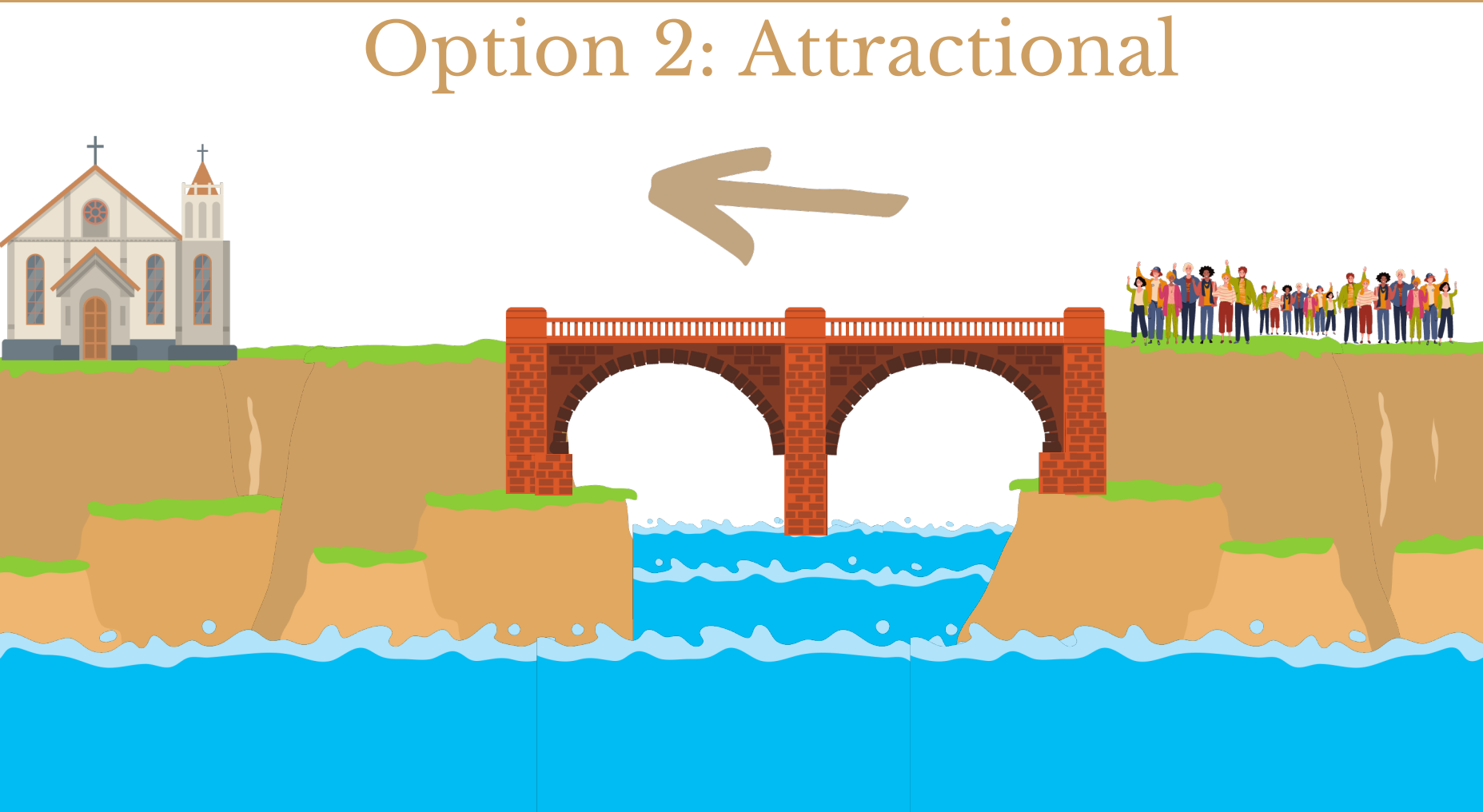
Option 1: Pray and Wait



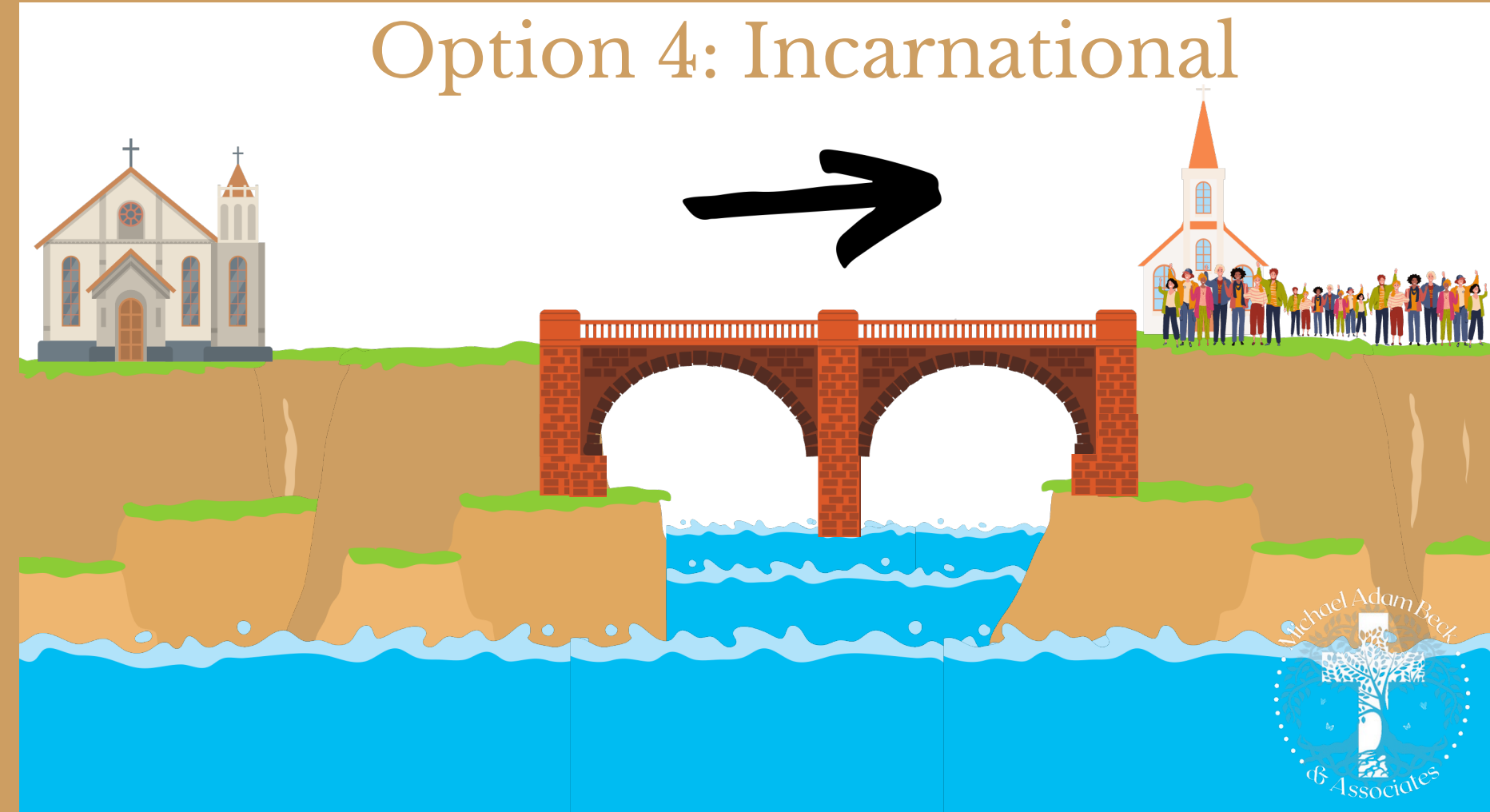
Option 3: Engaged



Option 2: Attractional



Option 4: Incarnational



MATTHEW

9:36



“

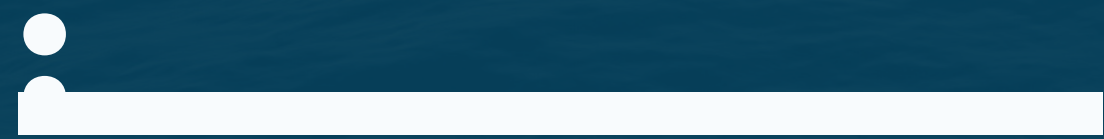
**“WHEN HE SAW THE
CROWDS, HE HAD
COMPASSION
FOR THEM BECAUSE THEY
WERE HARASSED AND
HELPLESS, LIKE SHEEP
WITHOUT A SHEPHERD.”**

MATTHEW 9:36



Michael Adam
Beck

Splanchnizomai



- to be moved as to one's bowels, hence, to be moved with compassion. The bowels were thought to be the seat of love and mercy.





Compassion:

• a sensitivity to suffering in self and others with a commitment to try and alleviate and prevent it

Gilbert, Paul, ed. Compassion: Concepts, Research and Applications. 1 Edition. (London ; New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2017), 11.



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**Includes
cognitive,
affective and
behavioral
processes:**

- 1. Noticing/attending to another's suffering**
- 2. Sensemaking or meaning related to suffering**
- 3. Feelings that resemble empathic concern**
- 4. Actions aimed at easing the suffering**

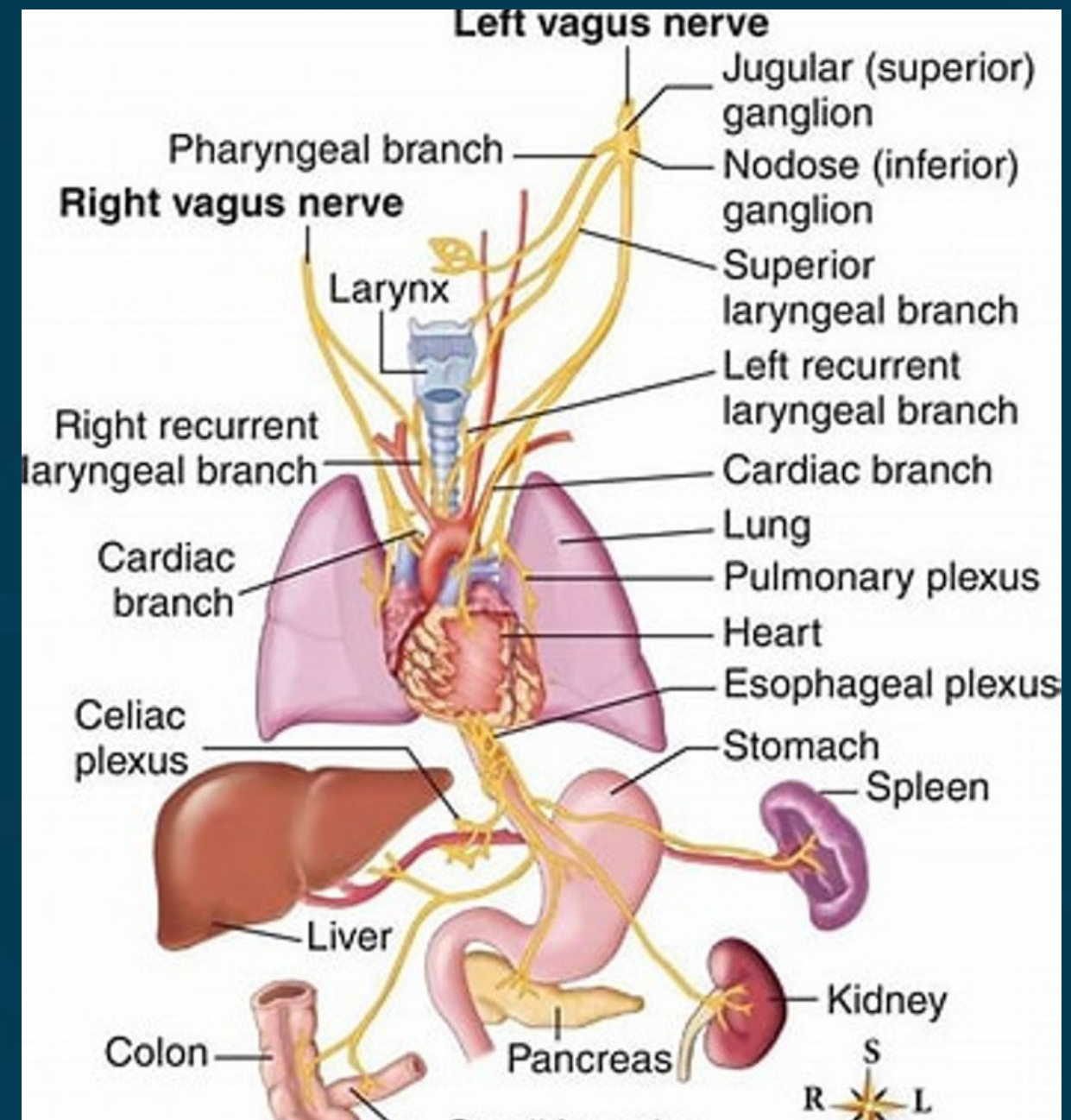
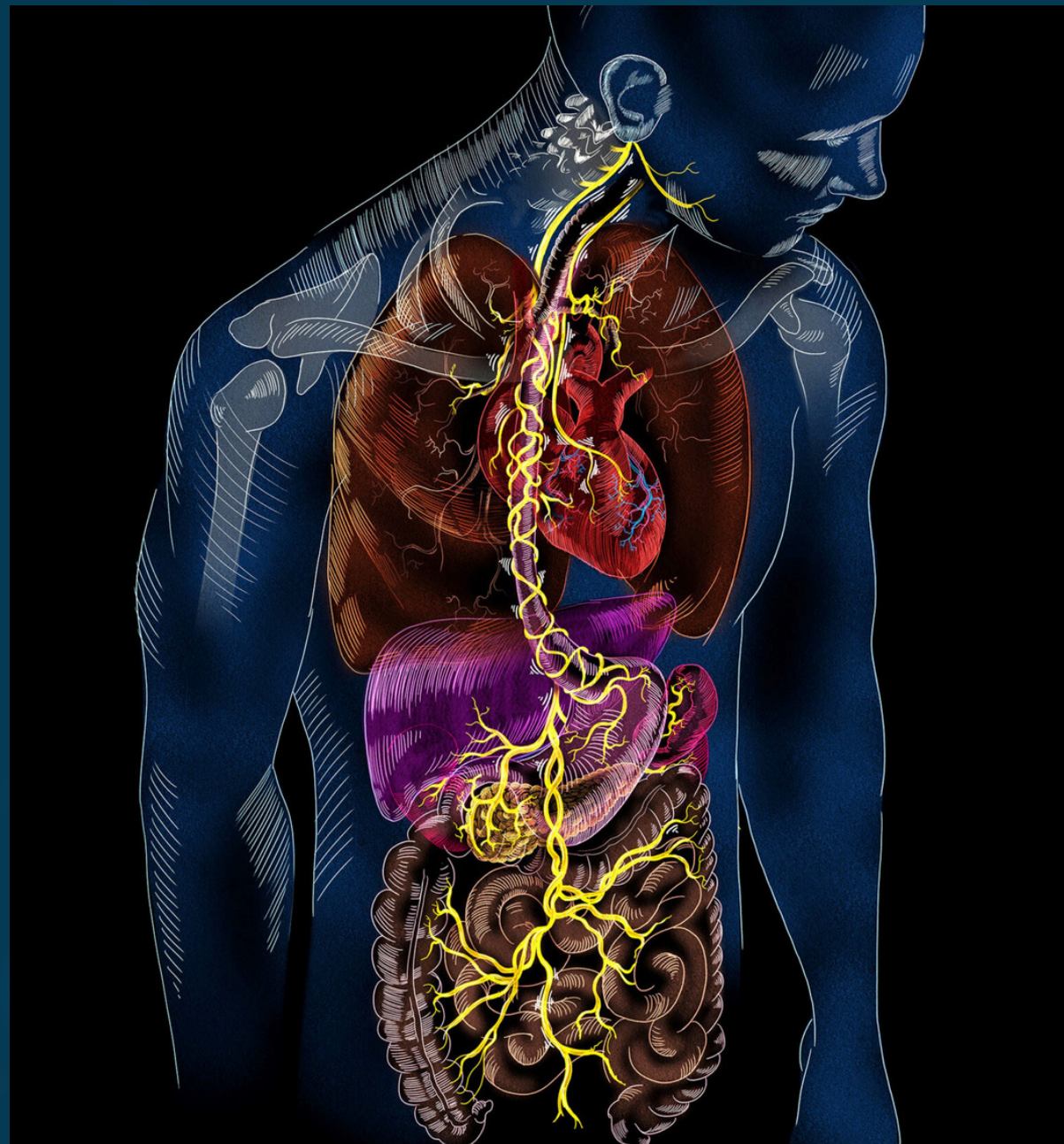
Ibid, Gilbert, 7-8.

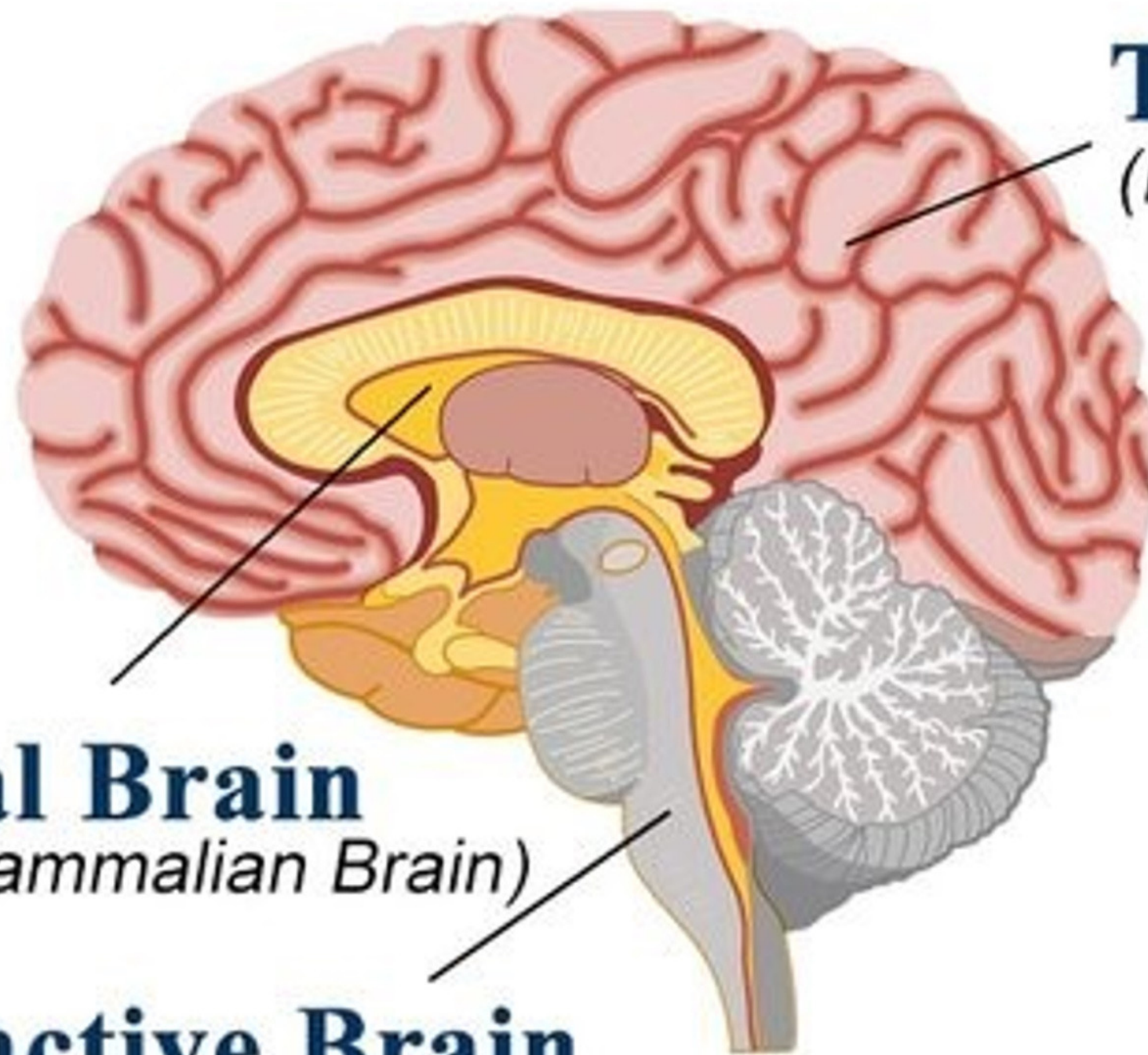


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Splanchnizomai

- to be moved as to one's bowels, hence, to be moved with compassion. The bowels were thought to be the seat of love and mercy.





Thinking Brain
(Neocortex, New Brain)

Emotional Brain
(Limbic System, Mammalian Brain)

Instinctive Brain
(Reptilian Brain, Old Brain)



“The epidemic of loneliness”

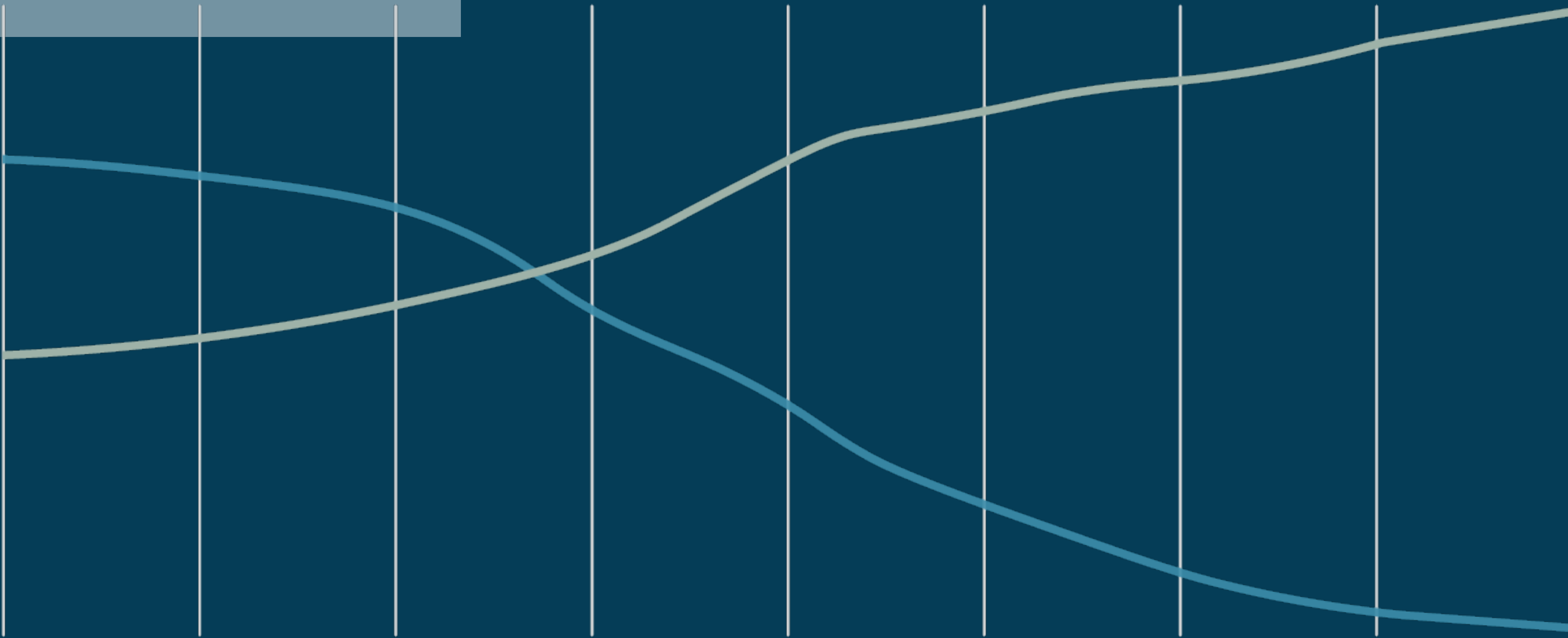
Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation

2023

The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on the
Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community



"Nones"



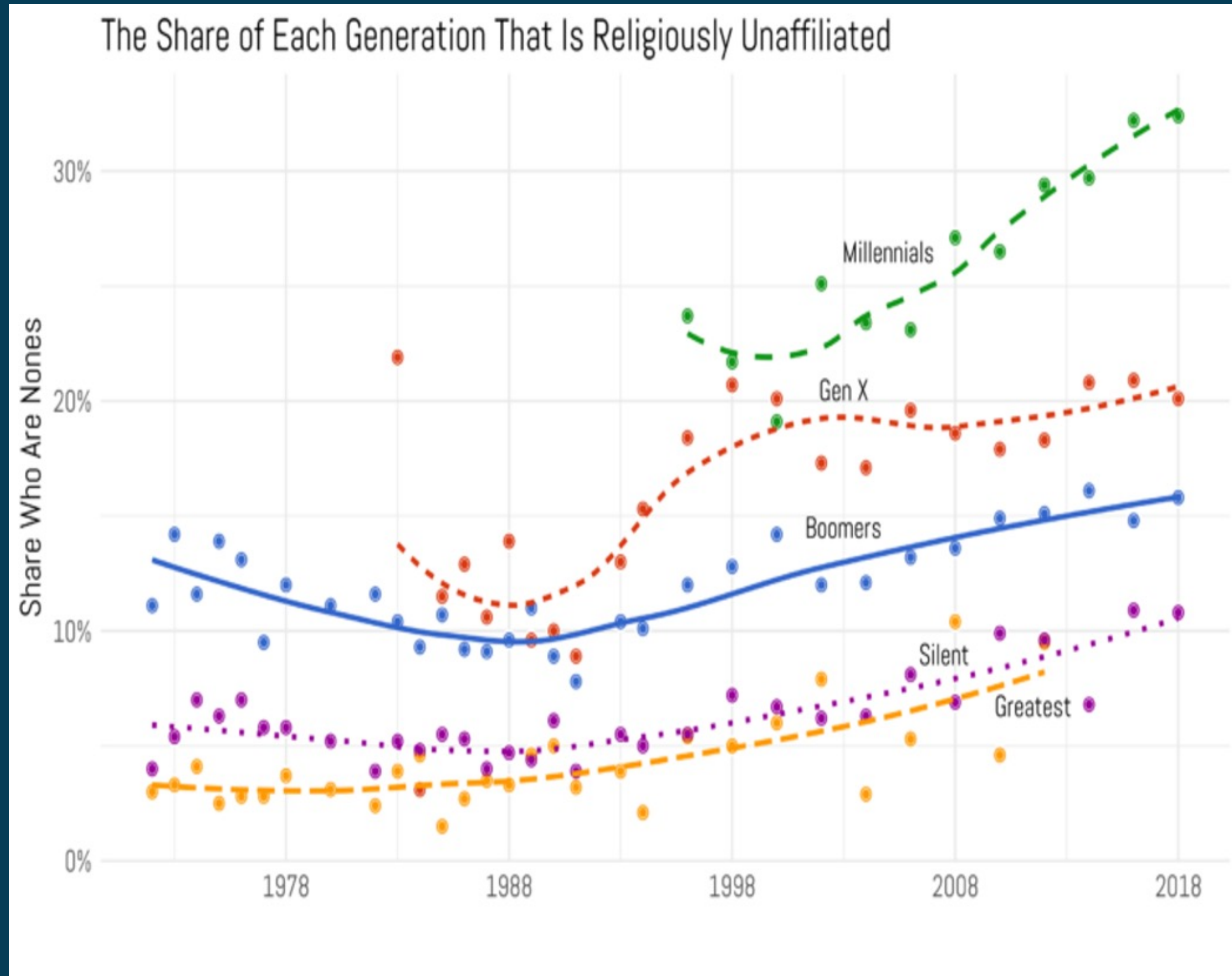
DECLINE IN AFFILIATION
RISE IN SPIRITUALITY

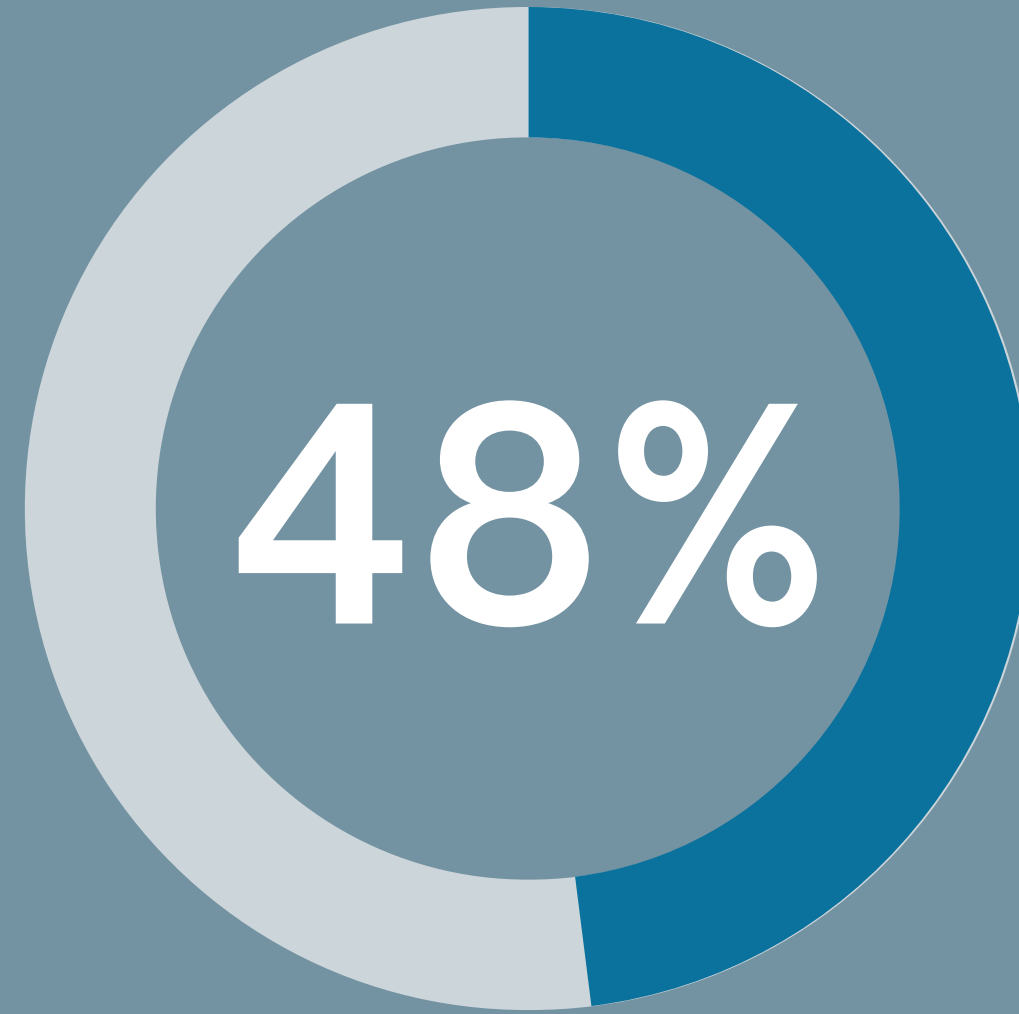


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"Nones" data

Overtime the percentage of "Nones" has grown.





Among Millennials about Half indicate
"No Religious Affiliation"



Only 10% of Christian twenty-somethings had what might be defined as resilient faith.

2 in 3



Nearly two-thirds (64%) of U.S. 18–29 year-olds who grew up in church had withdrawn from church involvement as an adult after having been active as a child or teen



IT'S NOT ABOUT DISINTEREST IN SPIRITUALITY AND FAITH, IT'S A DISCONNECTION WITH EXISTING FORMS OF ENGAGEMENT:

ONLY 22%

OF NONES LISTED "NOT BELIEVING IN GOD" AS THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON FOR THEIR LACK OF AFFILIATION.

(Pew Research "Why American 'nones' don't identify with a religion," 2017)



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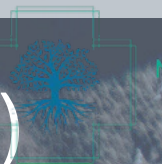
58%

OF YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 13-25: DO NOT LIKE TO BE TOLD ANSWERS ABOUT FAITH AND RELIGION AND WOULD RATHER DISCOVER THEIR OWN ANSWERS.

55%

OF YOUNG PEOPLE: DON'T ATTEND RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL SERVICES BECAUSE THEY DON'T FEEL FREE TO BE WHO THEY ARE IN THOSE KINDS OF GATHERINGS.

(Springtide Research, The State of Religion and Young People, 2021)



Michael Adam Beck

1 in 3

Americans have experienced
religious trauma.

“

Regular church attendance *does not* equate with increased social compassion in church members.

Lenski, 1961; Glock and Stark, 1965; Allport and Ross, 1967; Rokeach, 1969a, 1969b; Christenson, 1976.



Extrinsic Religiosity

Motivated by how religion can be used to satisfy one's own needs.

People in this space use religious participation to achieve security, social status, social connectedness, and so on.

Extrinsic types turn to God without turning away from the self and use religion toward their own ends.

Intrinsic Religiosity

Motivated by guiding principles for how to live with integrity and a meaning endowed framework.

Allport and Ross define the distinction as simply, "the extrinsically motivated person uses their religion, whereas the intrinsically motivated lives their religion"

Allport and Ross, 1967, 434.



THE CHURCH IS EXPERIENCING A TWOFOLD CRISIS OF COMPASSION:

1:

We have largely
failed to form
compassionate
people

2:

Congregations
live in a
perpetual state
of compassion
fatigue



Most people who were once involved in a church and now are not report a negative experience with Christians as their reason for disaffiliation.

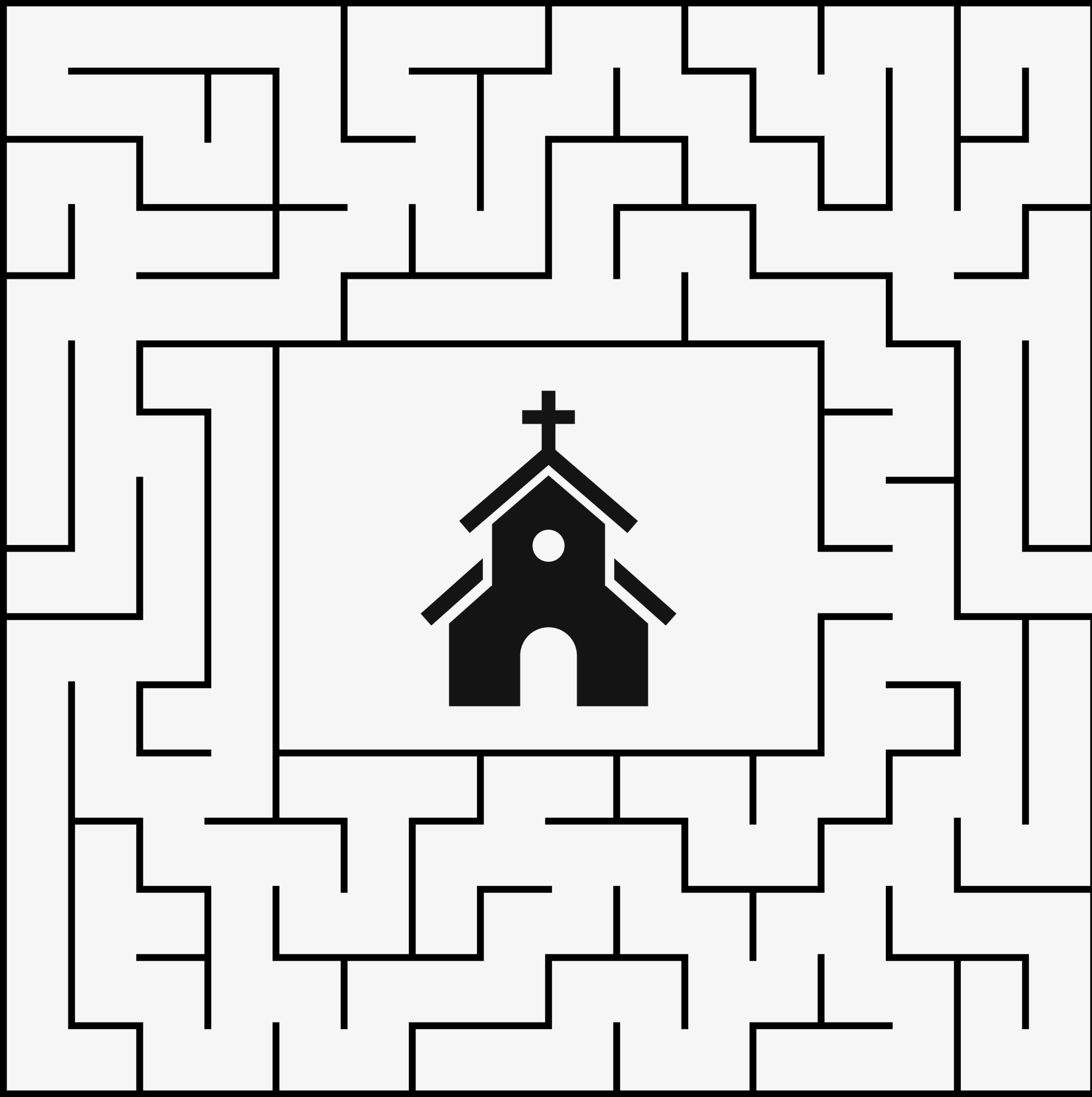
Springtide Research, The State of Religion and Young People, 2021.



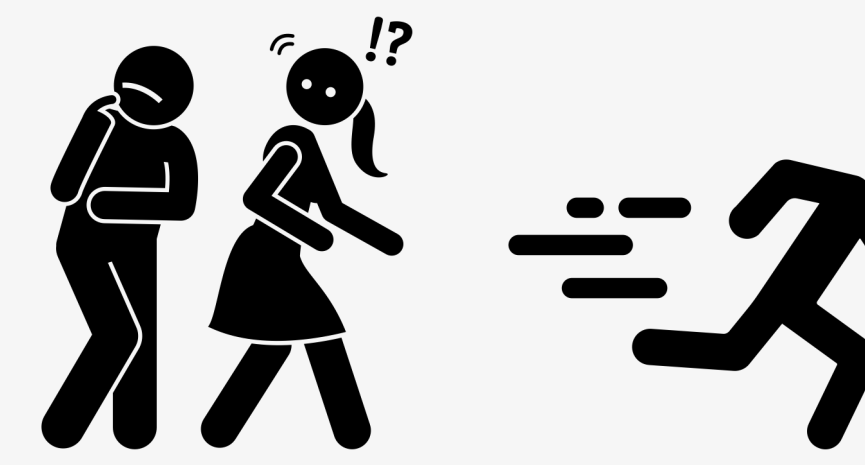
Michael Adam
Beck

FOR MANY THE CHURCH IS
SEEN AS A PLACE OF HARM,
NOT HEALING.





ALL ARE
WELCOME!



“

"FAITH UNBUNDLED IS A TERM THAT DESCRIBES THE WAY YOUNG PEOPLE INCREASINGLY CONSTRUCT THEIR FAITH BY COMBINING ELEMENTS SUCH AS BELIEFS, IDENTITY, PRACTICES, AND COMMUNITY FROM A VARIETY OF RELIGIOUS AND NON-RELIGIOUS SOURCES RATHER THAN RECEIVING ALL THESE THINGS FROM A SINGLE, INTACT SYSTEM OR TRADITION."

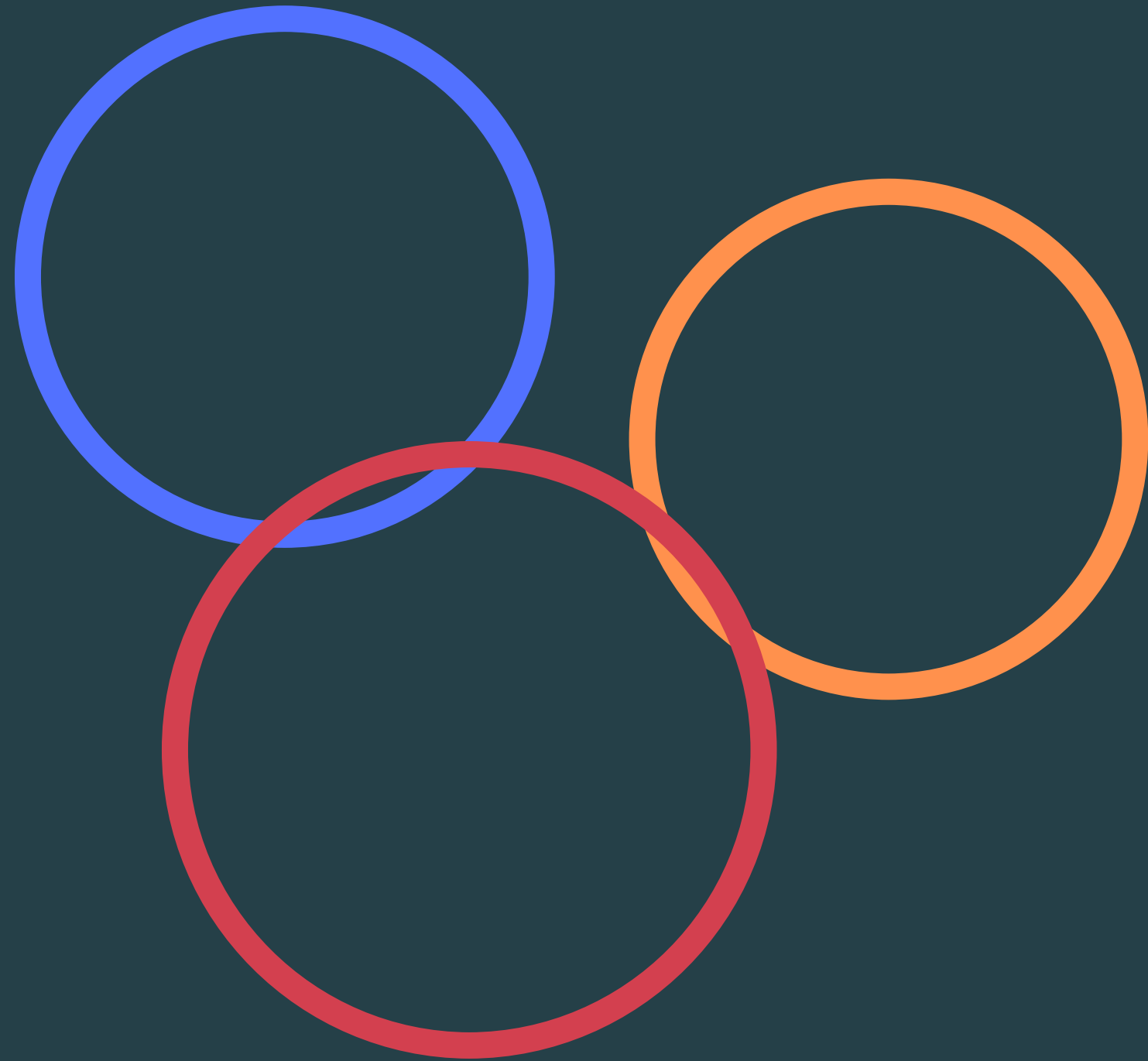
(SPRINGTIDE RESEARCH, THE STATE OF RELIGION AND YOUNG PEOPLE, 2021)



Michael Adam
Beck

Religious Identity Cocktail

Believe
Belong
Behave



Religious Identity Cocktail

Believe
Belong
Behave



(Springtide Research, The State of Religion and Young People, 2021)

The hallmarks of engaging young people will be curiosity, wholeness, connection, and flexibility.



Michael Adam
Beck

Domains

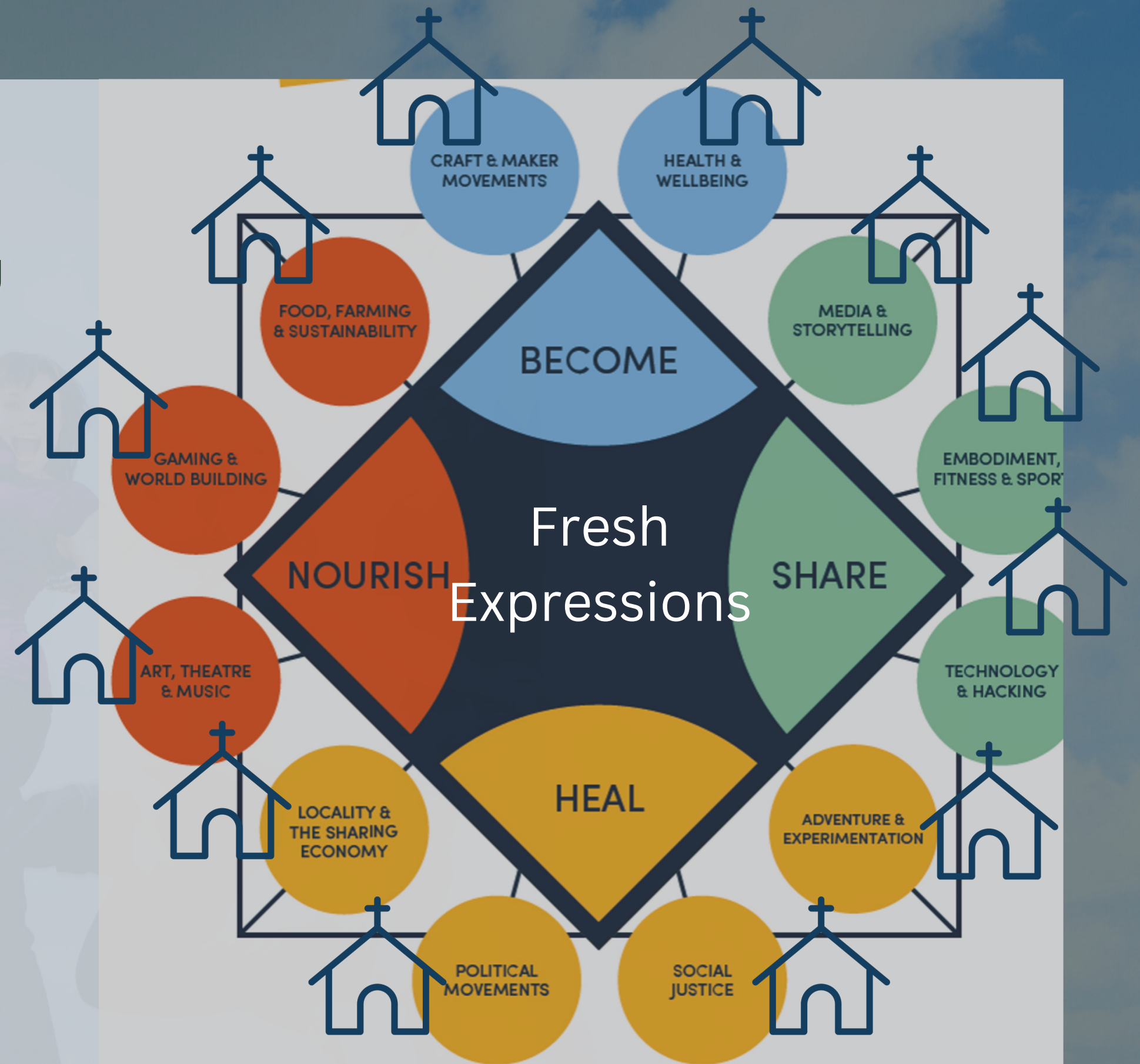
DOMAINS OF MEANING
PURPOSE AND BELONGING
ARE ALL AREAS FRESH
EXPRESSIONS CAN EXIST.
Fresh Expressions happen in the
places and spaces we do life.



(YOUNG ADULT)

Domains of Meaning, Purpose, Belonging

- Health/wellness
- Media/storytelling
- Embodiment/sport
- Technology/hacking
- Adventure/experimentation
- Social justice/activism
- Locality/placemaking
- Start ups/social entrepreneurship
- The arts
- Gaming/world-building
- Food/farming/sustainability
- Craft/maker movements
- Others?



The right motivation

THE EUCHARISTIC NATURE OF THE BODY OF CHRIST IS TO BE BROKEN AND GIVEN AWAY TO A HUNGRY WORLD.

The church is about self-donation, not self preservation.

Beloved people, of sacred worth and great value, may never know the gift of communal life in Jesus in our current modes of being church.



The ultimate gift...

Communal life in Jesus.



Fresh Expressions connect with people who will never walk into
a sanctuary or service.

These are people who have been forgotten, neglected or
excluded from our traditional view of church.



St Marks UMC

Urban blended ecology









RECOVERY CHURCH
BECAUSE EVERYONE IS IN RECOVERY

The central graphic features a logo of a butterfly with wings in a rainbow gradient, set against a solid blue background. Below the logo, the text "RECOVERY CHURCH" is written in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, and "BECAUSE EVERYONE IS IN RECOVERY" is written in a smaller, white sans-serif font underneath.



TIJUANA FLATS

Monday Nights

7:30pm



HIGHER POWER HOUR





HIGHER POWER HOUR





FREE
OCALA, FL

Wednesdays
5:00 PM

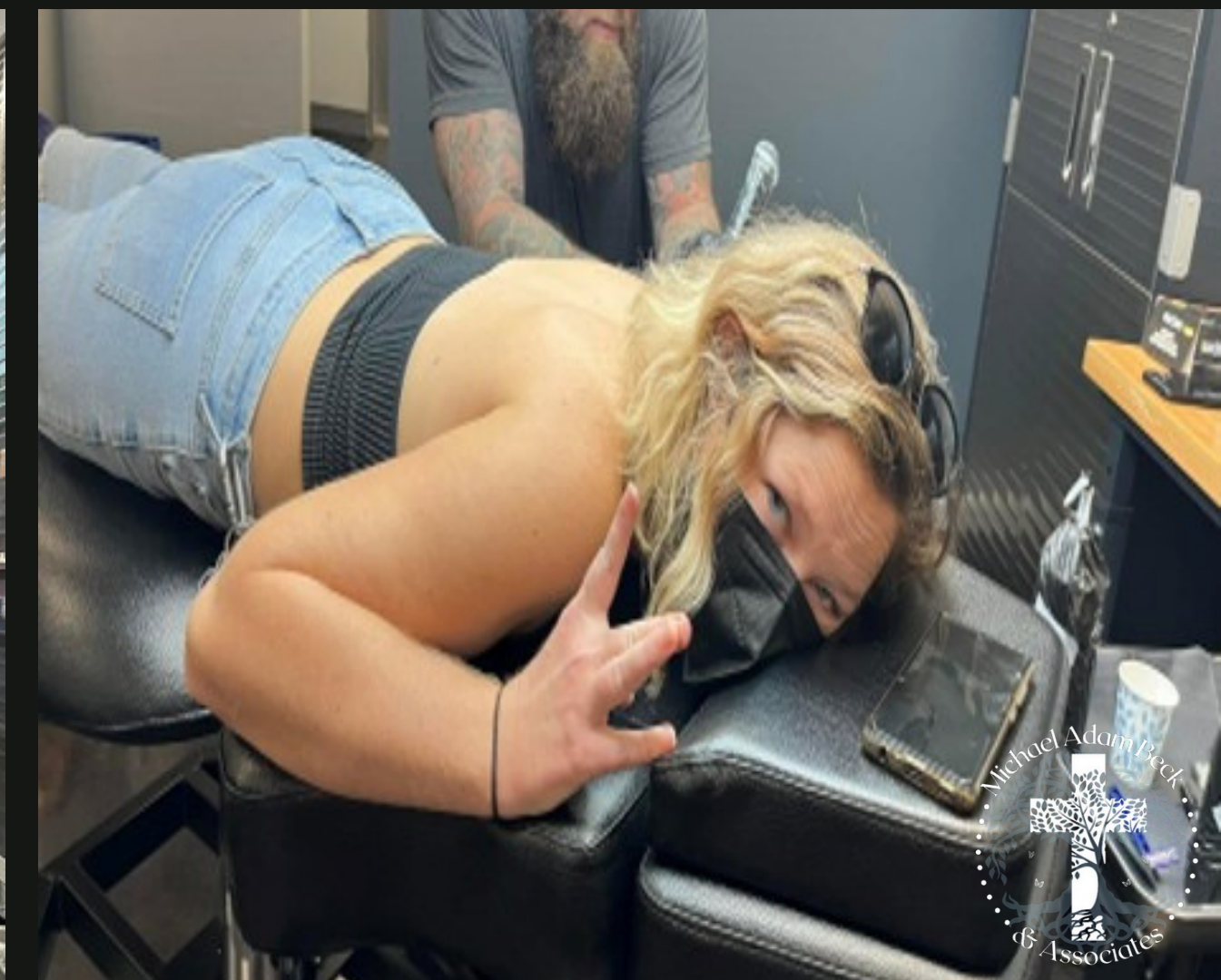
YOGA
CHURCH
AT ST MARKS UMC







Tattoo Parlor Church





H.A.N.D.S.

HEALING AFTER NARCOTIC DEATH SUPPORT









Offering
MEMORIAL THROUGH GIVING
Electronic donation can be made at
www.stmarksocala.com

Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

NOW THROUGH THE
the wilderness
Tell the story of
His faithfulness
Never once did He fail
and He never will

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy
hand has provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me





RECOVERY CHURCH
BECAUSE EVERYONE IS IN RECOVERY

OPEN ARMS VILLAGE

At St. Mark's United Methodist Church



H.A.N.D.S.
HEALING AFTER NARCOTIC DEATH SUPPORT



TRAP STARS 4 JESUS

Teaching Resourceful Entrepreneurs A Better Way

THE FAMILY TABLE

COMMUNITY DINNER





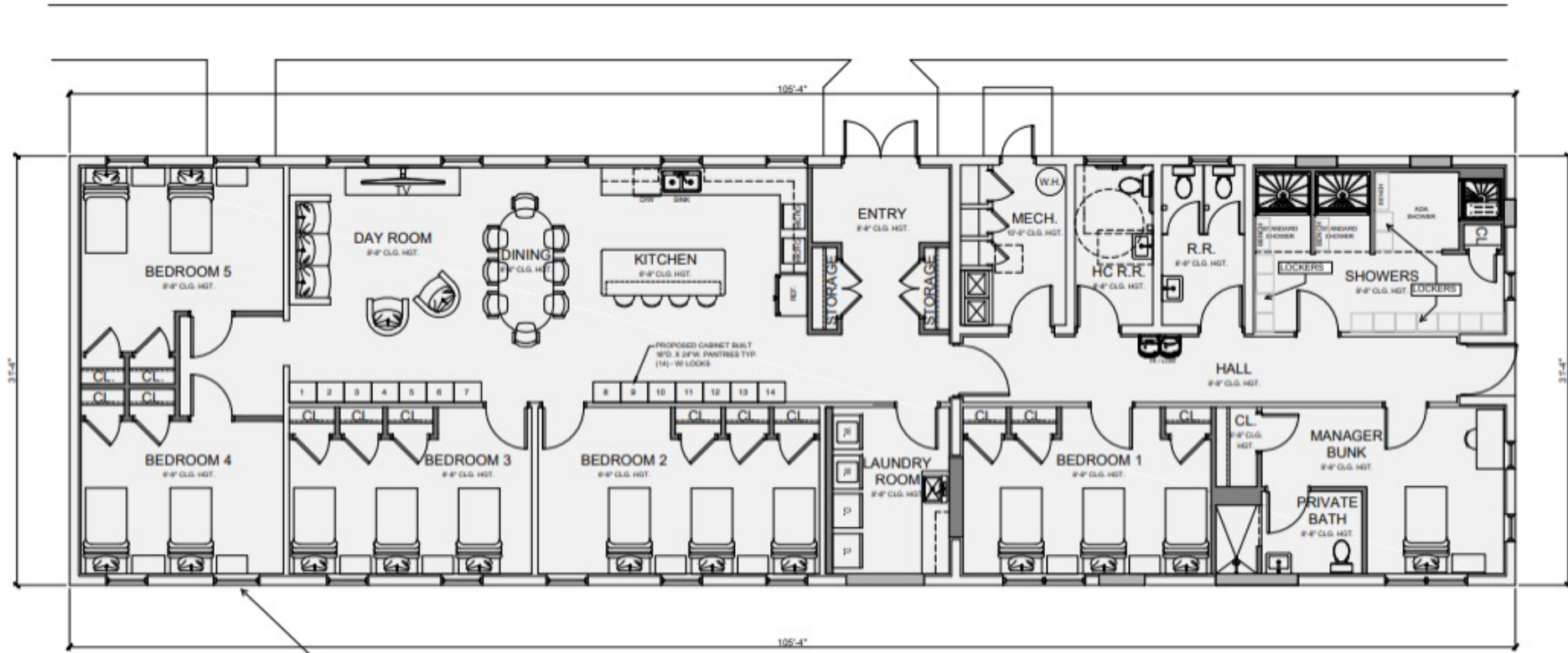
COMPASSION

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH









BEDROOM WINDOWS WILL NEED TO BE LONGER. WIDTH IS GOOD BUT NEED TO BE INCREASED IN LENGTH.

← SHADED WALLS INDICATE NEW OR REBUILT WALLS. ALL OTHERS ARE EXISTING.

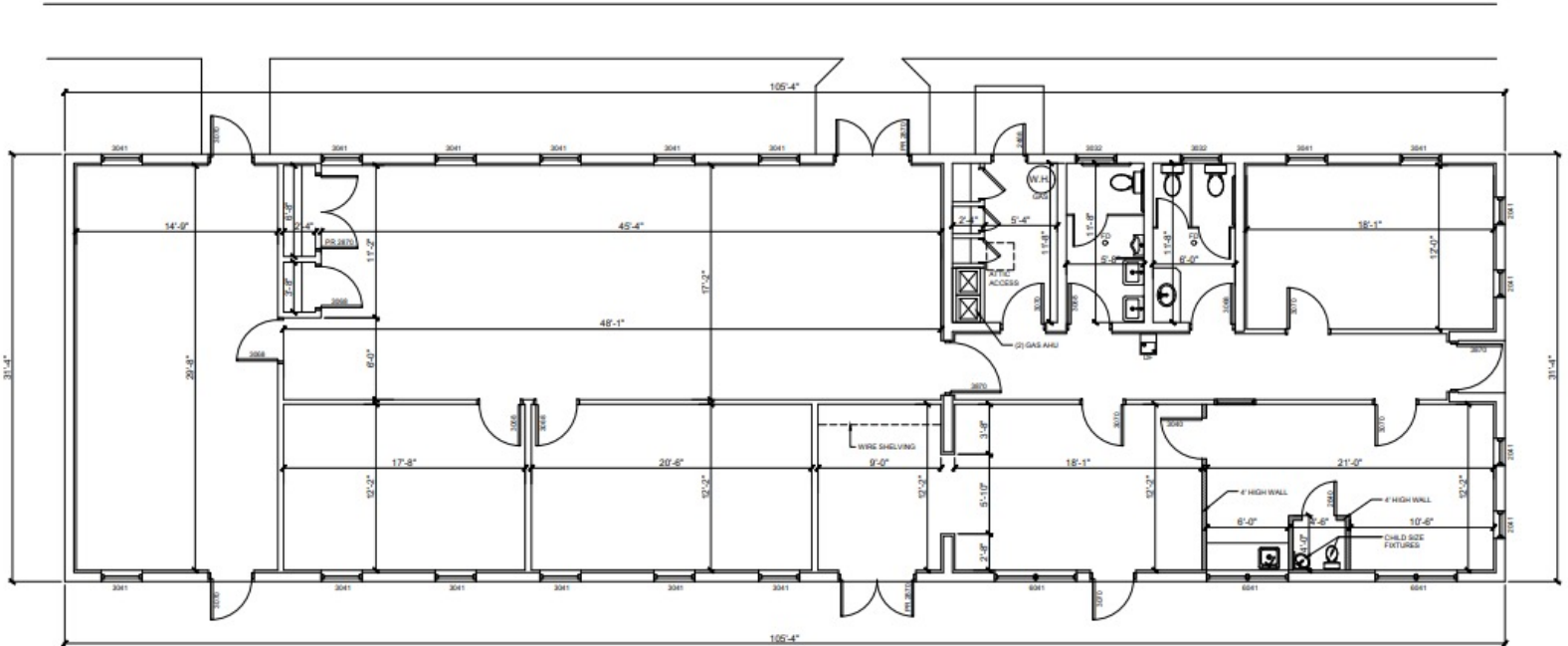
CONCEPTUAL FLOOR PLAN #1

JOSEPH A. RISPOLI
 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER
 STATE OF FLORIDA
 NO. 12698
 EXPIRES 12/31/2024

DIGITAL SIGNATURE

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 114 SOUTH MAGNOLIA AVENUE, OCALA, FLORIDA 34471
 (352) 620-0909 WWW.RISPOLIARCHITECT.COM
 JOE@RISPOLIARCHITECT.COM

FOR: **OPEN ARMS**
 1712 SE LAKE WEIR AVE.
 OCALA, FL 34471
 CONCEPTUAL DOCUMENTS



AS-BUILT - FLOOR PLAN
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0" (PRINTED @ 24X36)
 SCALE: NTS = (PRINTED @ 11X17)

NOTE:
 CONTRACTOR MUST FIELD VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS AND EXISTING CONDITIONS.
 DEMOLITION CONTRACTOR MUST COORDINATE WITH PLUMBING CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO
 CONSTRUCTION AS TO VERIFY EXACT PIPING ROUTING. ALSO REVIEW PLUMBING
 ENGINEERS DRAWINGS.

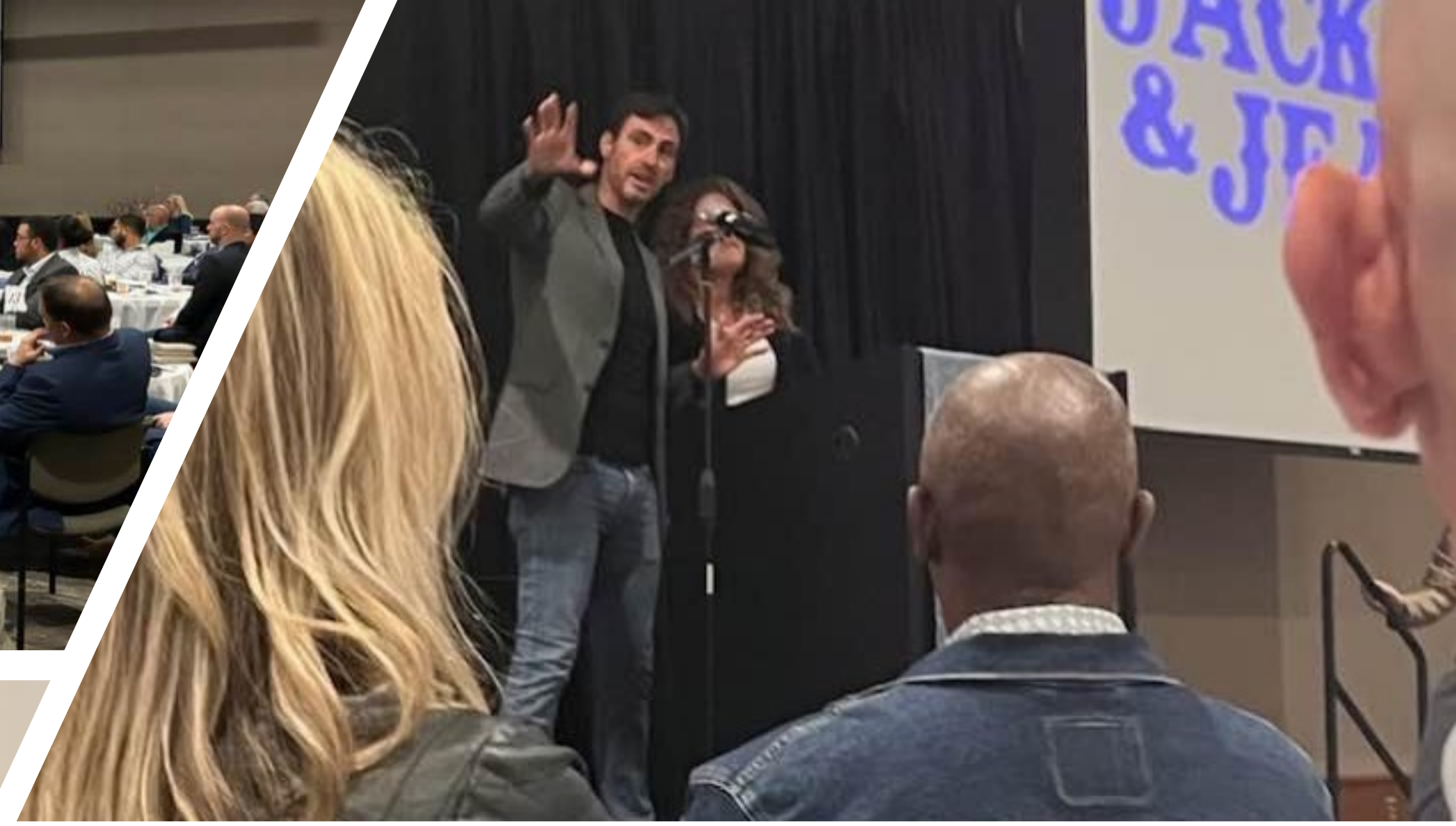
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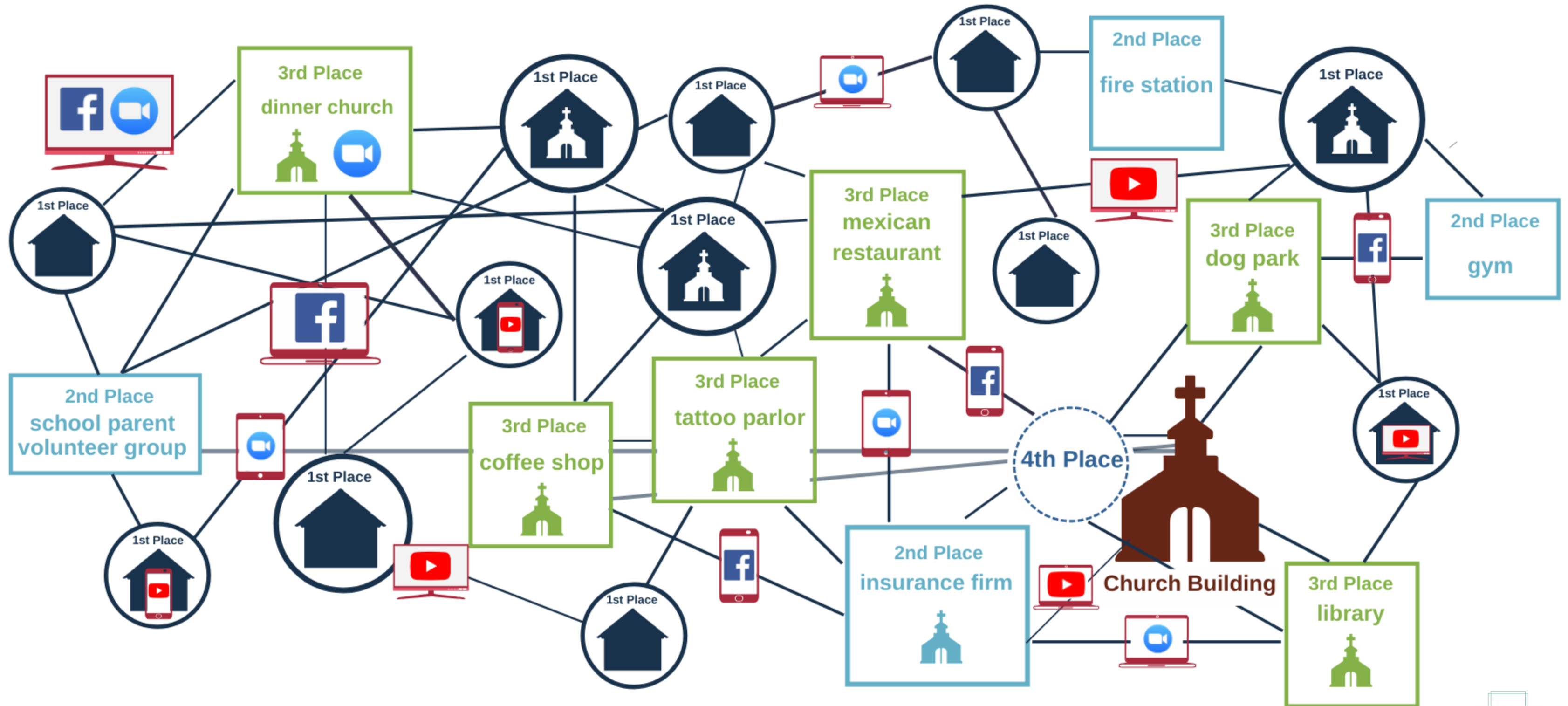
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PROPOSED WOMEN'S SOBER HOUSE FOR:
OPEN ARMS
 1712 SE LAKE WEIR AVE.
 OCALA, FL 34471
 CONCEPTUAL DOCUMENTS

DRAWN RAA	PROJECT NO. 2306
CHECKED RAA	DATE 11-22-23



THE BLENDED ECOLOGY ECOSYSTEM



A Weekly Dose of Compassion!



SCAN ME



Follow My Research Journey