

Vital Signs

Summary Documents

generated from

The Church Assessment Tool

11/28/16

"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God"

Philippians 1:9-11

Executive Summary

The Congregation Assessment Tool was recently administered in your church. 197 persons were invited to participate; of these, 77 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 67% 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.

- **Persons who serve as leaders in our church are representative of the membership.**
- **Members in our church have been prepared to personally welcome guests in worship services.**
- **A friendly atmosphere prevails among the members of our church.**
- **There is frequently a small group of members that opposes what the majority want to do.**
- **The leaders of our church show a genuine concern to know what people are thinking when decisions need to be made.**

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 stability and clarity of belief. Potential weaknesses include a tendency to become tradition-bound and conflict-prone.

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