

# DISCIPLESHIP MARKERS & TRANSITIONS

*Categories provide database markers with accompanying communications needed to help people move through each category. Those not responsive will remain at their current level and receive a minimum of biannual pastoral follow-up in addition to existing supports.*

**Purpose:** To allow us to group the different levels of connectedness and commitment within our community in order to facilitate communication and encourage forward motion on the discipleship pathway.

**People:** Our mission is to create disciples and therefore all that we do is primarily focused on disciple-making. People need to be cared for, to be followed-up and to be helped in the context of better discipleship and better disciple-making. This is about empowering people's responsive obedience to Christ.

**Process:** After the initial categorisation then the lists will be studied 4 times a year by the staff team and any changes made as a result. Statistics will be kept at the conclusion of each meeting re change so as to allow trends to be picked up.

<b>Category tag in church database</b>	<b>Descriptions of the typical characteristics in each category</b>	<b>Communication to attract people to the next category</b>
<b>COMMUNITY</b> (unchurched & visitors)	Those who have visited our public worship or community services and have given their personal details or who are connected to the church in some way but are not yet attending a service regularly.	Invitations to major events, such as Easter and Christmas, or to courses (Alpha, Alpha marriage, Alpha parenting, Lifekeys, finance course, or similar) and then services. <b>(Provide contact)</b>
<b>CROWD</b> (attendees)	Those who attend our church services somewhat regularly but may not be Christians and not regularly involved in a relationally-appropriate small group or team.	Invitations to key connection events and encouragement to join a small group or a team with friends; also some to become Christians. <b>(Provide relationship)</b>
<b>CONGREGATION</b> (connected attendees)	People who are regular attendees, (led to Christ and baptised as needed) who are also exploring involvement in church life and mission.	Invitations to church events and member's classes, as well as to join a team and small group if not already doing both. <b>(Provide opportunities)</b>
<b>COLLEAGUE</b> (maturing members)	People from the congregation who have become members and are ideally part of both a small group and serving on a team.	Explore regular involvement in a mission-focused commitment, and sensitively understand blockages. <b>(Provide pathways)</b>
<b>COMMITTED</b> (key volunteers)	Members regularly-involved in church life and mission as key volunteers, typically influencing others through a formal or informal leadership role.	Invitations to special training events and regular coaching to include formal leadership discussions with insights and application. <b>(Provide investment)</b>
<b>CORE</b> (senior leaders)	Formally appointed leaders overseeing significant ministries and/or with significant decision-making responsibilities.	Discuss calling and possible vocational ministry, but inspire responsibility and problem-solving. <b>(Provide transition)</b>