

Executive Summary

The Congregation Assessment Tool was recently administered in your church. 250 persons were invited to participate; of these, 177 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 76% 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.

- The worship services at our church are exceptional in both quality and spiritual content.
- In preaching, our Co-Pastors engage people with a message that enriches their lives in the world.
- Being part of this church community has given new meaning to my life.
- Our Co-Pastors help us accomplish our mission by bringing out the best in everyone.
- Our church prepares our members for ministry by helping them discern their gifts.

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

- Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.
- 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.
- Strengthen the process by which members are called and equipped for ministry and leadership.
- Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment.

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

- 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.
- Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment.
- Strengthen the pastoral response of the church in serving people with special needs.

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.