**Small Group Self-Study Data**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our self-study.  Your time and opinion help us to understand more deeply our congregation and what is important to us in our next priest.  Below are the major themes that came from our conversations. We engaged 57 participants and we held 9 meetings both in person and on zoom for people to participate.

This town hall meeting is a chance for us to look at the data together and to discern if there are any callings or actionable steps, we want to take not just for the search but for our congregation moving forward.   At that meeting we will also be informing you of our next steps as the search committee will begin to create written materials.

**Task 1:  On the sheet entitled “Potential Personality Words for Congregations” circle 3-5 words that describe who your congregation is today.**

The 12 words that most describe us are below from highest to lowest.

Friendly

Caring

Compassionate

Generous

Kind

Sociable

Faithful

Accessible

Inclusive

Welcoming

Enthusiastic

Fun Loving

Lovable

**Task 2: What do we (as a congregation) do really well?**

Welcoming New People and Families

We reported that we love doing coffee hour and having parties and gathering together.  We accept people for who they are.

Outreach

Taking Care of Each Other

We reported that we have a high value around taking care of sick and homebound people

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**Task 3:  What will be the three most exciting and important accomplishments of this church community over the next three to five years?How will you know we’ve accomplished these goals?**

Attracting new people, younger membership and families

More community involvement, awareness, and outreach

5 commented that we could leverage the pavilion's use for the community.

Finding and hiring a new priest

**Task 4:  In light of where we just identified we want to go, what might be holding us back? What do we need to do or change so we can accomplish our vision?**

Small Congregation/Volunteer Burnout

Fear of painful change

Lack of funds for a full-time priest

**Task 5: In light of what we want to be, what skills, talents and characteristics will be most important in our new priest?**

Forward thinking/Open minded

10 responders believe we need to move forward without compromising values

Pastoral care/Good shepherd/Visitor to the sick & shut-ins

Possesses the drive to work with and educate children/Sunday school

Engaging, good preacher & speaker who is relatable and has a sense of humor

Outgoing and extroverted who is enthusiastic

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