



Are Committed to Authentic Community

Beyond participation in worship, spiritual formation and service, thriving congregations are in the ongoing process of cultivating healthy and vibrant relationships within the church community. An authentic congregational community is equitable, empathetic, hospitable, and diverse.



Are Flexible

Thriving congregations aim to be adaptable, responsive and relevant so that they may act quickly and effectively as new needs and ministry opportunities arise.



Collaborate as Partners Locally & Globally

Thriving congregations work for transformation in their communities and the world, which requires dynamic connections with other individuals, congregations (especially racially diverse churches), organizations and institutions actively working together to pursue a common mission



Cultivate Leaders

Thriving congregations embrace the myriad of gifts, strengths, experiences and wisdom of all generations within their church, and empower all individuals to share their best selves for the fulfillment of its mission and vision.



Are Intergenerational

Thriving congregations recognize the equity of all generations. An intergenerational church listens, empathizes and incorporates a diversity of needs, values, experiences, and wisdom from every generation.



Are Being Formed

Thriving congregations embrace the ongoing process of spiritual formation/discipleship through the practice of prayer and other disciplines, along with a commitment to higher education and lifelong learning to equip all believers for mission and ministry.



Embody Invitational Discipleship

Thriving congregations embrace Jesus' call to make disciples by sharing his way of life through authentic, relational, and grace-filled invitation. Through everyday relationships, hospitality, and faithful presence, they create space for others to encounter Jesus and grow in a life shaped by his teachings.

