

**Territory of the People – Profile Task Force  
Input Survey**

*Please note: you are not limited to the space here for your responses – our recommendation is that you type the responses and remove lines where helpful.*

**I. Respondent Data**

- a) Parish: *North Thompson Ecumenical Shared Ministry, Barriere & Clearwater*
- b) Was this response prepared by Clergy, Laity or both? ***Both***
- c) Group or Individual? ***Group***
- d) How were indigenous persons involved in preparing this response? ***We have no indigenous people currently in our parish so none were involved.***

**II. Who We Are**

- a) Our parish mission statement:

**Barriere**

**Mission:** *Serving Together as a Parish of Anglicans, Uniteds and Lutherans*

**Goal:** *To deepen our relationship with God through our relationship with each other.*

**Clearwater**

**Mission:** *Belonging to God, Working Together, Helping the World*

**Goal:** *To be aware of the power of the Holy Spirit working through us when we endeavour to seek justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.*

**Entire Parish**

**Goal:** *To continue to build the healthy relationship between the two congregations; To improve communications between the two congregations and boards.*

- b) How is this statement lived out?  
*We relate to all three denominations and seek to honour the unique needs of all our parishioners. We listen to what is happening in our community and find ways we might join together with other individuals and groups in doing those things that we consider worthwhile.*
- c) Five words that describe our parish are:  
***Ecumenical, progressive, welcoming, nurturing, compassionate***
- d) The five greatest strengths of our parish are:
  - 1. We are the only Mainline Protestant congregation in both communities and embrace a more progressive brand of Christianity (not fundamentalist)***
  - 2. We contribute to our community and the wider churches where we can (which seems to be generally appreciated) and are open to new opportunities and projects***
  - 3. We seek to be “low barrier”, both in worship and in church involvement***
  - 4. Our Thrift Shop is a vital link between church and community***
  - 5. Our clergyperson is seminary trained and is experienced***
- e) The present needs of our parish are:  
***Presently we are well supported by our various denominations, financially as well as with other resources. Although we are small in numbers, we are stable thanks to***

*many of our members being active, both in the church and the community. As our membership ages, we can foresee a time when this may not be the case.*

- f) In order to go forward our parish needs:  
*our membership to remain stable or to grow and the enthusiasm and energy for working together to continue under the guidance of a competent clergy leader.*
- g) Our new bishop can help us meet the above needs by:  
*continuing to support our congregation and our clergyperson as in the past both with wise guidance and financial support. It is always appreciated when the bishop comes to visit; it helps us to feel better connected to the wider church, both locally and beyond.*

### **III. Global Anglican Marks of Mission:**

Respondents may review the Marks of Mission here:

**<https://www.anglican.ca/ask/faq/marks-of-mission/>**

Our parish addresses the Marks of Mission in these ways:

- a) To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom, we  
*worship every Sunday,*  
*celebrate Eucharist (every Sunday in Barriere, twice a month in Clearwater)*  
*participate with other community churches in events (e.g. World Day of Prayer)*  
*endeavour to be good citizens by embodying the love of Christ in our community*
- b) To teach, baptize and nurture new believers, we  
*regularly have Bible and book studies*  
*include a devotional/educational time at board meetings*  
*have an online lectionary based discussion group*  
*encourage people to subscribe to national church magazines & daily devotionals (printed and online)*  
*promote denominational events, workshops, conferences, meetings and learning days and encourage members to participate*
- c) To respond to human need by loving service, we  
*The thrift shop in Barriere donates to a number of local charitable organizations (food bank, hospice, women's shelter, etc.) as well as national and international agencies. The Thrift Shop also responds to the periodic needs of people and families in crisis. At Christmas, the congregation collects new socks, underwear and hygiene products and gives them to agencies that serve the homeless. We also respond to people requesting help with gift certificates for the AG grocery store and Petro Canada.*  
  
*The Clearwater Sponsorship Group, which has brought one Syrian refugee family to Canada and is working on another, is sponsored and supported by North Thompson Shared Ministry. The community choir sponsored by Trinity donates all the proceeds of their concerts to local community agencies. At Christmas, the congregation collects new socks, underwear and hygiene products and gives them to agencies that serve the homeless. We support Sunday services at a local long-term care facility.*
- d) To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation, we

*seek to be open and supportive of people who have been marginalized or have experienced discrimination of any kind (race, religion, etc.)  
challenge ourselves to not be passive bystanders and speak out against injustice  
support members who are actively involved in justice issues  
publish material related to these issues on our website*

- e) To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth,  
we

*sell fair trade goods (coffee, hot chocolate, etc.)  
keep a large amount of clothing and household goods out of the landfill by selling them at our thrift shop and donate what we cannot use to Big Brothers  
upgraded windows and added insulation in the church in Barriere to make the building more energy efficient  
hold an annual plant sale in Clearwater, using overgrowth and surplus plants from people's gardens  
we minimize the use of printed worship materials (project liturgy on screens)*

#### **IV. Programs and Ministries**

Our programs or ministries that we were not able to categorize in the Marks of Mission:

*The church in Barriere is rented on a regular basis (several days a week) by the Seventh Day Adventists and several other occasional user groups (e.g. strings group)*

*In the winter, we provide coffee and goodies to people who are shopping at the Thrift Shop*

#### **V. Anything Else?**

If, in your opinion, there is something else that a potential candidate for Bishop of The Territory of The People needs to know about your parish that you were not able to express elsewhere in this survey, please use the space below to include it.

*Because we relate to three denominations, we can sometimes feel stretched too thin. Our people and our clergyperson try to make to it to as many events as possible but occasionally we are unable. Keeping up with what is happening with all three churches can be a challenge.*

Thank you for your contribution to the process of developing the Profile for the Territory of the People to be used for electing a Bishop when the time comes to do so.