

Vital Formation

Within the Church Setting

A vital church clearly demonstrates Vision, Direction & Identity in each of these practices.

Categories:

- 1. WORSHIP:** *Anticipates Divine presence & directive; offers hope; intends to please God; invites congregants' expressions of emotion and gifts and talents; informs & enriches faith; Is meaningful & engaging for all generations.*
- 2. CARE and RELATIONSHIPS:** **[within]** *Demonstrates genuine concern for one another's-needs, shut-ins, sickness, losses, etc.; Celebrates & comforts appropriate to situation, recognizes life changes and milestones; Creates an ethos for story sharing & careful listening.*
[beyond] *Discerns & responds to needs of the wider community; inspires relationship building.*
- 3. GENEROSITY AND STEWARDSHIP:** *Nurtures abundance mentality, recognizing wealth of God's resources for God's mission; Attends to the aesthetic & functional care of a welcoming place- "church self-esteem;" and provides opportunities for sharing gifts & talents.*
- 4. LEADERSHIP:** *Encouraging & equipping for ministry; embraces challenge & experimentation; helps people discern their ministry assets: gifts, talents & resources; is resilient & adaptive to variety of experiences of life together: conflicts, changes, etc.*
- 5. DISCIPLESHIP:** *Accepts call to practice hospitality, to affirm discipleship in others, to live in the way of Jesus, understands life-long faith formation & responsibility to nurture personal faith as a process of becoming the person God created and calls you to be .*