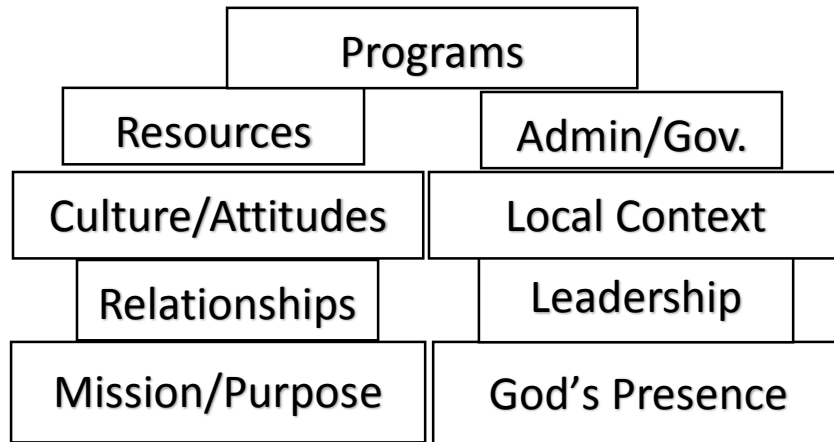


Dimensions of Congregational Vitality Handout



Vitality is the congregation's ability to connect with God, each other and the world. The following items impact a congregation's ability to be vital.

1. Place a * by the domains where you spend most of your time and energy.
2. Place a number by each box using the following scale:

5= **Protective Factor:** This will help congregation through tough times

4= **Strength:** this is helping or strengthening vitality

3= **Neutral:** this is not having a significant impact on vitality (positive or negative)

2= **Risk Factor:** this is hurting vitality but is not critical. It is something that has to be compensated for.

1= **Critical:** this is keeping the congregation from vitality. It must be improved before meaningful change can occur.

Domain	Definition
Programs	Things a congregation does . Includes: worship , mission planning, programs, youth/young adult ministries, administration, evangelism, community outreach, stewardship
Resources	Money, facility, equipment, technology, people
Governance & Admin	Decision Making, Administration of finances and personnel management
Attitudes/Culture	Mission orientation, willingness to change, sense of ownership, belonging/commitment, level of engagement, and interest in embracing local community
Local Context	Actual relationship with the local environment and the conditions of that environment (e.g. economic, demographic)
Relationships	Relationships among leadership, pastor/staff, leaders and the congregation and among the congregation
Leadership	Pastor, lay leadership and informal leaders- Their skills, personalities, overall health (physical, emotional, spiritual, mental, financial, etc.)
Mission/Purpose	The congregation has a clear understanding of God's purpose for their church in this time and place. The congregation can articulate that purpose as vision, niche and as a specific mission plan which they can implement.
God's Presence	How the congregation understands its relationship with God. God is either present and active, distant and passive, or God isn't clearly present.