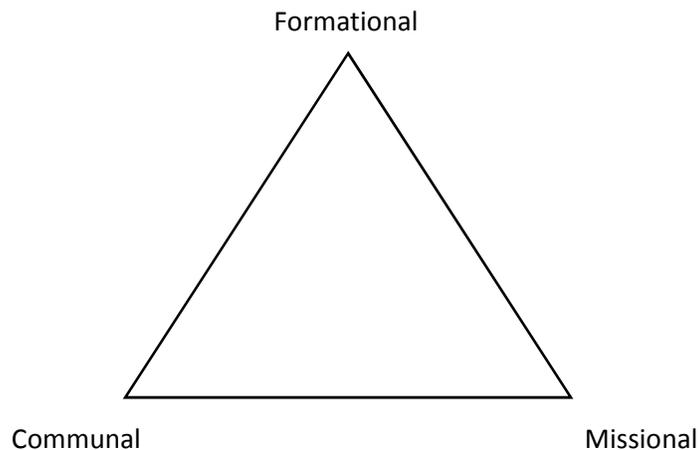


## A Strategic Vision for Tapestry



### **Formational – To be engaged in the process of being transformed to the image of Christ**

- The primary role of the Church is to *promote maturity and “the fullness of Christ”* (Eph 4:11-13). The goal of this formation is not to make us *religious*, but *spiritual* – meaning that our daily lives are characterized by abundant life (John 10:10) and the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-25).
- Since we are not the first generation of Christians, we will learn from the best of Church history to correct the blind spots of our current age (what Robert Webber calls an “Ancient-Future” approach).

Subordinate to and flowing out of this primary strategy are two secondary strategies:

### **Communal – To be a colony of the Kingdom of Heaven**

- Tapestry must continue to develop a culture of people *accompanying one another through life* in intentional ways. Specifically, this means we will engage in Bonhoeffer’s four expressions of genuine community:
  - *Careful Listening* – Usually a greater service than speaking
  - *Active Helping* – Being close enough to others to be aware of their needs and allowing God to interrupt our plans with those needs (Mt 25:31-46)
  - *Patient Bearing* – Enduring the foibles and freedoms of others, refusing to seek our own ‘rights’ and forgiving them “seventy times seven times” (Mt 18:21-22)
  - *Wise Speaking* – Gently but firmly admonishing one another, warning one another against the disobedience that is our undoing (Mt 18:15-17)

### **Missional – To be a blessing to our neighbours, our nation and the world**

- The most vital expression of mission is not attractional evangelistic events nor even institutionally-based outreach programs, but rather equipping and encouraging each Christian to engage in *missional outreach* amid daily life in their neighborhoods and workplaces or schools.
- God seems to have equipped Tapestry to be an *oasis* where people can be guided and supported through a major *faith transition*, whether from unbelief to becoming a Christ-follower or moving through a mid-faith crisis or life transition.

These three strategies are interrelated and mutually reinforcing