A Typology of Congregational Health
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Healthy Congregations…
I. Teaching/Modeling Congregations
   A. Description: Distant congregation with cutting edge ministries
   B. Need: Opportunities to broaden their health and share learnings
   C. Intervention: Helping the congregation to leverage their strengths

II. Leadership Congregations
   A. Description: Engaged congregation with spiritually mature members
   B. Need: Opportunities for members to be involved in wider family
   C. Intervention: Mission trips, volunteer opportunities, task force recruitment

III. Networking Congregations
   A. Description: Involved congregation capitalizing on multiple networks
   B. Need: Opportunities for the leaders to learn from other competent leaders
   C. Intervention: Opportunities to build lasting relationships with leaders

Intentional Congregations…
IV. Transforming Congregations
   A. Description: Changing congregation implementing a strategic plan
   B. Need: Encouragement to take the steps toward renewal
   C. Intervention: Coaching assistance for pastors and leaders

V. Learning Congregations
   A. Description: Growing congregation seeking to understand environment
   B. Need: Education about postmodernism, generations, renewal, change
   C. Intervention: Continuing education, seminars, group training events

VI. Stalled Congregations
   A. Description: Established congregation on the verge of decline
   B. Need: A new vision for their current day
   C. Intervention: Envisioning retreat

Fragile Congregations…
VII. Technical Congregations
   A. Description: Congregation aware of decline and focused on quick fixes
   B. Need: Quick fix, program, solutions to well-defined problems
   C. Intervention: Solutions to their technical problems until they desire more

VIII. Isolated Congregations
   A. Description: Congregations separated from the current environment
   B. Need: To better understand their history and the context around them
   C. Intervention: Intentional interim or pastor focused on pastoral care

IX. Distracted Congregations
   A. Description: Abused congregations often in conflict
   B. Need: Mediation or someone to listen to their stories of hurt and pain
   C. Intervention: Mediation or facilitation as requested and appropriate.

X. New Congregations
   A. Description: Planted less than five years ago
   B. Need: Linkages to congregations less than twenty years old.
Resources for Teaching Congregations…


Resources for Leadership Congregations…


Resources for Networking Congregations…


Transitional Resources for Congregations Needing to Claim Health…

Resources for Transforming Congregations…


Resources specifically for Regions/Judicatories…


Sample Transformational Processes…

- Strommen, Merton P. *The Innovative Church: Seven Steps to Positive Change in Your Congregation.* Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1997.
Resources for Understanding the Missional Church…


In order too move into the intentional phase, a congregation must have the following in place…

- Congregational approval to embark upon a journey of renewal
- An established envisioning group representative of the diversity of the congregation, but with no single-issue people involved
- An understanding of the urgency of the situation
- An identification of the risks involved
- An abiding hope in the Lord

Transitional Resources for Congregations needing to embrace transformation…


Resources for Technical Congregations…

Resources for Isolated Congregations…

Resources for Distracted Congregations…

Resources for New Congregations…