

# Welcome!



## NEW BEGINNINGS



**HOPE**  
Partnership *for* Missional Transformation

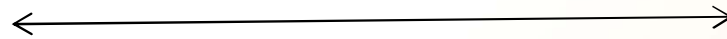
# **Come and See New Beginnings**

Matt Rosine

# Poll

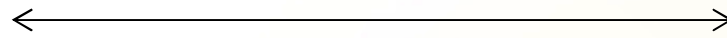


Our church has more dreams than memories.



Our church has more memories than dreams.

Our worship service is reverent.



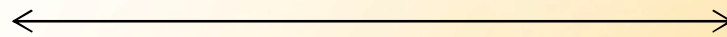
Our worship service is innovative.

We mostly know the neighbors around our church.



Neighbors around our church are strangers to us.

People under 50 outnumber people over 50.



People over 50 outnumber people under 50.

# Christianity in North America is experiencing a major shift!



“Every 500 years, the Church of God undergoes a **rummage sale.**”

# Congregations are experiencing this shift in different ways



- Declining attendance & membership
- New people who may not want to participate in ways we're used to
- Changing demographics in the community
- Empty or under-used rooms in our church buildings
- "Tried-and-true" ministries don't work as well

# More and more churches are becoming unsustainable

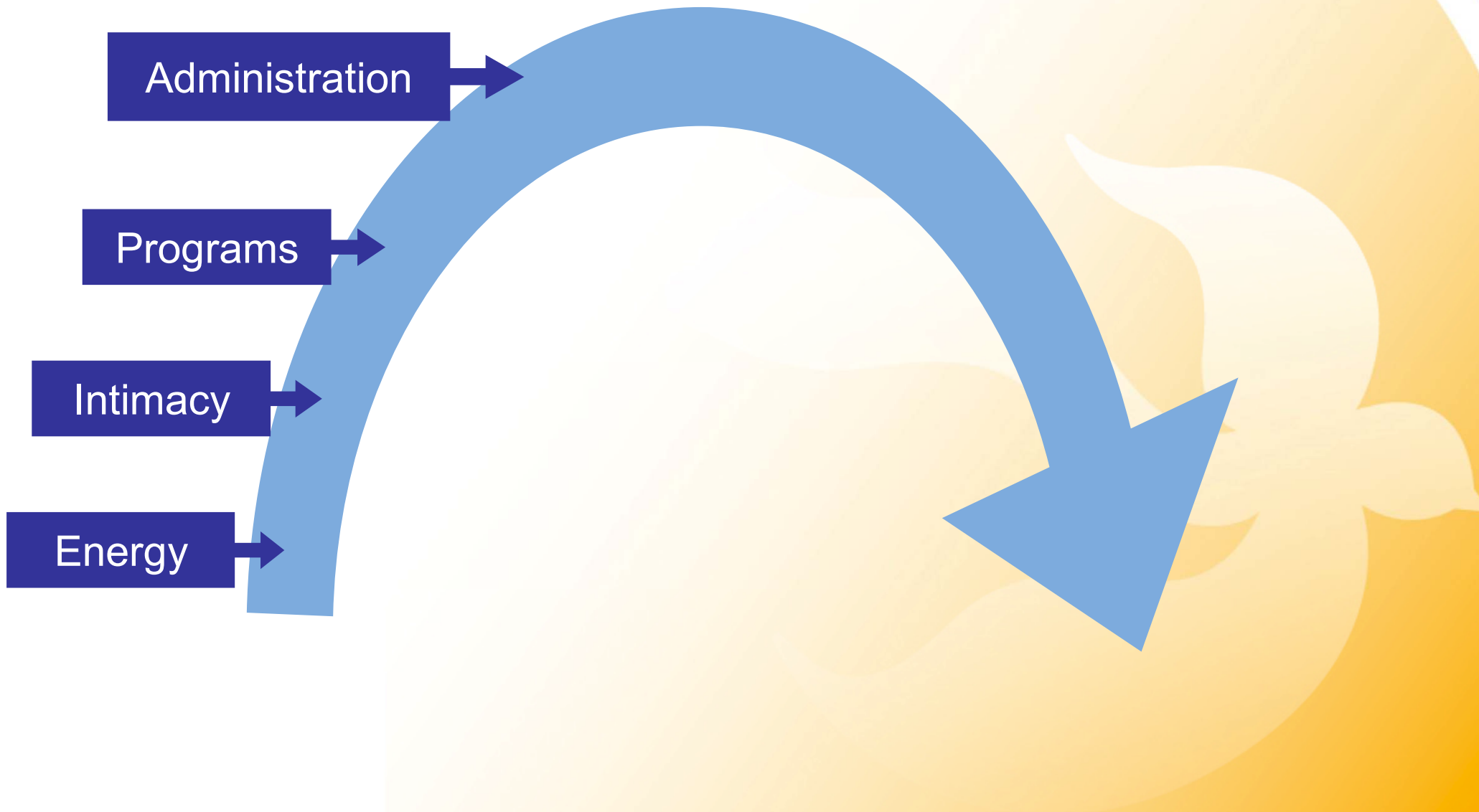


- Using money from investments, endowments or property sale to support the budget.
- Renting space to various groups. Mission of the church becomes that of “landlord.”
- Annual budget cuts.
- Reducing pastoral staff from full-time to part-time.
- Concern about survival or “keeping the doors open.”
- Same people do the same jobs every year.

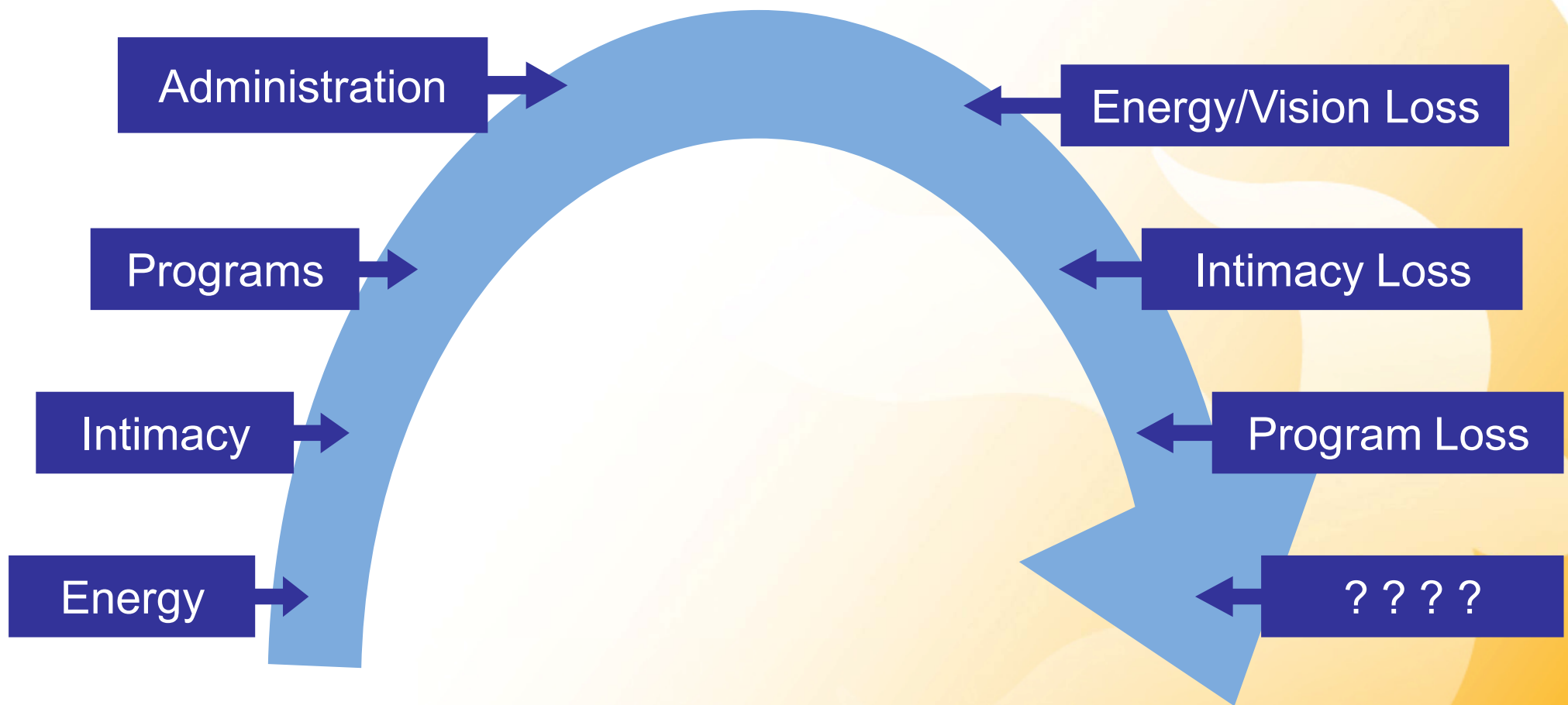
# A Simple Congregational Lifecycle



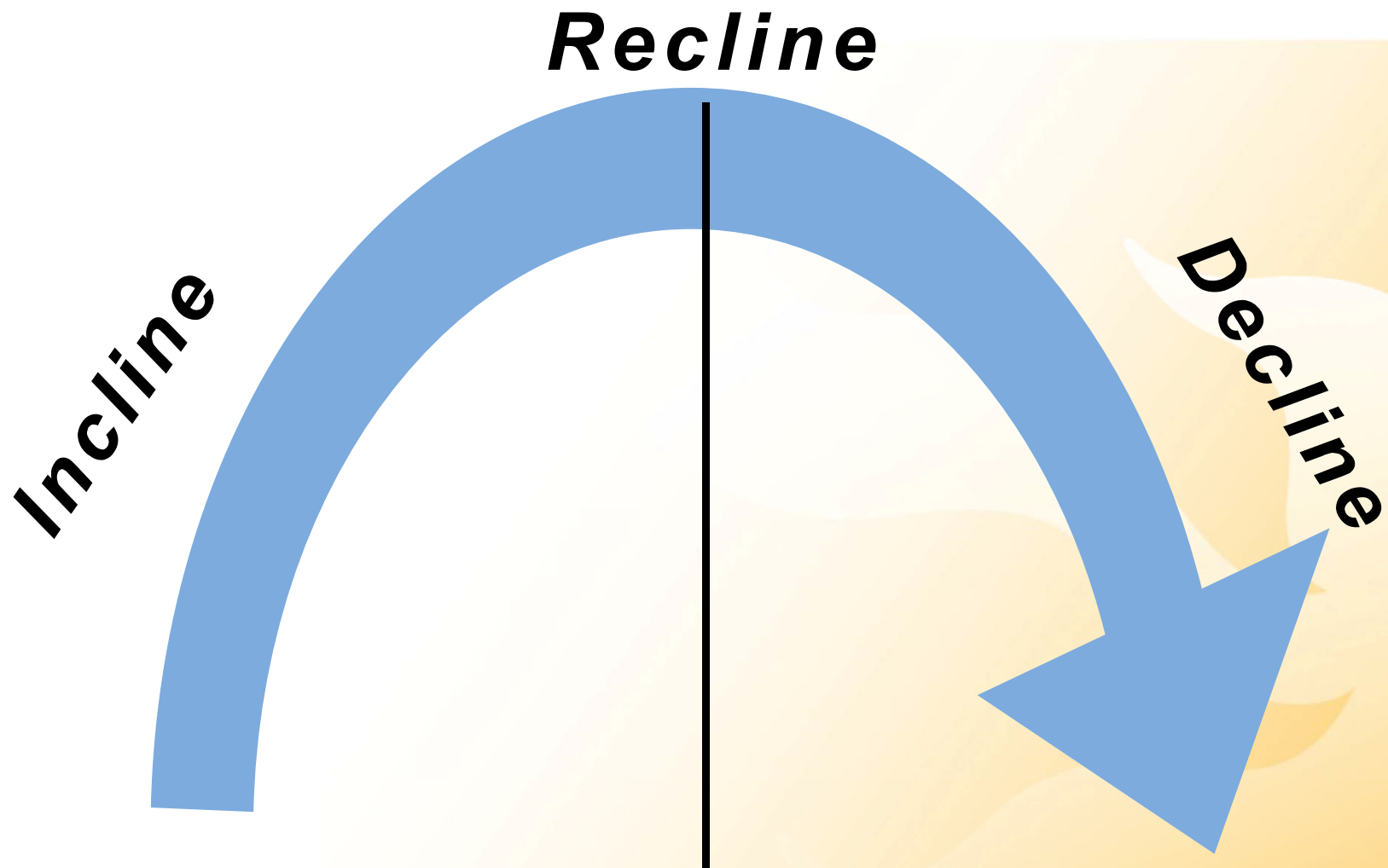
# A church develops different elements at different points



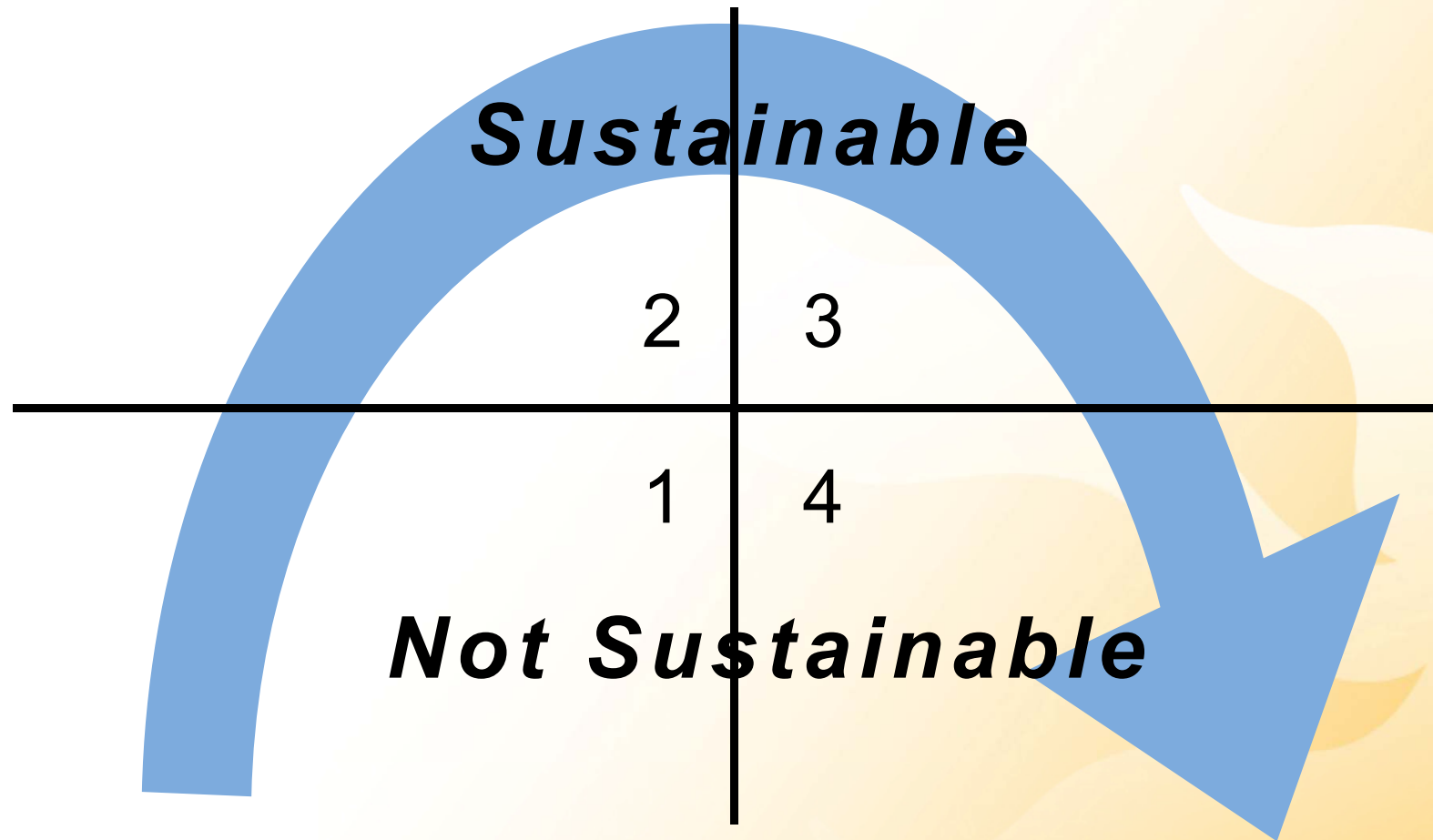
# A church also loses elements in fairly predictable pattern



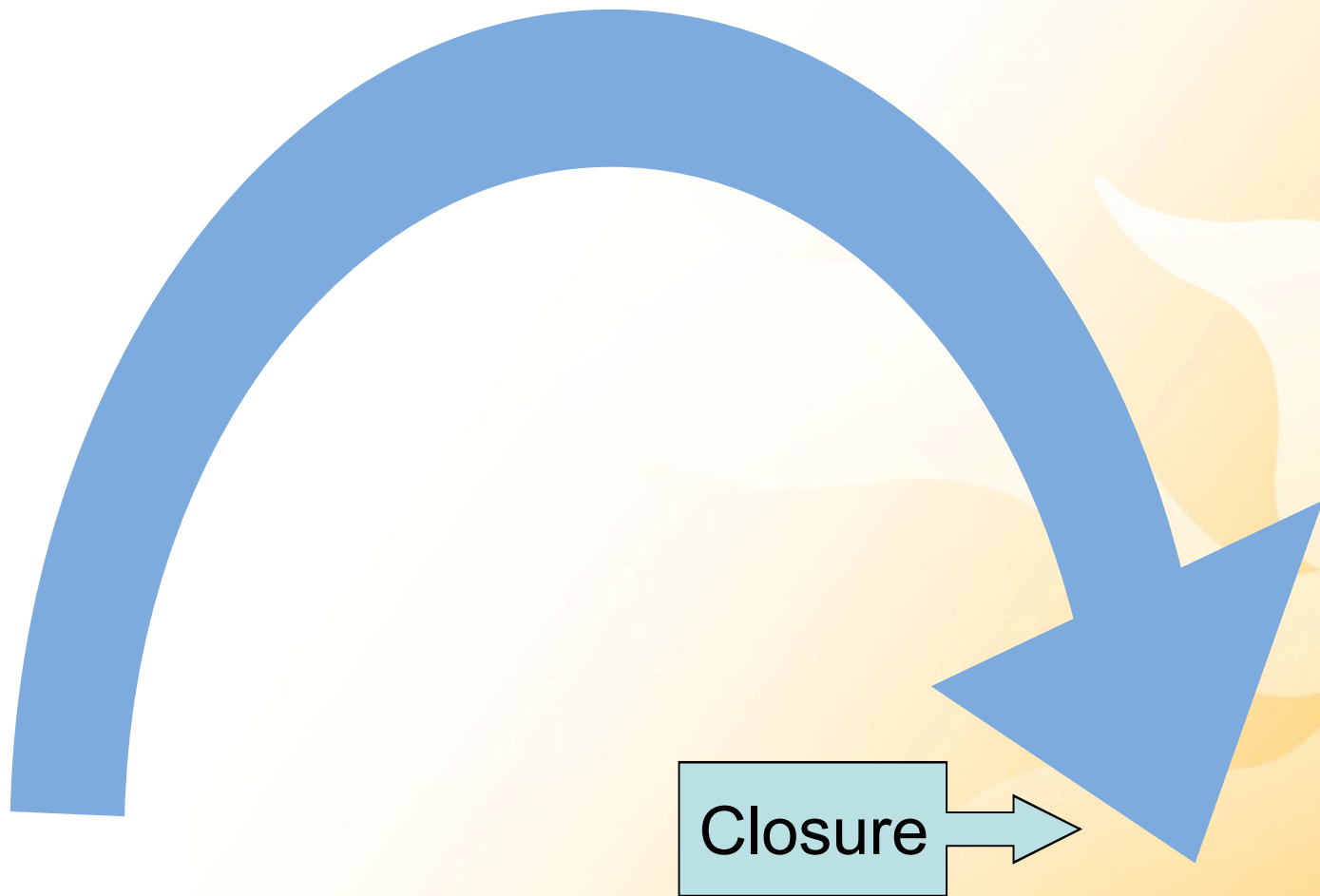
# Dividing the lifecycle into quadrants



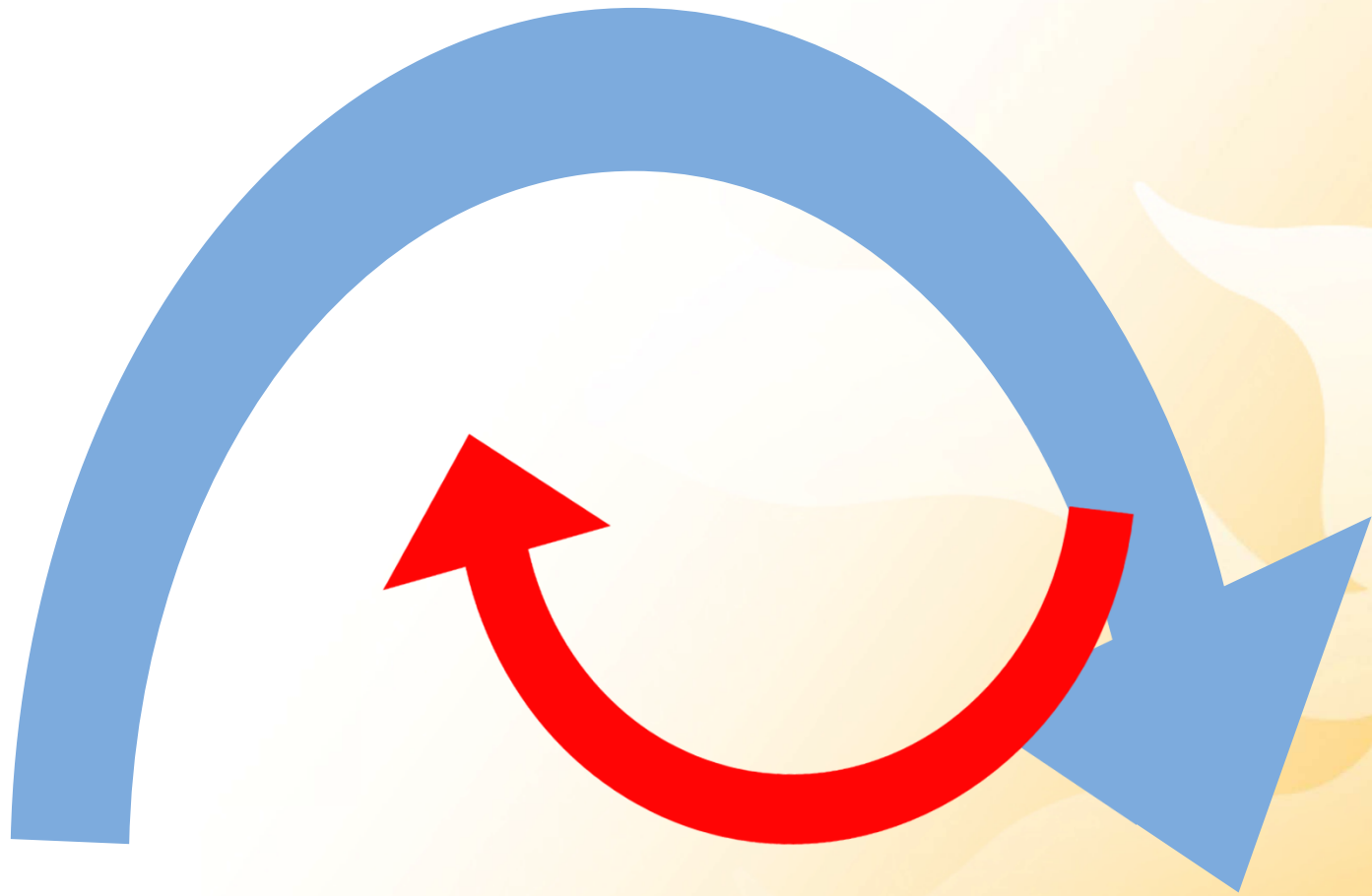
# Are we still sustainable?




Without an intervention, the avg. congregation lives 60-80 yrs



When a church declines, anxiety goes up & we focus on survival



But a completely new thing is required!

A large blue arrow curves from the top left towards the bottom right. A green arrow with a grid pattern curves from the bottom left towards the top right. The background is a warm, yellow-to-orange gradient with a stylized sun and clouds.

New Beginnings helps  
you see the new thing  
that is emerging

# New Beginnings Assessment Service



A tool to help congregations find new life and reinvent themselves for God's mission



# Where is **New Beginnings** best suited?



- Income is not covering expenses
- Empty spaces in the building and/or too many empty pews
- Neighborhood around the church has changed
- Members are growing tired and slowing down
- Church needs a “jumpstart”

# What does **New Beginnings** observe and measure?



- Your facility's visitor attractiveness
- Powerful up-to-date demographic and psychographic info about your community
- Gaps between the church and community
- Trends in attendance, giving & expenses
- Online presence
- Strengths of the congregation
- Needs in the community



# What does **New Beginnings** do?



- Provides a clear process to follow
- Brings everyone on the same page about what's really happening in the church and community
- Helps the church understand the people of the community and their ministry needs
- Helps your congregation make a **BOLD** decision for the future

# What kind of **BOLD** decision?



- To stay in the neighborhood and more effectively reach the people of the community
- OR, to move to a more financially-sustainable facility
- OR, to launch a new ministry that reaches people in new ways
- OR, . . .

# Elements of New Beginnings



1. Assessment Visit (one day)
2. Leader Training (Friday & Saturday)
3. House Meetings (six weeks)
4. Bold Decision Made



# The Assessment Visit



- One hour property tour to view the building, inside & out
- One hour “windshield tour” to observe your ministry habitat
- 45 min. meeting with financial officer(s)
- Discussion about church calendar
- “No host” dinner with pastor and 1-2 lay leaders
- Appreciative Inquiry session with congregation

# The Leaders' Retreat



- Weekend retreat with other New Beginnings congregations in the area
- For 8-12 of your lay leaders
- Review of the Assessment Report
- Training for small group meetings
- Network with other church leaders

# The House Meetings



- Involves 50% of the congregation in discernment and decision-making
- Led by lay people (who attend the Leader Retreat)
- Six week process
- Leads your church to make a bold decision

# New Beginnings Timeline



Whole process takes 4-6 months

- Complete **Request Form by 10/10**
- Assessment Visit (Nov 17-21)
- Leader Training (Jan 23-24, 2015)
- House Meetings (six weeks, led by trained church leaders)

Region/Conference/Presbytery involvement

# New Beginnings Cost

- Cost varies by denomination
- Includes all travel, reports, manuals
- Cost reduced by working in a “cluster”

## For Presbyterian congregations:

- Cost is \$2,800 per church

## For UCC congregations:

- Cost is \$2,800 per church

## For Disciples congregations:

- Cost is \$2,600 per church

# Questions?

[www.HopePMT.org/NB](http://www.HopePMT.org/NB)

**Whatisourfuturestory.com**

Matt Rosine

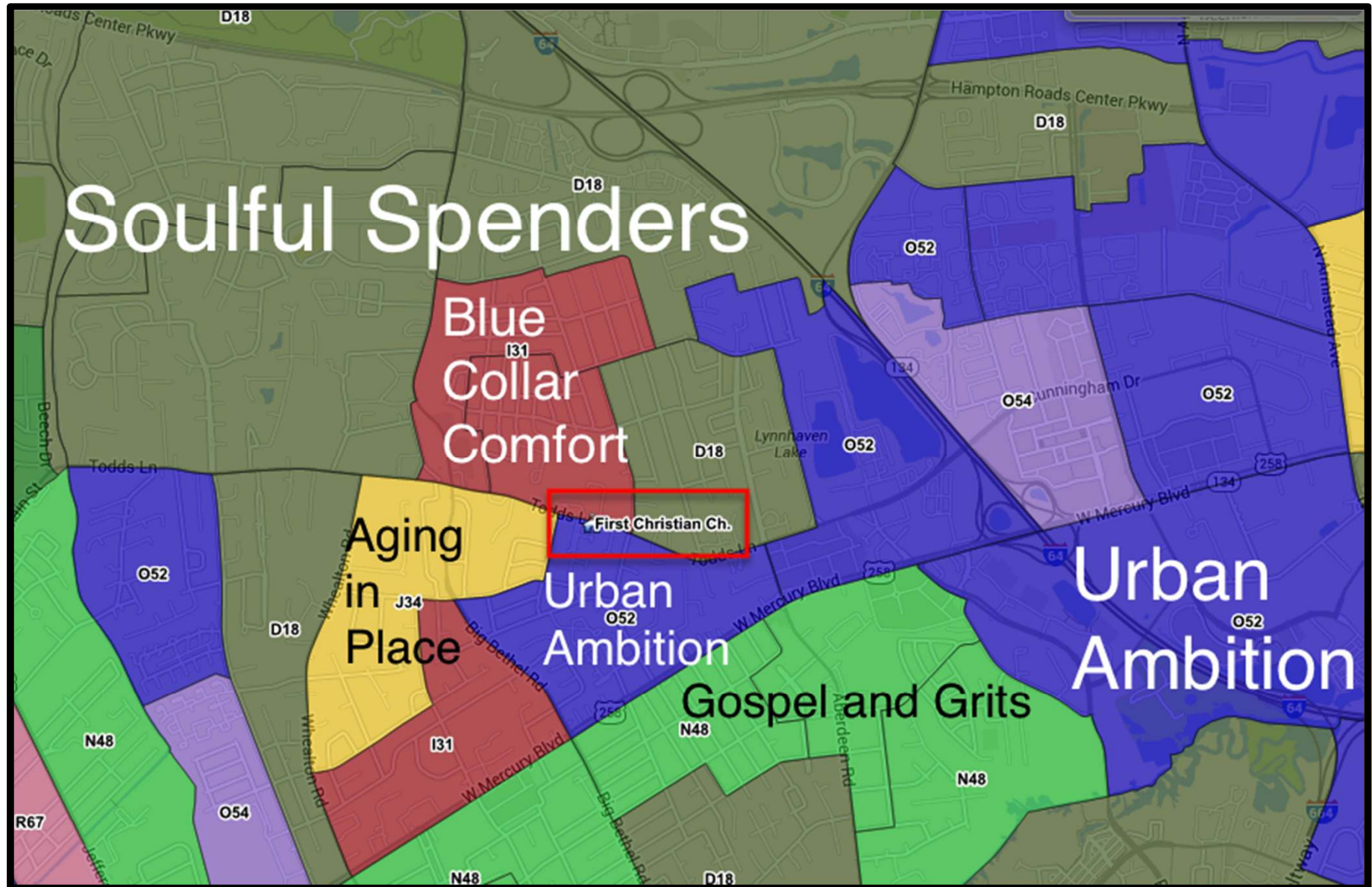
Minister for Training

MRosine@HopePMT.org

Toll Free 800-274-1883

Blog: [www.MattRosine.com](http://www.MattRosine.com)

# People groups near the church



# Hope Partnership can help!

## Hope Services:

The Journey (in clusters)

MissionPathways Ministry Planning

Coaching for Pastors

### Typical Characteristics:

Financially sustainable

Growing/Vibrant

Leadership may feel stretched

2

3

## Hope Services:

The Journey (in clusters)

MissionPathways Ministry Planning

Coaching for Pastors

Assessments for Redevelopment Pastors

New Beginnings (late 3<sup>rd</sup> Quadrant)

### Typical Characteristics:

Seeking new vision for the next chapter

Some programs have outlived usefulness

Still financially stable, but wary of future

## Hope Services:

Regional New Church Team Orientation

Church Planter Discernment & Coaching

Planter Training at Leadership Academy

Assessments for New Church Planters

### Typical Characteristics:

Full of energy, vision, & promise

Chaotic, disorganized

May struggle to "fit in" with Disciples

1

4

## Hope Services:

New Beginnings Assessment Service

Coaching for Pastors

Gift Agreements for Congregations that Close

### Typical Characteristics:

Energy and creativity has waned

Facilities are too big &/or too expensive

Little or no connection to neighborhood

**LEADERSHIP ACADEMY for Pastors and Lay Leaders from all Quadrants**  
**Basic and Advanced Tracks for Transforming Churches & Church Planting Teams**