



TEAMWORKS

TOOLS FOR CREATING VITAL FAITH COMMUNITIES



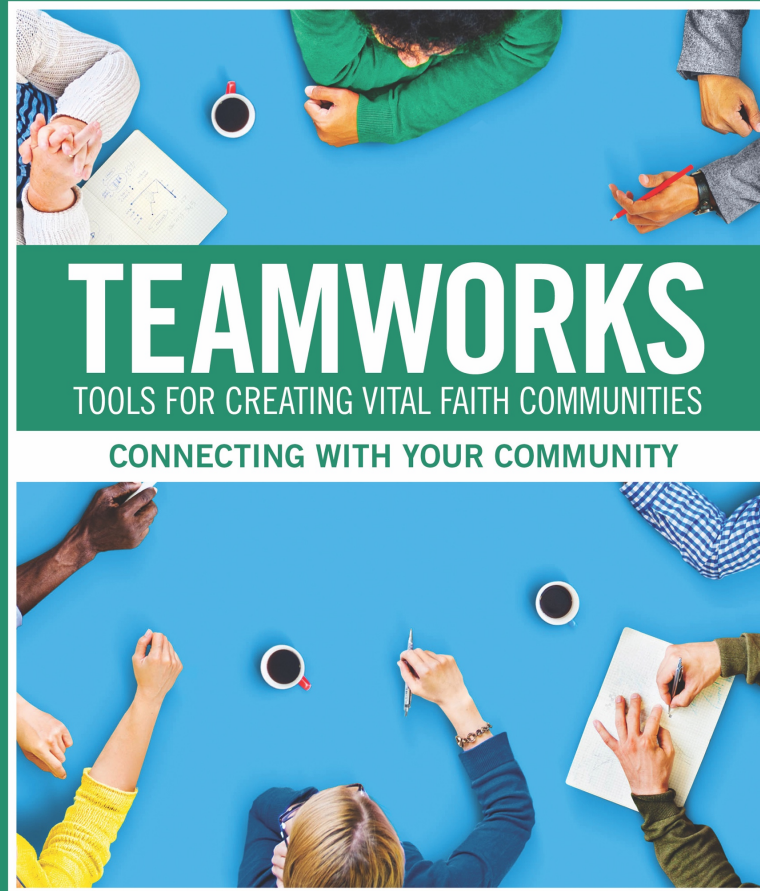
DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES
The United Methodist Church

Leadership Ministries | www.TeamWorksUMC.org



Connecting

Seminar 1: Looking for Homeland



 **DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES**
The United Methodist Church

www.TeamWorksUMC.org

Order from [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) - \$7.50

TeamWorks Guidebooks and Tools

TWS: Spiritual life of the Leader

- Use the *Spiritual Life Template* to build your group
- Discover your group's Spiritual Gifts

TWS: Connecting to Your Community

- Discover your homeland and learn about displacement
- Use the NICHE Process to learn about your community

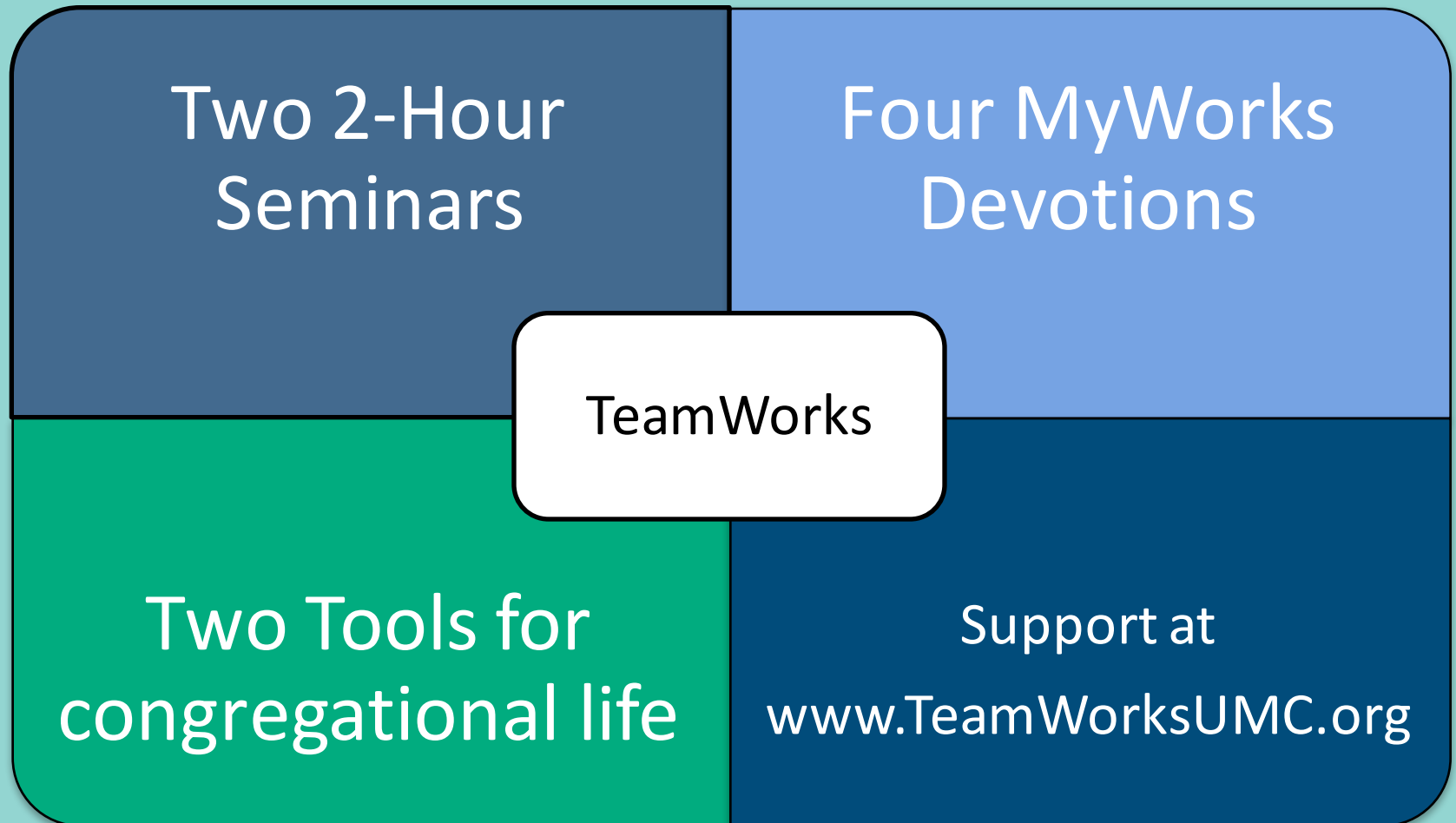
TWS: Creating a Discipleship System

- Learn about the Lifecycle of the Church
- Discover your Setting for Ministry

TWS: Futurecasting

- Learn to use the powerful VAP→IT Strategic Planning Tool
- Take the *TeamWorks Church Assessment*

What's in a TeamWorks Guidebook?



Instructions for Seminar Leaders

TeamWorks Seminars are designed to encourage discussion. To prepare for each seminar do as follows:

- Setup a room with table and chairs for your seminar.
- You will need an LCD projector and a screen or a large TV that can be hooked up to a computer to show the presentations.
- Download the presentation slides for TW: Connecting Seminar 1: Homeland from www.TeamWorksUMC.org. You may get them as a PDF or in PowerPoint. When using PowerPoint use it in presentation mode so you can view the notes for each slide.
- Download TW Connecting Seminar 1 Homeland with Notes PDF. Here you will find every slide with tips and ideas about its content.
- Before leading a seminar, go to www.TeamWorksUMC.org and watch the Seminar Leaders Webinar for the seminar you are leading. The webinar will go through each slide and will offer tips and ideas for how to lead the seminar.
- Set dates for the seminars or for the one-day experience.
- Recruit a group of participants who will agree to attend both seminars and to do the MyWork devotions.

Schedule your Seminars

Schedule for the *TeamWorks: Connecting With Your Community* seminars and MyWork devotions

Use the template below to schedule your sessions. TeamWorks Seminars are designed for 2-hours. If you offer this as a one-day experience, make sure participants fill out the *Demographics By Walking Around Surveys* before they attend

| Session | Date |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Seminar One: Looking for Homeland | _____ |
| MyWork – NICHE: Nexus | _____ |
| MyWork – NICHE: Informed | _____ |
| MyWork – NICHE: Context | _____ |
| MyWork – NICHE: Hopes & Experiences | _____ |
| Seminar Two: Finding your NICHE | _____ |

Read the article in the Connecting Guidebook on “Looking for Homeland”.

How to lead the seminars

- TeamWorks Seminars are designed to foster discussions within the group. Your primary role as the seminar leader is to facilitate discussions.
- When you come to a discussion slide divide people into groups of three or four people. Have them share with one another. After they are finished, you can ask individuals to share with the wider group.
- Avoid starting with the larger group. Why? Because few people are willing to talk in front of larger groups. By dividing into smaller groups you help everyone have an opportunity to share their ideas.
- Spiritual Life Template: If you did TeamWorks: Spiritual Life of the Leaders and are doing the whole series, start each seminar with the Spiritual Life Template.



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Connecting

Seminar 1: Looking for Homeland

By Faith

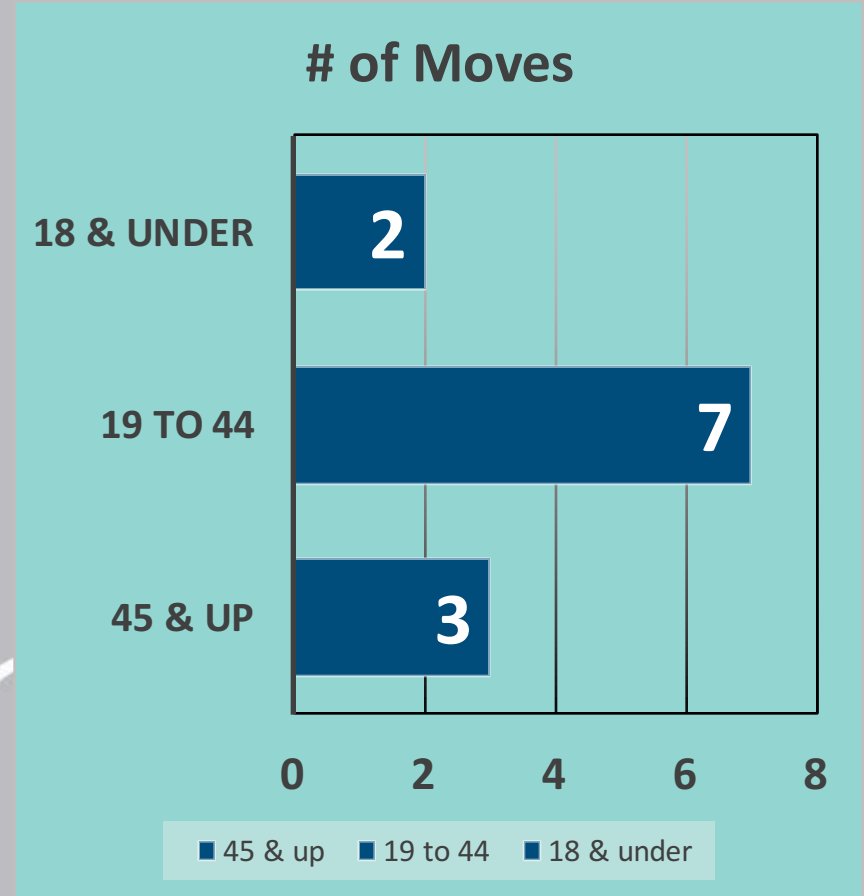
By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.... All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them. Hebrews 11:8-16

Americans on the Move

Moving causes people to look anew at their values

- Americans are on the move. 33% of the population has moved within the last five years.
- Each time people move, they reevaluate the way they use their time, connect with new people, and are open to new experiences.

Number of Moves by Age



How Has Your Neighborhood Changed?



Discussion 1:

List 5 things that have changed in the last five years.

- Housing
- New buildings/
abandoned buildings
- Schools and churches
- Transit (buses, trains, etc.)
- Types of people who live in the area

The New Neighborhood



As neighborhoods transition from the old to the new, *new* residents and *existing* residents have different experiences of change.

New Residents

- Making a new start
- Filled with hope
- Look to the future



Existing Residents

- Like it the way it is
- Fearful of change
- Remember the past

HOMELAND: Where a person lived before the age of eighteen.

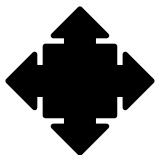
- Location
- Favorite foods
- Language and accents
- Sports teams
- Holidays & celebrations
- Family & friends
- Faith experiences



These are carried with you for your whole lifetime!

HOMELAND: Where a person lived before the age of eighteen.

- Location
- Favorite foods
- Language and accents
- Sports teams
- Holidays & celebrations
- Family & friends
- Faith experiences




Share with another person your homeland –
where you lived before the age of 18

DISPLACEMENT: What happens after a person has moved from their homeland.

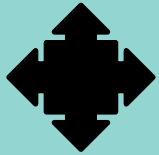
- Longing for home
- Us against them
- Discouragement



The farther you move the greater the displacement



DISPLACEMENT: What happens
after a person has moved from
their homeland.



Discussion 2:

When have you experienced displacement?
(share with two or three other people)

- Moving to a new town, state, nation
- Going to college
- New job or school
- A change in a relationship
- Appointment to a different church

A Key Decision for Newcomers



Stay Here



Live in
Displacement



Go Back

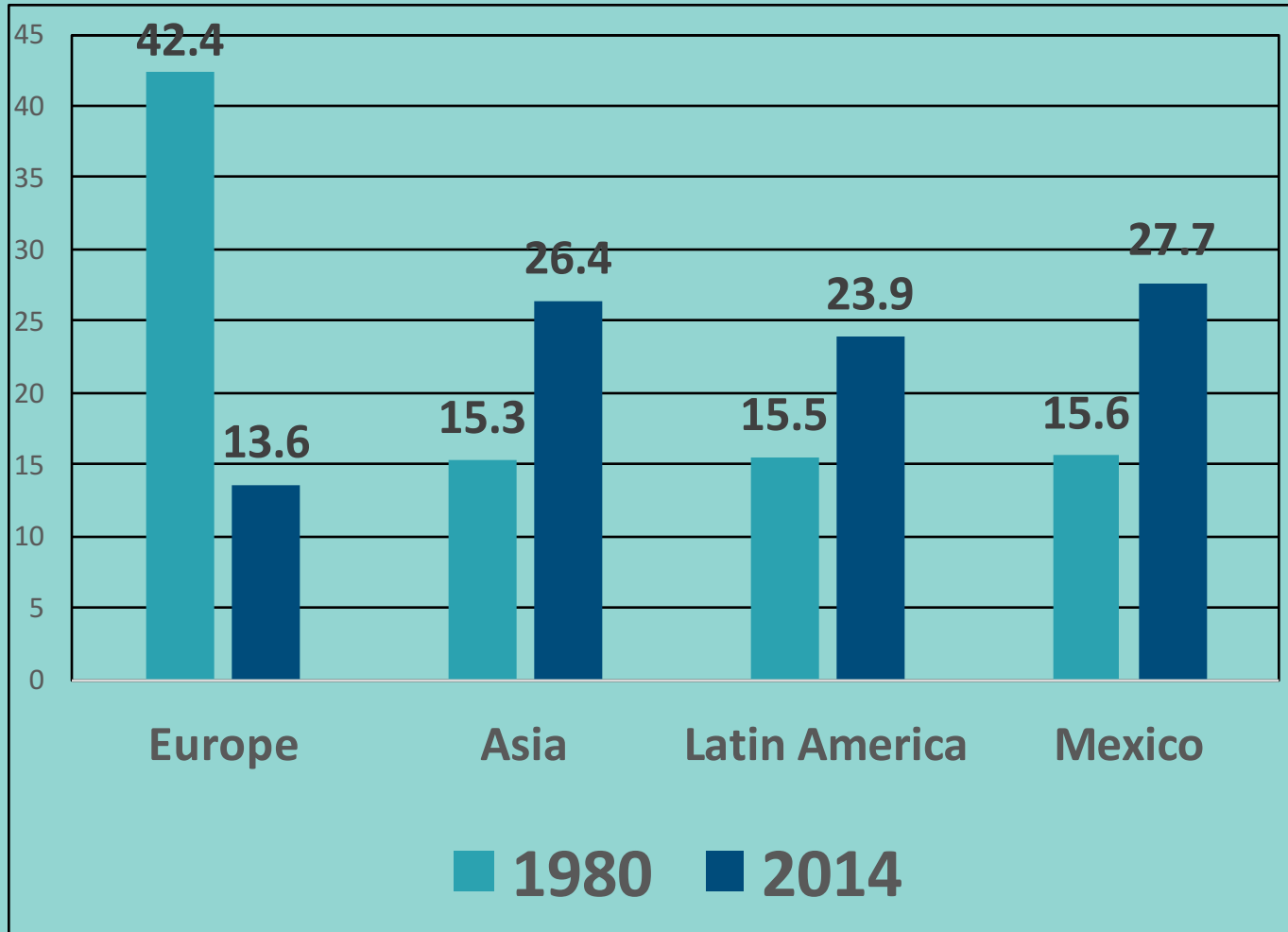


Foreign-Born U.S. Residents

1980 & 2014

Where People Moved From by %

of Foreign-Born



1980

14 Million

7% of
Population

2014

42 Million

13% of
population

Source: Pew Research Center, Hispanic Trends
Origins of the U.S. Immigrant Population, 1960-2014

Defining the Generations

Source: Pew Research Center, Statistical Portrait of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States, 2016

1.5 GENERATION: Those born outside the U.S. but moved to the U.S. before the age of 18.

Children of Immigrants

3 Million are 1.5 Generation
4% of all U.S. Children under 18

16 million are second generation
22% of all U.S. Children

FIRST GENERATION

Immigrant adults who live in the U.S. but were born outside the United States.

13.9%

SECOND GENERATION

U.S. born children who have at least one parent who was born outside the United States.

11.9%

THIRD GENERATION and higher

Children of United States born parents & indigenous peoples.

74.2%

Defining the Generations



Discussion 3:
How does your family fit into these descriptions?
(share with 3 or 4 others)

1.5 GENERATION: Those born outside the U.S. but moved to the U.S. before the age of 18.

Children of Immigrants

3 Million are 1.5 Generation
4% of all U.S. Children under 18

16 million are second generation
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FIRST GENERATION

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THIRD GENERATION and higher

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74.2%

RECREATING HOMELAND: When a person stays, they try to recreate what they left behind.

- Language
- Customs
- Food
- Entertainment
- Sports
- Decorations in home
- Spiritual practices




**Shao Mai In
Arcadia, CA**



**Little Italy
in Boston**



**Trader Joe's in
Nashville**



RECREATING HOMELAND:
When a person stays, they try to
recreate what they left behind.



Discussion 4:

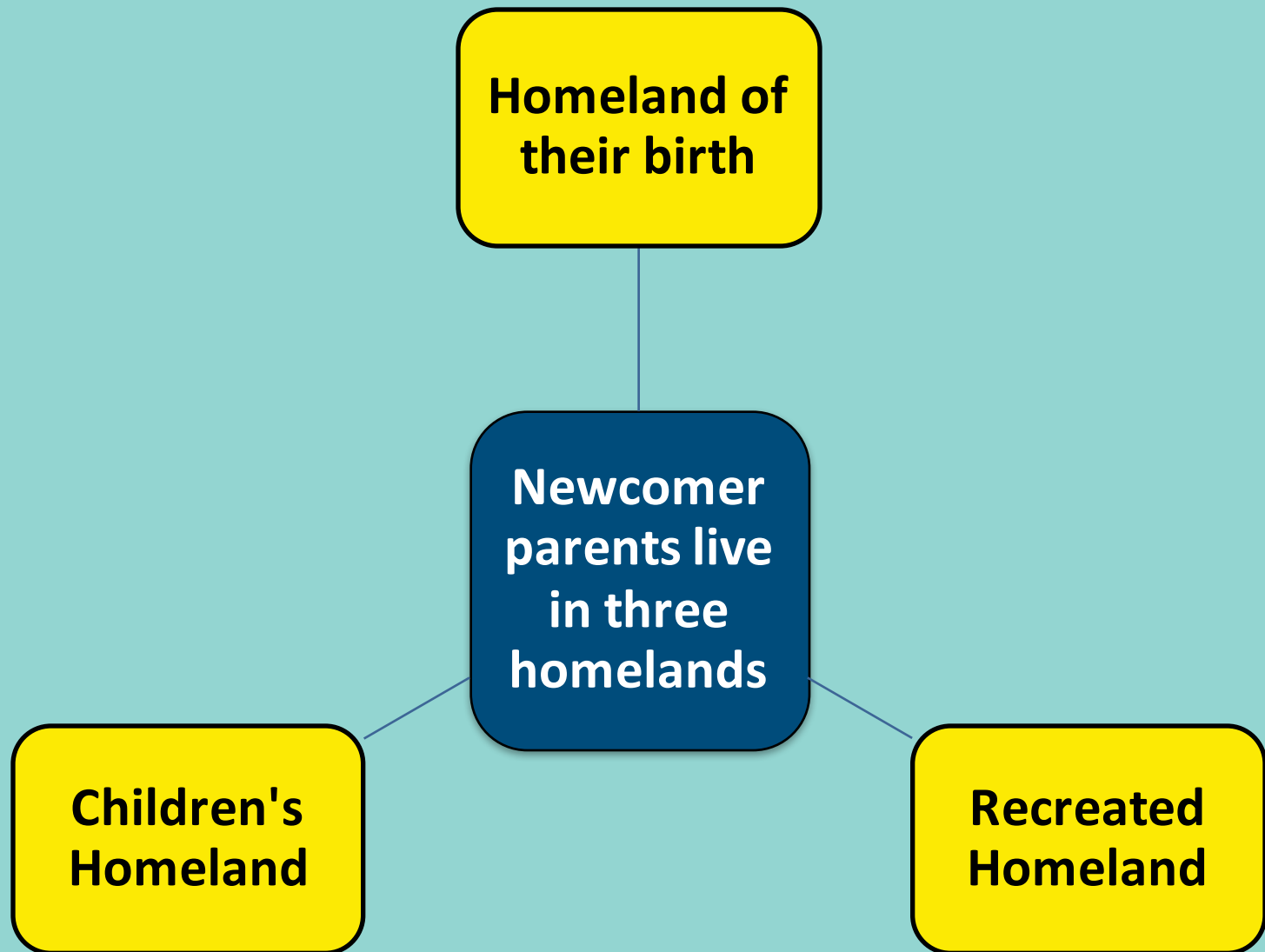
How have you tried to recreate your homeland? (share with two or three people)



**CHILDREN BORN IN THE NEW
HOMELAND CREATE THEIR
OWN CULTURE**

- Children adopt to the culture of their homeland
- Children help parents navigate the new homeland
- Parents hope their children will have better opportunities than they had when they were growing up.

Create a new emerging culture!



This is true whether you are moving from one community to another or moving from outside the United States.



THE CHURCH RESPONDS

The local church responds to changing demographics in its community by.....

Embracing Newcomers,
Co-creating with the emerging culture,
Or protecting itself against change.



STAGE ONE CHURCHES

- Exist to protect the needs and traditions of those who have never moved
- Want to protect their homeland from change
- Hold on to the traditions of the past

Hope newcomers will become like them!



STAGE TWO CHURCHES

- Try to maintain what they have while offering hospitality
- Share facilities (landlord/renter)
- Try to maintain separate identities

Live in a constant stage of displacement



STAGE THREE CHURCHES

- Create new faith communities
- Draw from emerging culture
- New churches and new worship experiences
- Multi-ethnic/multi-generational
- Have a shared identity and purpose

Create a new spiritual homeland



Discussion 5:

Which stage best represents your church?

Stage One: Protects its traditions

Stage Two: Lives in displacement

Stage Three: Co-creates with the emerging culture

THE CHALLENGE

Stage One



People respond
to change in
different ways.

Stage Three

Stage Two



STAGE ONE PEOPLE

Seek to protect the traditions of the church while hoping newcomers will become like them in worship style, service, administration, and spiritual disciplines.



STAGE TWO PEOPLE

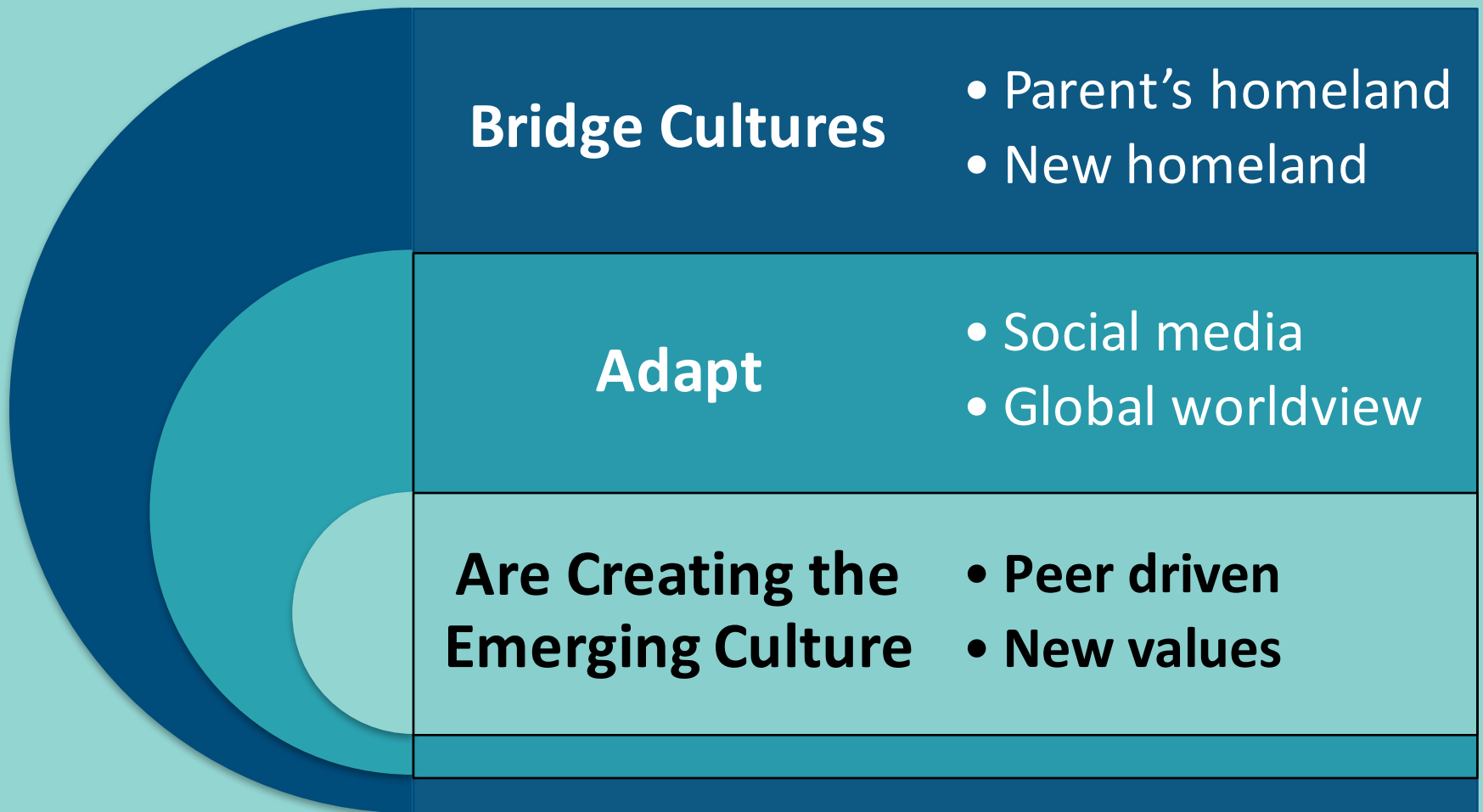
Show hospitality while trying to keep things the same. The goal is to avoid conflict at any cost. But just like a church can not stay in a state of disruption, if individuals do not move to Stage Three, they will eventually drop out.



STAGE THREE PEOPLE

These individuals learn to embrace cultural change while maintaining their own individual identities as children of God. They are willing to listen to new ideas and try new experiences as long as they do not negate their core Christian values. They are open because they want to share their faith with others.

Younger Americans are Third-Stage People





Discussion 6:

What are the implications of this concept of “Homeland” to your church?

How are you creating a spiritual homeland for people who are currently attending your church?

How are you creating a spiritual homeland for newcomers?

Current Reality

- Takes a fresh look at what is happening now
- Gives a snapshot in time
- Is critical for determining future directions and discovering opportunities
- Needs to be understood before vision can be articulated

Mapping Current Reality

On a large sheet of newsprint draw a map of your area using the instructions below. (divide into groups of three to five people - each group will do a map)

1. With felt pens draw a map showing major roads and natural boundaries (lakes, rivers, oceans, mountains, etc.)
2. Use **Yellow post-it** notes to represent each church. Place them on the map with their names and indicate the seating capacity for each church.
3. Use **Blue post-it** notes to represent major retail centers and gathering places (grocery stores, malls, shopping areas, restaurants, etc.).
4. Use **Purple post-it** notes for schools, colleges, and hospitals.
5. Use **Red post-it** notes to identify residential areas where people are currently living. (houses, apartments, condos, etc.) Use “X” marks to indicate new construction.
6. Use **Green post-it** notes to represent major employers and businesses.
7. Write on the post-its any other important info like new 12-story condo or grocery store closed, etc.

Mapping Current Reality

On a large sheet of newsprint draw a map of your area using the information below. (divide into groups of three to five people - each group will do

1. With felt pens draw a map showing major roads and natural features (lakes, rivers, oceans).
2. Use Yellow post-it notes to label major roads with their names and numbers.
3. Use Blue post-it notes to label major cities (grocery stores, malls, etc.).
4. Use Purple post-it notes to label major bodies of water.
5. Use Red post-it notes to label major landmarks or points of interest.
6. Use Green post-it notes to label major parks or recreational areas.
7. Write on the post-its any other important info like new businesses, etc.



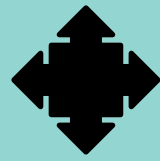
EXAMPLE OF A MAP



Mapping Current Reality

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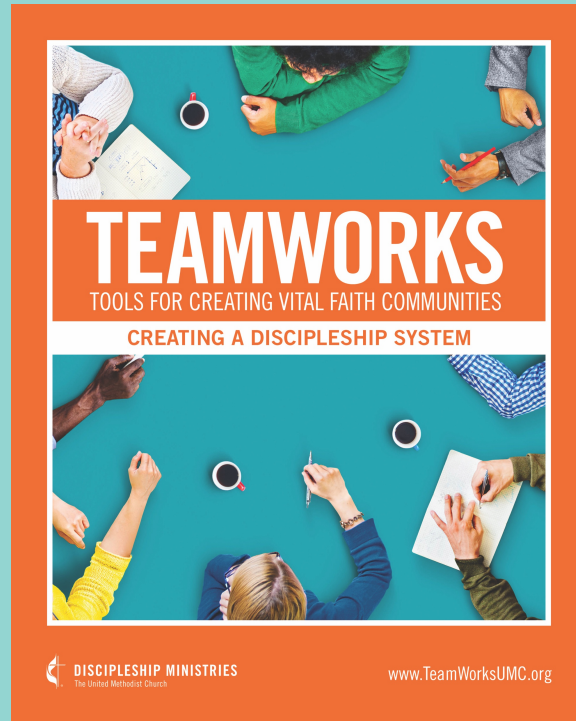
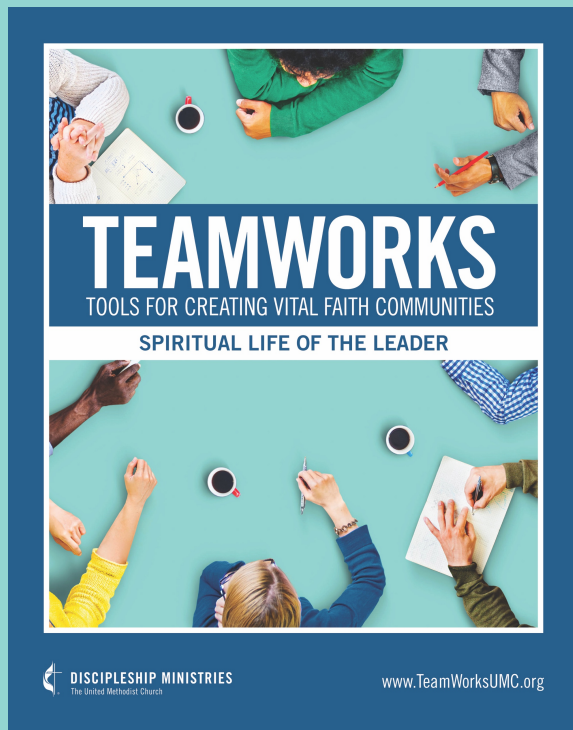
Discussion 7

- **What does this tell you about your community?**
- **What else do you need to know to get an accurate picture of your community?**
- **What does this say about your church's connection to people in your community?**

Assignments

- Read the MyWork devotions before your next seminar.
- Fill out three surveys of local business and/or restaurants in the neighborhood around your church that you have never visited and complete them before your next seminar using the *Demographics By Walking Around* material found in MyWork NICHE: Context.
- As a group set your time for your next meeting.

TeamWorks Series



www.TeamWorksUMC.org