



Stuart Murray Williams spent 12 years as an urban church planter in East London, and has continued to be involved in church planting as a trainer, mentor, writer, strategist and consultant. For nine years he was Oasis Director of Church Planting and Evangelism at Spurgeon's College, London. Since then, under the auspices of the Anabaptist Network, he has worked as a trainer and consultant, with particular interest in urban mission, church planting and emerging forms of church.

He is one of the coordinators of Urban Expression, an Anabaptist-minded church planting network, and is Tutor in Mission at Bristol Baptist College. He is a freelance trainer/consultant working with the Anabaptist Network and helps to develop missional partnerships with Christian groups more widely. We are delighted to be developing our own relationship with him.

Stuart is also a trainer on the Crucible course, a course based on the fact that 'we now live in a plural society ... in which ... churches are on the margins of society'. As he says, we need to live and serve God 'as cross-cultural missionaries because we live in a cross-cultural mission context ... to think creatively about planting new kinds of churches in emerging and diverse cultures'.

Stuart has written books on church planting, urban mission, emerging church, and the challenge of post-Christendom. Here is a *small* selection of his work.

Post-Christendom (revised edition) (2017)

A Vast Minority: Christians in a Post-Christendom Britain (2015)

Planting Churches: A Framework for Practitioners (2008)

Mission after Christendom (2007)

Church after Christendom (2005)

Post-Christendom: Church and Mission in a Strange New World (2004)

Church Planting: the Spirit at work through our systems (2001)

Here is a quote from his 2015 book which gives you the flavour of the man and his commitment to serving God with positive faith and hope.

'We need not be a despondent, isolationist, grumpy or frightened minority. Nor need we become compliant and conformist, relinquishing our convictions in return for social and cultural acceptability. We can choose to interpret this emerging context as an opportunity to recover our nerve, our soul, our missional identity and our primary allegiance. We can choose to be a creative minority, a prophetic minority and a hopeful minority – a community that unmask idols, pioneers new possibilities and engenders authentic hope ... pointing many others in this direction'. (p. 179)