

TRINITY CHURCH

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Congregational Assessment Results

NL Moore & Associates and HCIC recently administered the Congregational Assessment Tool in your church. Your average Sunday attendance is 475 adults, and 373, or 78 percent of your average adult attendance, responded to the invitation to participate. Trinity Church met its threshold for validity and reliability at 99 percent +/-4. Well done! A complete readout of the Vital Signs Report was delivered to your church leadership and staff. An Executive Summary of those results is offered here.

KEY INDICATOR: OVERALL SATISFACTION

On the whole, I am satisfied with how things are in our church.

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| Clearly Agree | On the fence | Clearly Disagree |
| 79% | 20% | 1% |

KEY INDICATOR: OVERALL ENERGY

It seems to me that we are just going through the motions of church activity. There isn't much excitement about it.

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| Clearly Agree | On the fence | Clearly Disagree |
| 4% | 37% | 59% |

In more than 25 years of assessment, we have learned the general health and vitality of a congregation can be discerned by measuring its energy (think: force of engagement) and satisfaction (think: fulfilled contentment). With regard to satisfaction, 79 percent of Trinity congregants are clearly satisfied with things in the church, meaning they agreed or strongly agreed with that question. Another 20 percent are on the fence, meaning they tended to agree or tended to disagree. What happens next in the life of the church will likely determine which side of the fence they fall on to. Only 1 percent are clearly dissatisfied, meaning they disagreed or strongly disagreed. Comparatively, an average church may anticipate around three to four percent of its congregants are dissatisfied at any given time. We know these individuals as “contrarians.”

The overall energy question is negatively worded, meaning we want participants to disagree. Fifty-nine percent of Trinity congregants disagreed with the question and are energized by their participation at the church. Four percent are not finding their experience to be energizing, and another 37 percent are on the fence. As stated above, what happens next in the life of the church will likely influence how those on the fence will feel moving forward. With a negatively worded question we hope to see at least 50 percent of the congregation energized, and we normalize the “agree” responses (those who are not energized) at 13 to 15 percent. So, Trinity Church has very good energy/engagement!

WHAT THIS MEANS

We hope every church is thriving with high energy and high satisfaction. The assessment names this healthy church posture, “transformation.” Trinity Church is high in the transformation zone, which is great news! This means Trinity is well-positioned for an even greater impact for the Kingdom. We encourage Trinity to continually explore ways to enhance, expand, innovate and multiply the good things that are happening within the church.

TOP PRIORITIES

Where would this congregation like additional energy placed to expand or improve its ministries?

1. Develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.
2. Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships (for example, small groups, nurtured friendships, shared meals, etc.).
3. Strengthen the process by which members are called and equipped for ministry and leadership.
4. Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.
5. Provide more opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation at every age and stage of life.

WHAT THIS MEANS

The top shared priorities of a congregation are part of what distinguishes it from the other churches in its community. Generally, various age groups in churches will agree on two or three priorities, but Trinity Church shares five priorities across all age groups (under 35 years, 35 to 64, and 65+). This internal unity around priorities is extraordinary! Trinity attenders want to provide for the needs of those who are hurting both inside and outside of the church walls. You are looking for clear processes to create more avenues for people to connect with one another and to equip people for ministry and be equipped by more Biblical education.

THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE & FLEXIBILITY INDEX

Trinity Church is a conservative congregation with a high view of Scripture and very low internal diversity in its theological perspective. With regard to flexibility, Trinity is able to make adjustments when needed, but it desires clear rationale in the process. This is a great strength! **Important Note:** A direct correlation exists between the flexibility of a congregation and its ability to achieve its stated goals and priorities. Continued flexibility, not in biblical or theological essentials, but in the practical implementation of ministry will enhance Trinity's potential.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR TRINITY CHURCH

Where did we find islands of strength to highlight at your church?

PERSONAL SPIRITUAL VITALITY

I experience the presence of God in my life.

| Clearly Agree | On the fence | Clearly Disagree |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 92% | 5% | 3% |

HOSPITALITY

A friendly atmosphere prevails among the attenders of our church.

| Clearly Agree | On the fence | Clearly Disagree |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 83% | 17% | 0% |

WEEKEND WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

The music at our church is outstanding in quality and appropriate in style to our congregation.

| Agree | On the fence | Clearly Disagree |
|-------|--------------|------------------|
| 76% | 20% | 4% |

READINESS FOR MINISTRY

Our church provides opportunities for attenders to engage in active ministry within the church and to the world.

| Clearly Agree | On the fence | Clearly Disagree |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 72% | 27% | 1% |

WHAT THIS MEANS

So much about this congregation is healthy and thriving. Compared to the 2,100 churches in the comparative data set, Trinity Church scored exceptionally well across the board! The individual spiritual vitality of congregants is strong. While personal spiritual vitality does not correlate to organizational health, it does measure the degree to which individual congregants believe their faith is central to their lives rather than peripheral or episodic. This is a great strength to build upon. Trinity is a friendly church, and attenders value participation in ministry and want to put their vital faith into action. Additionally, the church values its weekend worship experience. Ensuring all elements of the weekend experience are equally outstanding is a key way that this church can continue to maximize its impact.

OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE OR DEVELOP

Where did we find opportunities to improve and further develop in your church?

ENGAGEMENT

I often feel like I have something to give the church but don't know how to give it.

| Clearly Agree | On the fence | Clearly Disagree |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 18% | 47% | 35% |

Eighty-five individuals (18%) clearly agreed with this statement and another 223 were on the fence. This means that roughly 308 people walk through the doors each weekend feeling like they have something to give and volunteer and no clarity around how to give it. What awesome potential to explore and tap into!

UNDERSTANDING GIFTS AND TALENTS

Our church prepares attenders for ministry by helping them discern their gifts.

| Clearly Agree | On the fence | Clearly Disagree |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 45% | 50% | 5% |

There seems to be an opportunity to help people discern their gifts so they feel better prepared to make a unique and meaningful contribution to God's kingdom.

OVERALL SUMMARY

Trinity Church is a healthy, vital congregation that we hope will continue to multiply its impact for God's Kingdom. So much about this congregation is truly excellent. By God's grace, even better days are ahead!