

## Executive Summary

The Congregation Assessment Tool was recently administered in your church. 160 persons were invited to participate; of these, 57 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.

- **The whole spirit in our congregation makes people want to get as involved as possible.**
- **The same small group of people seem to make most of the important decisions in our church.**
- **Persons who serve as leaders in our church are representative of the membership.**
- **Among most of our members there is a healthy tolerance of differing opinions and beliefs.**
- **Our church changes its program from time to time to meet the changing needs of its members.**

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

- **Change or improve the music of the church to deepen our worship experience.**
- **Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.**
- **Develop the spiritual generosity of the people to financially support the ministry of the church.**
- **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

- **Change or improve the music of the church to deepen our worship experience.**
- **Develop the spiritual generosity of the people to financially support the ministry of the church.**
- **Enlarge or improve the physical facilities of the church to expand or enhance our ministries.**

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.**