



Indicators of a Thriving Congregation

1 | We extend extravagant hospitality by welcoming, befriending and inviting guests.

- We equip all members/ministry partners to befriend others and extend hospitality.
- We regularly remind leaders and ministry partners that they are part of the church's hospitality team.
- We share stories about ways people can invite others in their life and align with God's mission.

2 | We nurture intentional, authentic, intergenerational, Christ-centered friendships.

- We help ministry partners share stories about their life, faith, callings, and next faithful steps.
- We help people find tangible ways to connect with, care for, encourage, and pray for others.
- We help people become comfortable with making God the subject of their conversations.

3 | We provide tools & training to help people engage in consequential conversations.

- We equip new ministry partners and leaders how to engage in important yet often difficult issues.
- We provide ministry partners with a covenant that outlines how we build up the body of Christ.
- We teach members how to agree to disagree agreeably as they speak their truths in grace-filled ways.

4 | We equip people to talk about and embed faith practices in their daily life.

- We regularly share spiritual practices with ministry partners at worship, at events, at meetings, and online.
- We share podcasts, phone apps, devotional resources, books, and resources to inspire and equip people.
- We help families talk about and practice faith at home, during meals, in the car, and at family gatherings.

5 | We equip people to be visible expressions of God's love as they live out their callings.

- We provide opportunities for people to discover, develop, and deploy their callings in daily life.
- We offer callings resources and events to help new ministry partners live more fully into their callings.
- We track and celebrate where ministry partners are called to serve in our local community.

6 | We intentionally partner and network with local Christian communities.

- We meet quarterly (for lunch), and monthly (via Zoom) with local ministry partners
- We share our newsletters and communications with each other as we explore ways to collaborate.
- We pray for each other's ministries at leadership meetings, staff meetings, and during worship.

7 | We train leaders to listen, observe, experiment, and reflect on results.

- We provide tools/training to help leaders listen to God, listen to members, and listen to our local community.
- We provide tools/training to help leaders learn the art of noticing (based on the book, *The Art of Noticing*).
- We invite the Board, staff, and ministry teams to pilot new experiments on a quarterly basis.

8 | We help leaders embrace who we are, what we do, and why it matters.

- We regularly revisit our sense of identity, our passions, our priorities, and possible pivots in ministry.
- We will create a tagline that describes who we are and where we're going.
- We select annual ministry themes that are aligned with our mission, vision, values, and preferred culture.

9 | We model ways that people can be fully present to God and each other.

- We begin leadership meetings by lighting the Christ candle, putting on prayer shawls, and dwelling in the Word.
- We set aside computers, tablets, phones and other devices when we gather for worship and meetings.
- We offer individual and group spiritual direction for our paid and elected leaders.

10 | We grow joyful, generous givers who fund God's dreams for the world.

- We regularly share stories of how our ministries impact the people we seek to serve and bless.
- We create plans and opportunities for helping people begin a journey of generosity and gratitude.
- We create annual year-round stewardship plans based on *Ask, Thank, Tell* and wholistic stewardship concepts.



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