



Invite • Welcome • Connect

# Connect Check List

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## Check List

### Newcomer Ministry Congregational Assessment




This list is a starting place for you to assess and create your congregation's system for connecting. It is not intended to be either all inclusive or size specific.

#### Connecting

##### Process for connecting newcomers

-  Intentional system in place for tracking & follow-up; Flow chart of process has been created
-  Software system for tracking newcomers

##### Designated person(s) who will connect & keep track of newcomers

-  Intentional conversations with each newcomer
-  Connect newcomer with the people & ministry that matches his/her particular life phase, gifts, talents, passion
-  Written job descriptions for newcomer staff

##### The Importance of Listening





-  Listening skills training offered on regular basis

We do this well      We need to work on this      We do not do this yet

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#### Clear Pathways to Belonging

##### Intentional entry points whereby newcomers are guided in their journey of faith and into the life of the congregation

-  Newcomer orientation/new member class
-  New member welcome
-  Classes for Rites of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Reception
-  Entry points/doorways for spiritual nurture/discipleship

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### Closing The Connection loops — Empowering Laity for Ministry

#### Discernment of gifts, strengths, vocation

- Variety of resources/methods are offered to help people claim their life's work as ministry/spiritual practice

We do this well      We need to work on this      We do not do this yet

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#### Lay Ministries Accountability, Communication, Nurture & Support

- Regular meetings with lay ministry heads
- Written descriptions & contact information of all lay ministries on website and in booklet form for easy distribution
- Each lay ministry functions as a small group, offering encouragement and pastoral care to group members
- Communication of ongoing Information about Lay Ministries through newsletter, website, Facebook, ministry booklets, worship bulletins, other ...
- Recognition, Affirmation, and Celebration of all lay ministries

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### Entrance & Exit Conversations

- Entrance Conversation:** For a Realistic Look at your Newcomer Ministry Process, visit with five (5) people who have joined your church within the last year.
- Exit Conversation:** For a Reality Check, have an intentional conversation with everyone who leaves your church. This does not have to be a formal process, and might be more informative if done by laity rather than clergy ... meet them for a cup of coffee or a beer!

The **Episcopal Diocese** of Texas

[invitewelcomeconnect.com](http://invitewelcomeconnect.com)