RECLAIMING MISSION

Going & Gathering

Recovering the Missional Heart of God

The Rev. Canon Michael D. Vinson
NEMA Synod · Reformed Episcopal Church
November 5–6, 2026

◆ The Church does not become missional because it is declining. **The Church is missional because God is missional.**

FOLLOW ALONG

I **The Question Beneath Our Questions**
Before we ask what to do, remember who we are.

II **The Sending God**
"As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." John 20:21

III **Heart Precedes Hands**
Mission flows from a heart formed at prayer and at the altar.

IV **Going & Gathering**
The Great Supper, Luke 14. Street · Front Porch · House · Altar. See the map overleaf.

V **Four Objections**
Too small · No money · One priest · Too strange

VI **Begin Where You Are**
Four steps, starting this week.

NOTES

YOUR PARISH MILE

Three places

within a mile of your church where you have never been seen

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

Three names

people you will pray for, by name, every day this week

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

"People will often come to us when they can see us, and when we are not in a hurry."

BEGIN WHERE YOU ARE

☐ **1. Pray and pay attention**
Ask God for his heart for your neighbors.

☐ **2. Define your Parish Mile**
The people and places already within reach.

☐ **3. One going, one gathering**

Going: _____

Gathering: _____

☐ **4. Review what you learn**
At thirty and ninety days. Let the numbers serve the mission.

Going & Gathering Workbook

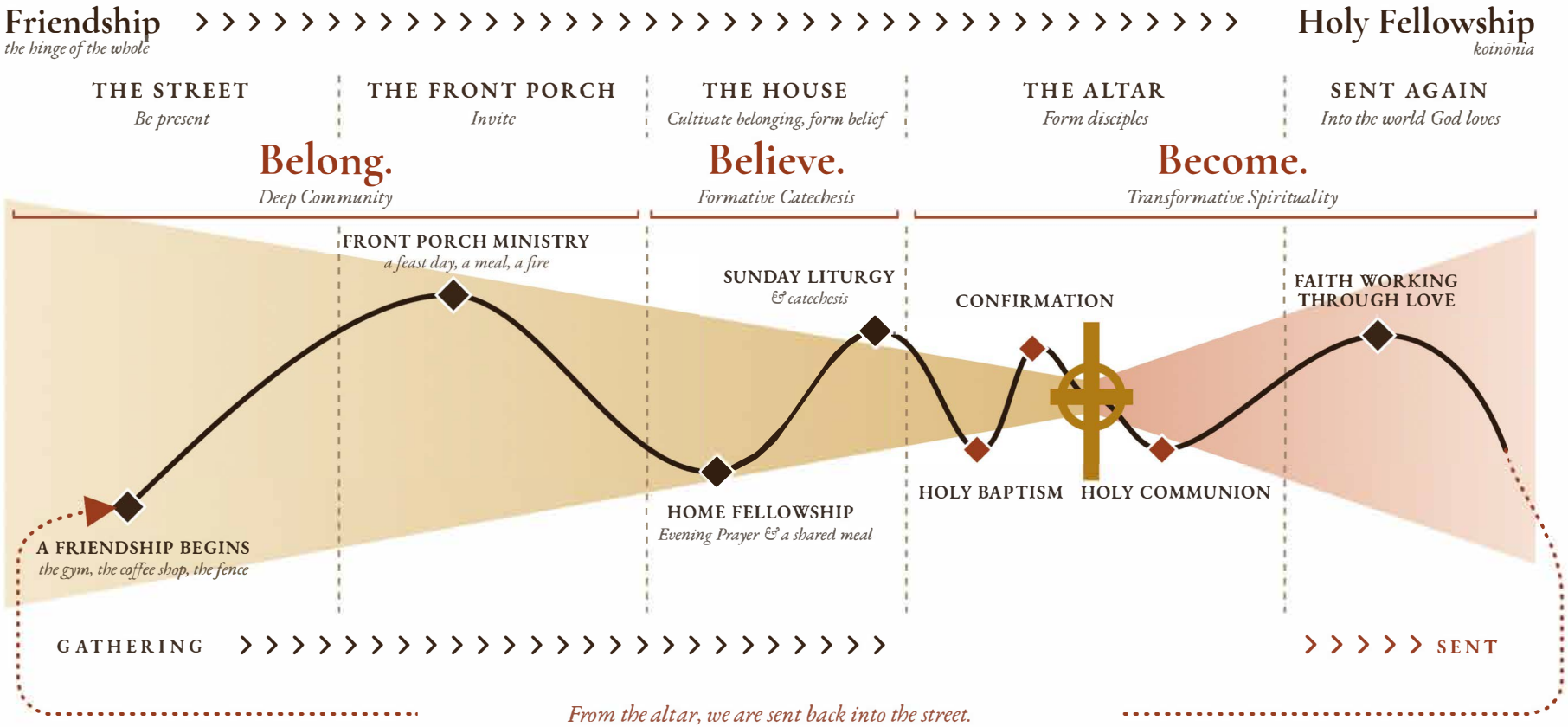
To assist rectors, vestries, and churchmen discern, create, and implement an evangelism plan to recapture the missional heart of God.

Scan for the planning guide and 90-day worksheet.

◆ *Gathered by grace. Sent in love.* ◆

Going & Gathering

The map of the Great Supper — "Go out into the streets and lanes … that my house may be filled." Luke 14



READ LEFT TO RIGHT

A friendship begins in the street, draws near on the front porch, comes into the house, and is gathered at last to the altar.

NARROW, THEN WIDE

The shape narrows as people are gathered toward Christ, and opens again because those who are gathered are sent.

NOT A LINE, A CIRCLE

Follow the dotted line: from the altar, we are sent back into the street. Not rigid stages; the Holy Ghost is not so tidy.