



American Baptist Churches USA

Church Renewal & Organizational Development

Congregational Vitality Index Categories

Suggested by the Hartford Institute for Religion
Derived from the U.S. Congregational Life Survey
October 2004

1. Spiritual Growth (small group involvement, daily devotions)
2. Meaningful Worship (experiencing joy, awe, and meaning during worship)
3. Participation in the congregation (involvement in activities, giving)
4. Sense of belonging (participating more now than 2 years ago)
5. Care for young people (satisfied with youth offerings)
6. Focus on the community (involvement in bettering the community)
7. Sharing faith with others (at ease talking about one's faith, inviting friends)
8. Welcoming new worshipers (percentage of people who began attending < 5 yrs)
9. Empowering leadership (emphasis on using gifts, pastor inspires new ministries)
10. Focused on the future (congregation has a clear vision focused on a balanced ministry - locally, nationally, and globally)