

10.13.19 Listening Post notes as captured by Mike Dickman

Describe the Local Community:

- The data collected describes us. No real surprises.
- What is the definition of a Household or Family Unit? Does the data capture a one person unit?

Congregational Trends:

- How do we specifically reach that group that gave 2 thru 5 ratings to better understand their concerns?
- Is there a way to contact people who have left OFLC to better understand their reasons for leaving? What could we learn from them?
- Are these gaps really areas of opportunities?
- Pastoral permanence will likely help strengthen OFLC.

Programs important to OFLC:

- Is there a gap in Music Ministry when looking at those participating versus those who rank it lower in importance? Music programming has a long rich tradition at OFLC.
- While some people might not be directly participating in certain programs like youth education most see this as an extremely important part of the Church
- Why aren't younger people joining the Church? Is this a reflection of the type, quality or quantity of Youth Education/Social programs?
- Each year OFLC loses 10-12 Youth post Confirmation
- In the just completed Youth Survey, it's a significant finding that 87% of Youth are uncertain how to share their gifts and talents at OFLC.
- Focus more activities on things that generate energy for the Youth
- Offer youth participation opportunities with events like Readers Theatre and Jazz Band
- Were the Wednesday Night Youth given proper preparation for the Islamic Center visit? The parents seem to have gotten more out of the program than the Youth did.
- Need a strong Youth Leader. Perhaps a Youth Pastor or a position that focuses on and organizes volunteers for Youth programs.
- Create a special space or place for kids like the old "Chicken Coop" and "KICS" program
- How to we better meet Youth where they are?

Ministry Tasks and Gifts in a New Pastor: (See Ruth's recap which covers most of the table comments)

- What we dream for OFLC versus what an individual needs at that moment can be in conflict
- Strong experienced Leadership is needed which includes a passionate interest in Youth
- Should the Call Committee set up an interview or interaction session with a perspective Pastor and the Youth?
- Ability to deliver energizing sermons brings families into the Church and then undergird this with strong Youth programming