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.