

## Assessing Your Congregation's Current Place on the Continuum

**Perspective:** You are likely to find experiences of your institution described by characteristics appearing in more than one column of the Continuum. Your challenge is to identify its primary current position as a frame of reference for thinking about changes you would want to consider.

**Step 1:** Evaluate each column separately with attention to each row in the column. Discuss the following questions with your colleagues, with reference to each characteristic described:

### QUESTIONS

- 1) Is this part of our history? When, and in what ways?
- 2) Have we transcended this condition? If so, when and how did it change?  
Or do we still experience it today?
- 3) Has our congregation experienced the "Change Strategy" noted in the final row of this column?

**Step 2:** Rate your congregation on each characteristic in each column on the following scale:

### RATINGS

- 1) We are most like this; it describes where most of our congregation is.
- 2) We're a lot like this.
- 3) We're somewhat like this.
- 4) Some of our members are here, but the congregation largely has moved past it.
- 5) We're nothing like this (at least, not any more).

**Step 3:** Now apply the same rating formula separately to each column, reflecting a net assessment of your congregation.

