

A decorative graphic consisting of two thick, curved bands. The inner band is blue and the outer band is green. They are positioned around the central text, with the blue band being closer to the center. The bands are slightly offset from each other, creating a layered effect. The background is white.

CEC Survey and Listening Session Results



Why HolyCow! Consulting?

- Thousands of surveys conducted across the United States
- Parishes of all sizes
- Provides objective review of our parish as compared to many others



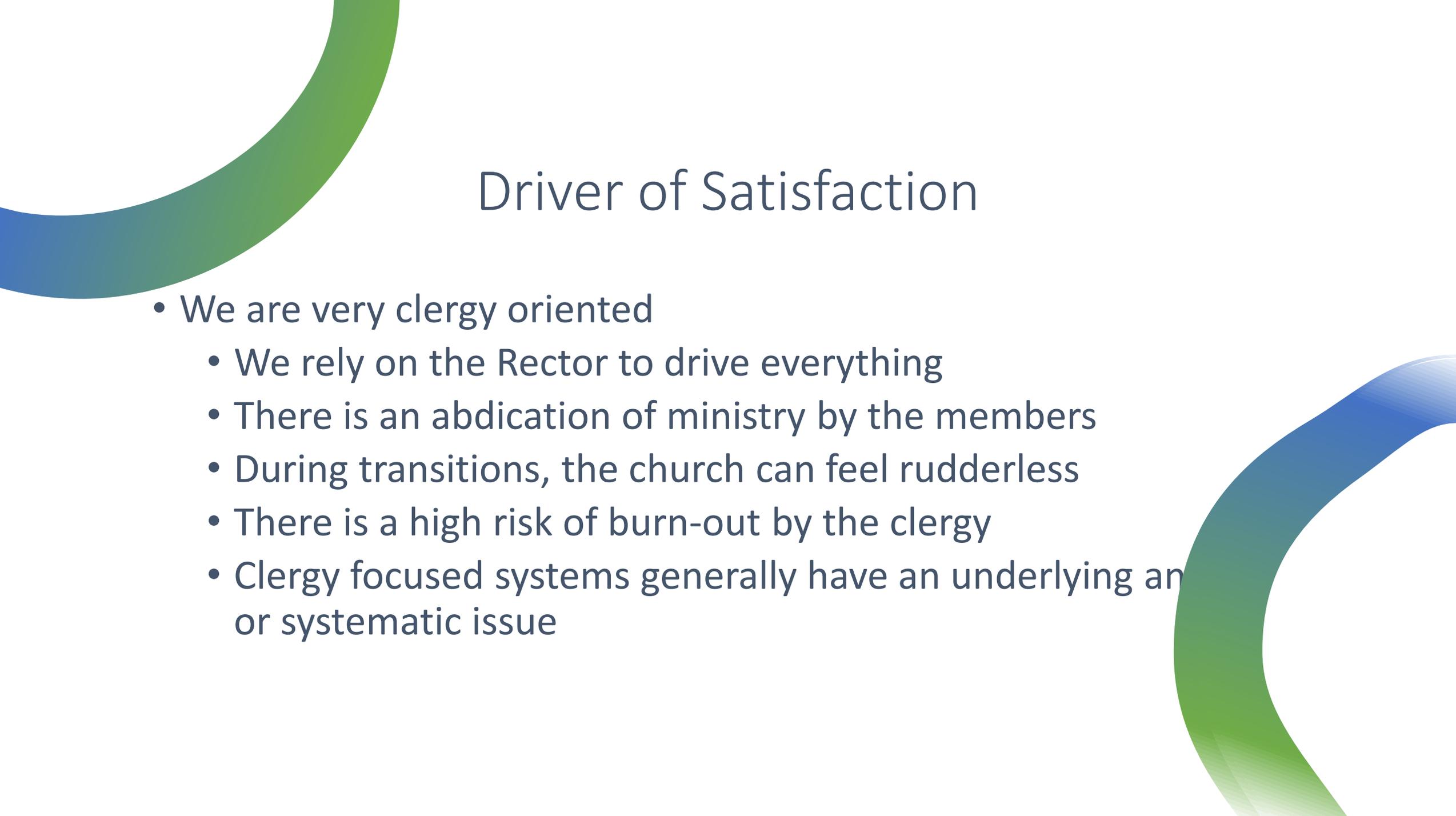
Very Good
Response Rate

- We had a total of 66 responses
 - This is a statistically significant number



What did we discover?

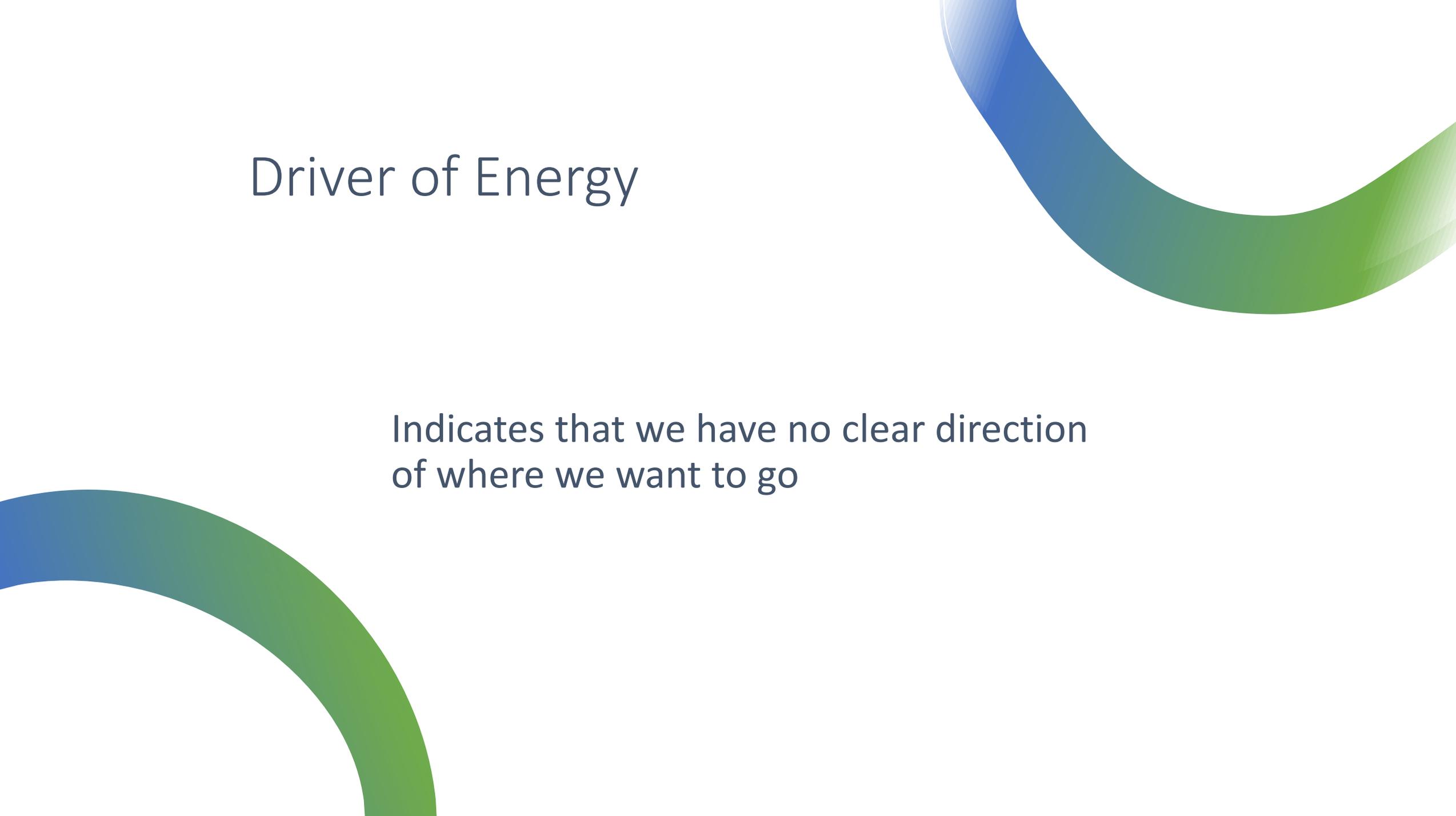
A challenging picture of Christ Church Aspen



Driver of Satisfaction

- We are very clergy oriented
 - We rely on the Rector to drive everything
 - There is an abdication of ministry by the members
 - During transitions, the church can feel rudderless
 - There is a high risk of burn-out by the clergy
 - Clergy focused systems generally have an underlying and/or systematic issue

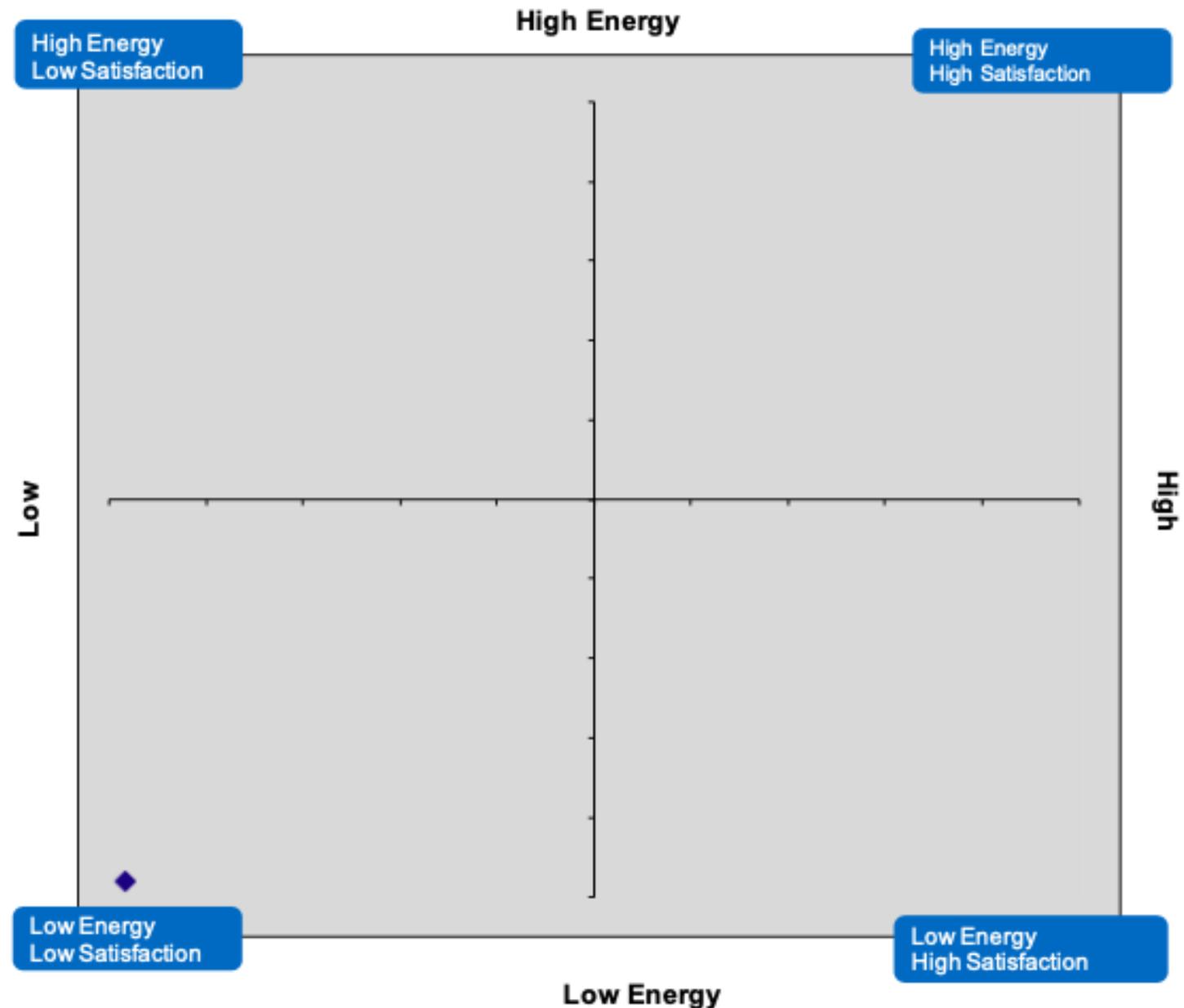
Driver of Energy



Indicates that we have no clear direction
of where we want to go

How are we doing as a parish?

- What does this mean?
 - This is the “Recovery” quadrant
 - Churches in this quadrant require major changes in order to regain significant vitality and health
 - This is entirely doable!



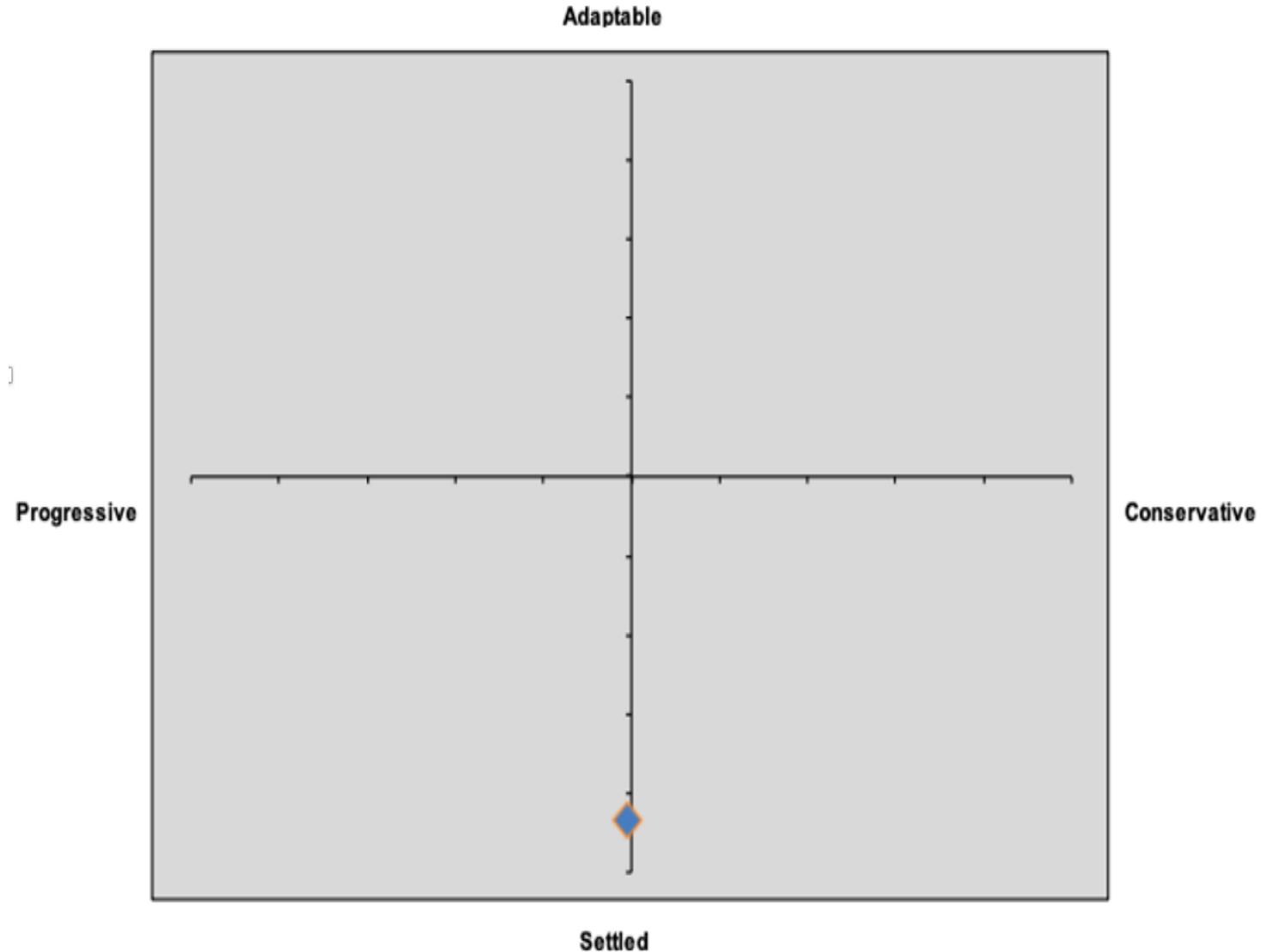


What did we say are our priorities

- Develop and implement changes to attract new members – particularly young families
 - Develop a strategy to attract new people
- Deepen our connection to God through stronger worship services and Christian Education
- Strengthen the pastoral response in serving the needs of church members

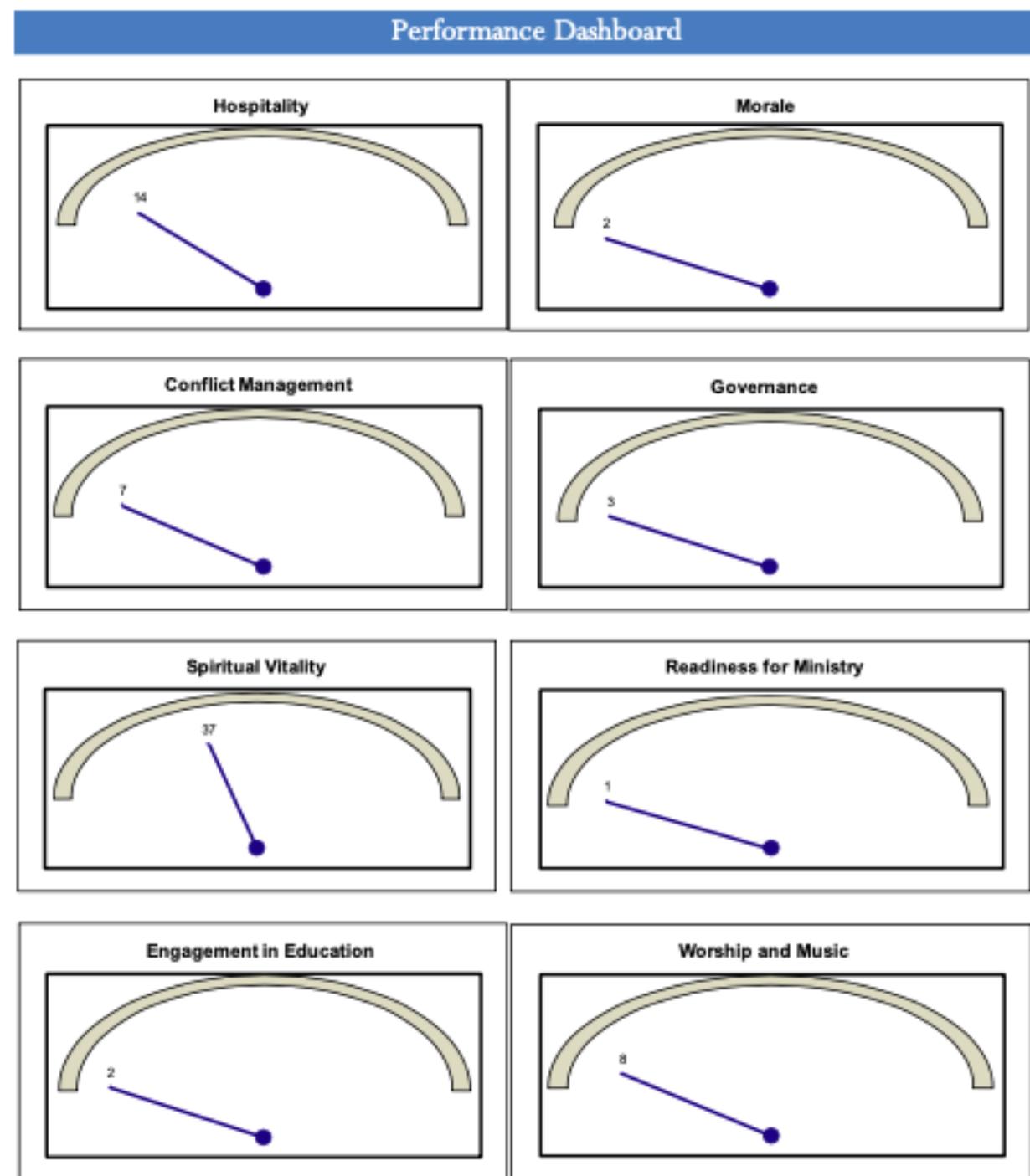
Who are we Theologically?

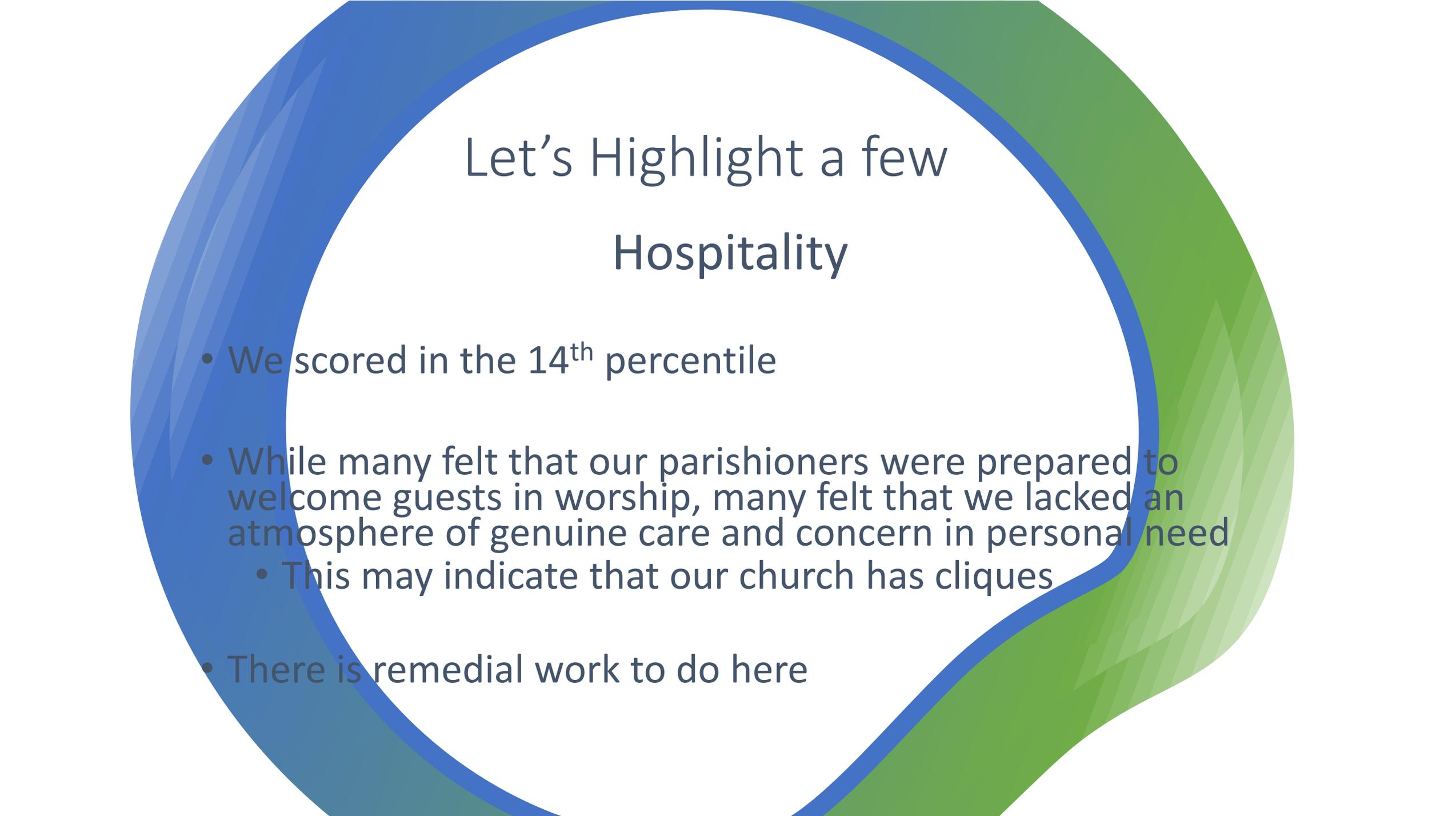
- Both very Progressive and Conservative parishioners
 - This is an asset!
- Very Settled
 - This can be translated to rigid
 - Need more adaptability and inclusiveness to be a healthy parish



Performance Indices

- These indicate where CEC stands in comparison to all other churches HolyCow! has surveyed
- On every scale, we scored below average with most near the bottom





Let's Highlight a few Hospitality

- We scored in the 14th percentile
- While many felt that our parishioners were prepared to welcome guests in worship, many felt that we lacked an atmosphere of genuine care and concern in personal need
 - This may indicate that our church has cliques
- There is remedial work to do here



Conflict Management

- We scored lower than 93% of churches in our ability to manage conflict
- More than 70% of respondents agreed with the statement:
“There is a disturbing amount of conflict in our congregation.”

Governance

- We scored lower than 97% of churches on our trust in the decision-making process of our parish
- This distrust can indicate a lack of transparency by our leaders – both in our parish and the diocese



Readiness for Ministry

- We scored lower than 99% of surveyed churches
 - This indicates that we have a lot of work to do before we can call our next Rector
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What are our goals?

- Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth
- Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people
- Deepen our sense of connection to God and one another through stronger worship services
- Provide more opportunities for Christian Education and spiritual formation for all ages
- Strengthen the pastoral response of the church in serving people in need
- Adapt the opportunities provided by the church in making them more accessible, given the pace and schedules of our lives

What are our strengths?

- We tend to be a very educated parish
- We have many talents among our parishioners
- Our parishioners have strong financial ability to support the church
- There are many long-term parishioners who have loved and served our church for years



Listening Sessions

- What did we have to say?
 - We had 25-30 people participate – Thank-you!
 - The Listening Sessions provided expanded commentaries, observations and recommendations
 - Answers are ranked by the number of times a response was given for each question



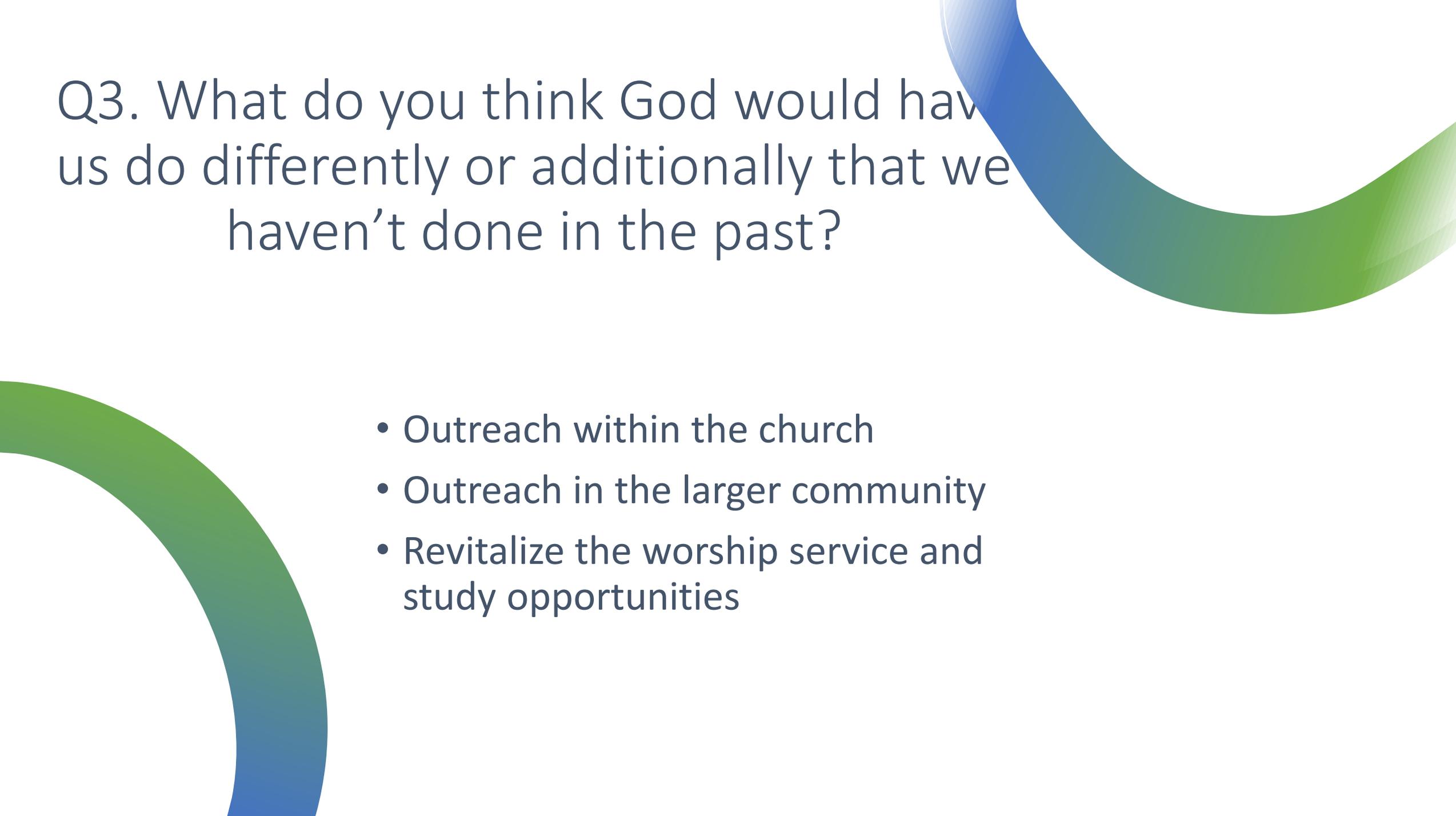
Q1. Looking back a few years, what have you experienced God doing in Christ Church that was special for you?

- Fellowship, Relationships, Community
- Teaching, Study groups, Classes between services
- Strong preaching
- Outreach in the community
- Strong Rector leadership
- Support from parishioners



Q2. Name three things that you have valued about Christ Church.

- Fellowship, Community
- Worship
- Outreach in the Community
- Spiritual Study
- Music
- Christmas Services
- Youth Programs



Q3. What do you think God would have us do differently or additionally that we haven't done in the past?

- Outreach within the church
- Outreach in the larger community
- Revitalize the worship service and study opportunities

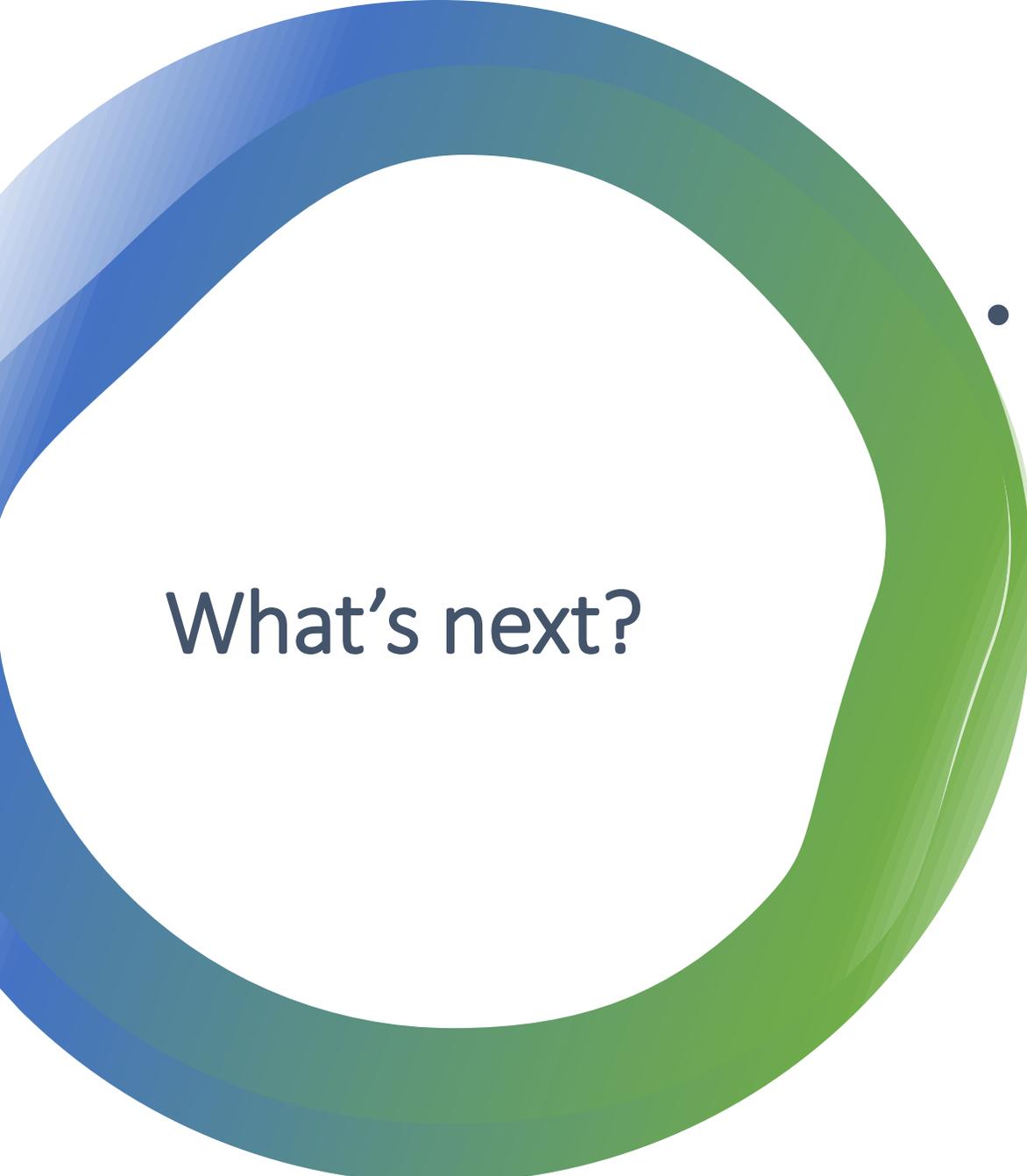
Q4 How do you think Christ Church should respond to the cultural and demographic changes to Aspen and the Valley?

- Stronger priest leadership/relationship with parishioners; active in community outreach
- Focus on in-church relationships; unity among parishioners via small group activities
- Focus on attracting families, young people; use opportunity presented with the influx of new families
- Make church services more relevant; explore new venues, times and activities
- Improve church service music; more robust music outreach



Question: What strengths do you think are important in a priest? Rank these in importance to you.

- Strong preaching skills
 - Pastoral care; relationship building with parishioners
 - Teaching excellence
 - Outreach to the community
 - Strong grounding in theology and the Bible
 - Skill in developing lay ministry
 - Able to give leadership to the community
- 



What's next?

- Discernment and Dreaming

- What can we as parishioners do to build fellowship, relationships, and community?
- What can we do to attract families?
- How do we become less rector-focused?
- What does God want of CEC? Where is God calling us to go?

Q & A





Invitation to Dream and Discern

- Sunday, October 11 at 11am
 - Opportunity for more questions
 - Give comments
 - Discern and dream about the future of Christ Church