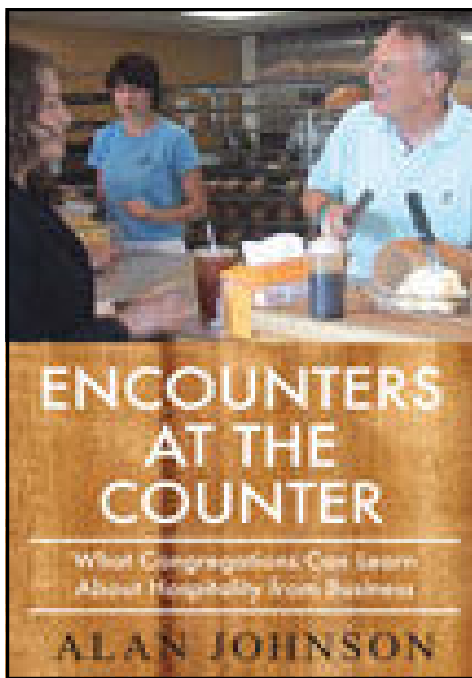


Encounters at the Counter: What Congregations Can Learn About Hospitality from Business



By weaving his personal stories of working at the counter of the Great Harvest Bread Company in Boulder, CO, with his vast experience as a minister focusing on hospitality throughout the USA for 16 years, Alan Johnson takes two key concepts - hospitality and spirituality - and shows how each is vital to the success and stability for both church congregations and small businesses.

Encounters at the Counter gives the reader, lay member, minister and manager alike, insights into hospitality for the church world and offers practical ways for spirituality to be infused into the business world.

Alan relates stories from the vast number of stories that he heard at the counter while slicing bread and selling bread, cookies and sandwiches. From these stories there are lessons for everyone about how to relate with another person, regarding every person as a unique person whose stories are fascinating, illuminating, touching, and/or amusing. Hospitality welcomes spirituality wherever one goes.



The Forward is written by the Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann

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