

Executive Summary

The Congregation Assessment Tool was recently administered in your church. 468 persons were invited to participate; of these, 111 persons responded. A response from every member is not required to provide valid results. For a complete readout, please review the Vital Signs report that was sent to your church. A summary of that report is provided below.

Overall, approximately 57% of your members are clearly satisfied with things in the church. This, along with other information, indicates that the church has options which include growth, expansion, replication, and external impact. Whether any of these will be realized depends on the choices made.

Not every question is of equal importance to members. When asked how satisfied they are, members tend to focus on the issues addressed in the questions below. When they feel more positive in these areas, they tend to feel more positive overall.

- **Our former Rector helped us accomplish our mission by bringing out the best in everyone.**

- **Our church prepares our members for ministry by helping them discern their gifts.**

- **The whole spirit in our congregation makes people want to get as involved as possible.**

- **Persons who serve as leaders in our church are representative of the membership.**

- **Our former Rector made things happen.**

Conversely, when your members feel less positive about the areas above, they tend to feel less satisfied with their experience in the church overall.

Every church exhibits patterns in its life that contain strengths and potential weaknesses. Your church has potential strengths related to inclusiveness and advocacy. Potential weaknesses include a tendency to intellectualize every issue and difficulty in establishing identity and vision.

As members look to the future, their top four goals are

- **Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.**

- **Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.**

- **Provide more opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation at every age and stage of life.**

- **Develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.**

In comparison to other churches, three goals that are unusually strong for your church are

- **Strengthen the pastoral response of the church in serving people in times of need (emotional, mental, physical, spiritual, etc.).**

- **Enlarge or improve the physical facilities of the church to expand or enhance our ministries.**

- **Strengthen the management and support of persons in various ministries so that they are able to do what they do best in work that is meaningful and celebrated.**

These may warrant attention from the leadership even if they are mid-level priorities.

All the information in this report should be explored and validated in further conversation. **Survey data is not the end of a conversation but the beginning.**