

## **Respondent Data**

Parish: **St. Paul's Cathedral, Kamloops**

Was this response prepared by Clergy, Laity or both? **Both**

Group **Cathedral Committee, then Sunday coffee-time, then back to CC**

How were indigenous persons involved in preparing this response? **No indigenous representation**

## **Who We Are**

Four words that describe our parish are: **Joyful, Rooted, Hospitable, Responsive**

This statement is lived out as follows:

- **Through a wide range of active hospitality and inclusive behaviour**
- **We respond to community needs such as:**
  - **Homeless - Out of the Cold**
  - **Frozen Soup Ministry**
  - **Thrift Shop**
- **We are rooted**
  - **In our community by our downtown location and growing community connections**
  - **In Anglican practice and tradition, esp. through study and worship**

The five greatest strengths of our parish are:

- **Variety of educational programs, e.g. Lenten Lectures, *Living Our Way into Wholeness***
- **More intentional LGBT2S+ inclusion and advocacy**
- **Children's ministry**
- **Special seasonal services, including music in a variety of styles**
- **Ministry to each other and those beyond ourselves, including prayer**

The present needs of our parish are:

- **Continuity through new membership including youth and younger adults**
- **A greater focus on stewardship (some recent success)**
- **A desire to strengthen and expand community involvement**
- **Keep God at the centre of programming and decision-making as a priority**

In order to go forward our parish needs:

- **To dynamically engage young families**
- **To continue to be joyful and uplifting**
- **To investigate the needs and experience of some younger individuals and families we see less often**
- **To be more pro-active in promotion through various media**

- **To address climate change and be regenerative (through our annual Season of Creation Programme and in other ways such as *Hands in The Dirt*)**

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

Our parish addresses the Marks of Mission in these ways:

1. **To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom, we reach out with public worship in a variety of styles, through invitation through a signage programme which will soon connect with a stewardship/community engagement programme**
2. **To teach, baptize and nurture new believers, we produce a variety of educational/worship/special focus events which are low to medium threshold access events.**
3. **To respond to human need by loving service, we welcome a variety of folks in need through an overnight shelter (presently under review), soup outreach, special events such as the street persons memorial initiative and by providing a house for addiction recovery and support**
4. **To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation, we host via a peace and justice group ate in transformative conversations around indigenous justice, healing and reconciliation and partner with community groups in community, economic transition initiatives**
5. **To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth, we host an annual Season of Creation programme and are very intentional around ecological and climate justice programming and engagement. We have recently undergone a facility and site audit.**

### **Anything Else?**

**St. Paul's is a "high functioning" parish with dynamic lay and ordained leadership. It is well thought of in the community as a source of caring for the poor and offering programs for education and information (e.g. Lenten lectures). There is widespread parishioner involvement in all aspects of parish life. (altar guild, prayer ministry, peace and justice group). Many parishioners are key volunteers in TOTP committees and initiatives.**

**The above notwithstanding, St. Paul's experiences the effects of the *proverbial aging congregation*. This experience brings pressure on volunteerism and it clearly will impact future (diminishing) finances and resources that will (won't) be available to support what we presently do. With other local faith communities our challenge is to transition our church in this constrained environment and to determine new ways to continue to do God's work in Kamloops and the world.**