

Adventist Review John E. Fetzer and the Quest for the New Age The 2008 Report: Bay Area Chinese Churches Research Project, Phase II Religious Imaginations Brian C. Wilson Timothy Tseng James Walters

Adventist Review John E. Fetzer and the Quest for the New Age The 2008 Report: Bay Area Chinese Churches Research Project, Phase II Religious Imaginations *Brian C. Wilson Timothy Tseng James Walters*

john e fetzer and the quest for the new age is the remarkable story of the spiritual search of one of michigan s most successful entrepreneurs a search that culminated in the fetzer institute whose ambitious mission is nothing less than the spiritual transformation of the world john e fetzer and the quest for the new age follows the spiritual sojourn of john e fetzer a michigan business tycoon born in 1901 and living most of his life in kalamazoo fetzer parlayed his first radio station into extensive holdings in broadcasting and other enterprises leading to his sole ownership of the detroit tigers in 1961 by the time he died in 1991 fetzer had been listed in forbes magazine as one of the four hundred wealthiest people in america and yet business success was never enough for fetzer his deep spiritual yearnings led him from the christianity of his youth to a restless exploration of metaphysical religions and movements ranging from spiritualism theosophy freemasonry ufoology and parapsychology all the way to the new age as it blossomed in the 1980s author brian c wilson demonstrates how fetzer s quest mirrored those of thousands of americans who sought new ways of thinking and being in the ever changing spiritual movements of the twentieth century over his lifetime fetzer s worldview continuously evolved combining and recombining elements from dozens of traditions in a process he called freedom of the spirit unlike most others who engaged in a similar process fetzer s synthesis can be documented step by step using extensive archival materials providing readers with a remarkably rich and detailed roadmap through metaphysical america the book also documents how fetzer s wealth allowed him to institutionalize his spiritual vision into a thriving foundation the fetzer institute which was designed to carry his insights into the future in hopes that it would help catalyze a global spiritual transformation john e fetzer and the quest for the new age offers a window into the rich and complex history of metaphysical religions in the midwest and the united states at large it will be read with interest by those wishing to learn more about this enigmatic michigan figure as well as those looking for an engaging introduction into america s rapidly shifting spiritual landscape

the 2008 report of the san francisco bay area chinese churches project edited by james chuck and timothy tseng contains updated profiles of chinese congregations in the bay area and essays by dean adachi ken carlson johnson chiu virstan choy james chuck russell jeung ricky manalo donald ng victor quan steve quen chloe sun and timothy tseng and russell yee

market globalization technology climate change and postcolonial political forces are together forging a new more modern world however caught up in the mix are some powerful religious narratives that are galvanizing peoples and reimagining and sometimes stifling the political and social order some are repressive fundamentalist imaginations such as the so called islamic caliphate others could be described as post religious such as the evolution of universal human rights out of the european christian tradition but the question of the compatibility of these religious worldviews particularly those that have emerged out of the abrahamic faith traditions is perhaps the most pressing issue in global stability today what scope for dialogue is there between the jewish muslim and christian ways of imagining the future how can we engage with these multiple imaginations to create a shared and peaceful global society religious imaginations is an interdisciplinary volume of both new and well known scholars exploring how religious narratives interact with the contemporary geopolitical climate

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