



REVITALIZE
Nurture **O**utreach **W**itness

Congregational Health Assessment

The Office of Congregational Development
South Georgia Conference

It's Time for a Check-Up!

Healthy habits produce healthy individuals.
Healthy cultures produce healthy congregations.
Healthy congregations change the world.

More than ever before, people are conscious about health and fitness. We monitor what we eat, count our steps, and track our water intake. If we know and understand the importance of health and prevention in our personal lives, why do we often wait until it's too late to begin to diagnose and treat problems in the church? What would happen if we were aware of symptoms of unhealth in our churches before they develop into full-blown illness?

This quick health assessment is meant to do just that. This tool will give you the opportunity to look at your ministry and systems and evaluate them before things are beyond repair. Instead of waiting until your church is gravely ill or approaching decline, spend some time developing a prevention plan. Because as Benjamin Franklin once said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

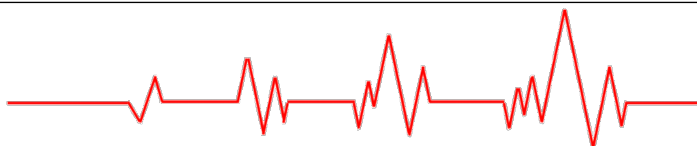
Instructions:

Assess: Score each of the three sections using a number between 1 (low) and 5 (high). This should be YOUR best understanding of how your church is doing. All statements must be scored. If you're unsure, score a 3. Total each page and record your score. Then total up all three scores on the Diagnosis page.

Diagnose- Identify areas of strength and weakness.

Cure- Look at your areas of weakness and create some next steps to move to a healthier place.

Prevent- Create a prevention plan based on your strengths.



Nurture Assessment

- Pastor and church leaders regularly emphasize the importance of Sunday School/small groups and Discipleship in the worship experience.
- Laity are equipped and serving as leaders in nurture opportunities (groups, worship, membership care)
- Church leadership has a clear Discipleship plan to help all believers mature in Christ.
- New small groups and Sunday School classes are regularly started.
- A membership class or training is offered to new members.
- Worship services include a variety of creative elements such as readings, video, testimonies, a variety of music, responsive elements, etc.
- Church services are designed to lead individuals toward practical application.
- Church attenders are encouraged to continue the learning at home through personal worship and prayer time.
- Worship services are consistently evaluated and improvements are made.
- Members are actively engaged in worship and groups.
- Total Nurture Score



Outreach Assessment

- Church provides opportunities to build relationships with individuals outside the walls of the church.
- Church has developed strategies for identifying and responding to needs in the community.
- Church's mission statement includes an emphasis on outreach and making disciples.
- Church has a plan to identify and appropriately meet the needs of individuals inside and outside the congregation.
- Individuals are equipped to identify and use their gifts in ministry and mission.
- Church provides ministry/mission opportunities for individuals and/or family participation.
- Church demonstrates an openness to partnering and collaborating with churches and ministries in the community.
- Church educates attenders and members about missions and regularly shares mission impact stories.
- Church actively seeks to invite and accept people from diverse backgrounds and experiences.
- Church regularly presents attenders and members with clear on-ramps for ministry and mission.
- Total Outreach Score



Witness Assessment

- There is evidence that a majority of the members and attenders share their faith with others and invite them to church.
- Church regularly prays for those who have yet to come to Christ.
- The gospel is regularly presented in worship services.
- New to Faith Sunday School classes and small groups are available for those new to faith.
- There is an assimilation process in place that helps identify guests and connect them with the ministries within the church.
- Church plans and conducts regular outreach events that attenders can use to invite friends and neighbors.
- Church is aware of the changing demographic make-up and needs of their community and plans accordingly.
- There is a clear and intentional pathway to develop new leaders within the church.
- The church has an active and engaging website and social media platform.
- Church communication is clear, attractive, and compelling.
- Total Witness Score



Diagnosis

Total Score (Nurture + Outreach + Witness)

Healthy Zone- 120-150 Points

Overall good condition. Some minor corrections could be made to improve effectiveness.

Marginal Zone- 90-119 Points

Several changes in church lifestyle and culture will need to be made.

Unhealthy Zone- 60-89 Points

Resuscitation may be called for – STAT!

Critical Zone- 30-59 Points

Emergency Surgery needs to be done to save this patient!

Strengths-

Which area (Nurture, Outreach, Witness) was your highest score?

Where is your congregation most healthy within that area of strength?

Weaknesses-

Which area (Nurture, Outreach, Witness) was your lowest score?

What is preventing you from health and growth in that area?



Cure

Area of greatest potential to improve a weakness:

Visit <https://www.sgaumc.org/congregationaldevelopment> and click on “Revitalize NOW” to discover resources that will help you continue to explore and remediate areas of weakness. Develop a plan of action and detail your plan of action below:

Desired Outcome: _____

By When: _____

Method of Measuring Results: _____

People Involved: _____

Resources Required: _____

Action Steps:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____



Prevention

Area of greatest strength:

What does your church value? How are those values expressed through your area of strength?

What is your church's mission? How is that mission expressed through your area of strength?

What is the key to this ministry/program/initiative's effectiveness?

How can you leverage that strength in new ways to accomplish your mission?

How can you infuse the energy and excitement created by this strength to revitalize other ministry areas as well?

How can you take this area of strength to the next level of effectiveness?



Looking for help in your congregation's revitalization? Reach out! E-mail the Congregational Development team for more information:

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