

Executive Summary

The Congregation Assessment Tool was recently administered in your church. 216 persons were invited to participate; of these, 122 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 49% of your members are clearly satisfied with things in the church. This, along with other information, indicates that while church members have a relatively high level of satisfaction they may not be experiencing the level of energy and purpose necessary for a vital church.

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.

- **The worship services at our church are exceptional in both quality and spiritual content.**
- **In important decisions in our church, adequate opportunity for consideration of different approaches is usually provided.**
- **Our Interim Rector helps us accomplish our mission by bringing out the best in everyone.**
- **Persons who serve as leaders in our church are representative of the membership.**
- **The whole spirit in our congregation makes people want to get as involved as possible.**

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 openness and structure of religious practice. Potential weaknesses include a tendency to become tradition-bound and overwhelmed with needs.

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.**
- **Change or improve the music of the church to deepen our worship experience.**
- **Provide more opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation at every age and stage of life.**

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

- **Change or improve the music of the church to deepen our worship experience.**
- **Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment.**
- **Work as an advocate for social and institutional change so that society might better reflect the values of the kingdom of God.**

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.**