



VISION FOR MINISTRY – Implementation Survey #4

St. Laurence Anglican Church – January 2009

This survey is the annual implementation survey to measure the Parish's progress in working towards the Vision for Ministry that was adopted in June 2005. The first survey was conducted in January 2006; the second survey was completed in January 2007; and the third survey was completed in January 2008.

This survey is being made available to all members of the parish. Please do not complete the survey more than once for each member of the parish aged 12 or more.

Please note that the survey must be completed on or before February 18th to be included in the analysis.

DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

1. Please indicate:
 1. Female
 2. Male
2. Please indicate your present age range:
 1. Under 18
 2. 18-30
 3. 31-45
 4. 46-65
 5. Over 65
3. Please indicate the length of time you have been a member of St. Laurence:
 1. Less than 5 years
 2. 5 to 10 years
 3. 11 to 20 years
 4. Over 20 years
 5. Not applicable (I am not a member of St. Laurence)
4. Please indicate your usual level of Sunday morning worship attendance:
 1. Weekly
 2. 2 to 3 times per month
 3. Once per month
 4. Occasional
5. Please indicate the distance that you live from St. Laurence:
 1. Walking distance
 2. Drive: 5 minutes or less
 3. Drive: 5 to 15 minutes
 4. Drive: more than 15 minutes

GENERAL QUESTIONS

At a Parish meeting in June 2005, a new "Vision for Ministry" was approved. It has been summarized as follows:

"AN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY"

St. Laurence is an Anglican congregation that feels called to create an intentional community seeking to practice a renewed Christian spirituality in order to deepen members' experience of God and share this path with others as a response to the growing hunger for meaning and hope in the surrounding community and society.

6. Please indicate your level of support for the overall Vision for Ministry at the present time.
 1. Strongly Oppose
 - 2.
 3. Neutral
 - 4.
 5. Strongly Support
7. Please indicate your feelings about the future direction of St. Laurence at this time.
 1. Very Negative
 - 2.
 3. Neutral
 - 4.
 5. Very Positive
8. Please indicate your intention to commit financially to St. Laurence during 2009 (as compared to 2008).
 1. Decrease
 - 2.
 3. Stay the same
 - 4.
 5. Increase
 6. Not applicable (I did not support St. Laurence financially in 2008)
9. Please indicate your intention to attend Sunday worship services at St. Laurence during 2009 (as compared to 2008).
 1. Decrease
 - 2.
 3. Stay the same
 - 4.
 5. Increase
10. Please indicate your intention to commit time to other activities at St. Laurence during 2009 (as compared to 2008).
 1. Decrease
 - 2.
 3. Stay the same
 - 4.
 5. Increase

11. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

FUTURE FACILITY

The 2005 Vision for Ministry for St. Laurence suggested that after a five-year period the future of the Parish should be re-examined to see if a change in direction is necessary. Without any change in direction at that time, it is anticipated that St. Laurence will continue pursuing its vision of becoming a “practicing congregation” - “an intentional community” - at the current location in Lakeview for the foreseeable future.

Based on your experience over the past couple of years or so, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements.

12. St. Laurence has made an excellent start here in Lakeview at becoming a practicing congregation so, at this time, I see no need for the parish to change direction in the foreseeable future.

1. Strongly Disagree
- 2.
3. Neutral
- 4.
5. Strongly Agree

13. St. Laurence has made a good attempt at becoming a practicing congregation but it is not working well enough to keep the congregation viable here in Lakeview. A new plan needs to be developed.

1. Strongly Disagree
- 2.
3. Neutral
- 4.
5. Strongly Agree

14. No matter what plan is attempted St. Laurence is too small and/or in the wrong location to remain viable over the longer term. A move to a new location is inevitable at some future time.

1. Strongly Disagree
- 2.
3. Neutral
- 4.
5. Strongly Agree

15. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

FACILITY PLANING

In 2008 the report of the Future Facility Committee included a “facility plan” that suggested work on the St. Laurence facility should be done in four phases over the next eight years (or more). The four phases were described as follows:

Phase 1: includes projects that can be done with funds on hand (no fund-raising) and without significant professional design assistance prior to making a long-term decision about the current St. Laurence facility

Phase 2: includes major projects that require fund-raising and/or significant professional assistance after making a long-term decision about the current facility (and after Diocesan approval to begin fundraising) but prior to undertaking a major renovation/addition to the facility

Phase 3: a major renovation and addition to the current facility

Phase 4: includes any projects that can be delayed until after the major renovation and addition is completed that were not completed in an earlier phase

In response to the Future Facility report, it has been suggested that the parish really needs to get started on some of the bigger projects immediately. However, in fairness to potential donors and in view of the potential Diocese and City approvals required, this cannot be done until the decision has been made to stay in the current facility for the long term. Under the terms of the Vision for Ministry this decision is currently scheduled to be made at the AGM in February 2011. However, it has been suggested that the decision about the long term future of the parish could be advanced by one year (to the AGM at the beginning of 2010).

16. Please rate your level of familiarity with the contents of the Future Facility Committee's report:

1. No familiarity
2. Hear about it from others
3. Skimmed the report
4. Read the report thoroughly

17. Please indicate your level of support for the facility plan (including the major renovation and addition) that was presented in the report of the Future Facility Committee:

1. Strongly Oppose
- 2.
3. Neutral
- 4.
5. Strongly Support

18. As a result of the work that the Parish has done over the past three years, it is possible that an informed decision about the long-term future of St. Laurence in the current facility could be made earlier than was originally anticipated (e.g. AGM in early 2010 instead of AGM in early 2011). Would you be in favour of making this decision early in 2010?

1. No (stay with original timeline)
2. Maybe (if more information available)
3. Yes (make decision as soon as possible)

19. Based upon your assessment of what would be most helpful in fulfilling the St. Laurence vision of being an intentional community, please indicate your priority for the types of facility projects that should be included in Phase 1 using the following scale:

1. Very low priority
2. Low priority
3. Moderate priority
4. High priority
5. Very high priority

Transition space – landscaping (e.g. trees, new path, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
Transition space – parking lot (e.g. improve surface, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
Transition space – other (e.g. a new sign, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
Community space – narthex (e.g. paint walls, replace carpet, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
Community space – lower hall (e.g. paint walls, storage areas, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
Community space – kitchen (e.g. cabinets, dishwasher, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
Community space – Sunshine room (e.g. walls, carpet, drapes, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
Community space – other (e.g. office area improvements, etc)	1	2	3	4	5
Other _____	1	2	3	4	5

20. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

MINISTRY AREA: WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Goal: By 2010, St. Laurence will be seen as a place of thoughtful innovation in worship. Worship services will be vital and intentional; services in which each member of the congregation can participate actively, fully and consciously; services that draw us into a communal life of praise, prayer and reflection. In practice, this will take the form both of new approaches to liturgical practice in Sunday morning services and of offering other kinds of worship opportunities, perhaps provided in partnership with other congregations. Since music is the part of the liturgy that most invites communal participation, it is important that the music reflects the intentionality of the liturgy.

21. In my opinion, the extent to which St. Laurence is recognized as a “place of thoughtful innovation in worship” is:

1. Don't know
2. Not at all
3. Limited
4. Moderately
5. Widely

22. Worship services at St. Laurence are vital and intentional (i.e. they are services in which each member of the congregation can participate actively, fully, and consciously):

1. Never
2. Occasionally
3. About half the time
4. Mostly
5. Always

23. Worship services at St. Laurence draw us into a communal life of praise, prayer, and reflection:

1. Never
2. Occasionally
3. About half the time
4. Mostly
5. Always

24. At St. Laurence, the music complements the liturgy:

1. Never
2. Occasionally
3. About half the time
4. Mostly
5. Always

25. At St. Laurence, opportunities for worship are offered frequently and in a diverse range of styles:

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

26. The frequency with which I would like to see alternative worship opportunities (e.g. a healing service, a Taizé service, a Jazz service, etc) offered at St. Laurence is:

1. Never
2. Rarely
3. Occasionally
4. Often
5. Always

27. How often do you attend the once-a-month Sunday evening contemplative prayer services?

1. Never
2. Rarely
3. Occasionally
4. Often
5. Always

28. (If you answered "Never" to the previous question, please skip this question.)

I found that attending a contemplative prayer service enriched my spiritual life.

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

29. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

MINISTRY AREA: WORKS OF MERCY AND JUSTICE

Goal: By 2010, St. Laurence, working with partners, will have made a significant and positive contribution to two of the needs of the community served by our parish and to two issues that affect the broader Anglican church.

30. St. Laurence makes a significant contribution to the needs of the communities that it serves:

1. Don't know
2. Not at all
3. Limited
4. Occasionally
5. Often

31. St. Laurence makes a significant contribution to the needs of the Anglican church beyond the parish:

1. Don't know
2. Not at all
3. Limited
4. Occasionally
5. Often

32. St. Laurence gives me many opportunities to join with fellow parishioners in service to the wider community:

1. Don't know
2. Not at all
3. Limited
4. Occasionally
5. Often

33. At St. Laurence we are continually reminded that faith and action go hand in hand:

1. Don't know
2. Not at all
3. Limited
4. Occasionally
5. Often

34. St. Laurence is doing a good job of communicating to the wider community about its outreach efforts:

- 1. Don't know
- 2. Not at all
- 3. Limited
- 4. Occasionally
- 5. Often

35. I am satisfied with the percentage of the St. Laurence budget that goes to outreach:

- 1. Don't know
- 2. Not at all
- 3. Somewhat
- 4. Moderately
- 5. Completely

36. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

MINISTRY AREA: SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Goal: By 2010, the Parish of St. Laurence will be known throughout the City of Calgary and the Diocese as a place of deep spiritual practice and will be advising other congregations in the Diocese and beyond on ways to enhance and strengthen the spiritual life of their members.

37. In my opinion, St. Laurence is known among those who are outside the congregation as a "place of deep spiritual practice":

- 1. Don't know
- 2. Not at all
- 3. Slightly
- 4. Moderately
- 5. Very widely

38. At the present time, my personal spiritual practices are:

- 1. Dormant
- 2. Minimal
- 3. Developing
- 4. Meaningful
- 5. Rich and Varied

39. At the present time, my level of satisfaction with my personal spiritual life is:

- 1. Not at all satisfied
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Completely satisfied

40. At the present time, my level of awareness of personal spiritual practices (i.e. various forms of prayer, meditation, silence, reading scripture or other spiritual writings, etc) is:

1. Non-existent
2. Limited
3. Somewhat
4. Moderate
5. High

41. St. Laurence consistently supports and encourages members to engage in meaningful Christian practices in their private and/or family life (e.g. private prayer, grace at meals, reading devotional materials, engaging a spiritual director, etc.):

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

42. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

MINISTRY AREA: EDUCATION

Goal: To nurture and care for the faith development of both the adults and the children at St. Laurence through the development of a multi-dimensional educational program.

43. I am pleased with the quality of the Church School program for our children.

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

44. I am pleased with the quality of our youth program.

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

45. I am pleased with the quality of our adult education program.

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

46. I am pleased with the number and type of opportunities provided by St. Laurence for adult education.

- 1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Always true

47. In the next year, it is my intention to participate in at least one adult education program to grow in my faith.

- 1. Not likely
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Definitely

48. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

MINISTRY AREA: COMMUNITY LIFE - NURTURE & PASTORAL CARE

Goal: People involved with nurture and pastoral care at St. Laurence do so to enrich and supplement/complement the work done by the rector. It is hoped that their endeavours make the St. Laurence experience meaningful and personally fulfilling both for the people who are actively involved and those who receive their ministrations.

49. I feel accepted and warmly supported at St. Laurence.

- 1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Always true

50. There is a feeling of belonging at St. Laurence.

- 1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Always true

51. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

MINISTRY AREA: COMMUNITY LIFE - FELLOWSHIP/MEMBERSHIP

Goal: It is felt that fellowship activities and/or groups enrich the life of the parishioners of St. Laurence. By encouraging members to become involved their feeling of comfort and belonging at St. Laurence will increase.

52. St. Laurence provides enough social events where members can meet and get to know one another.

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

53. St. Laurence extends a warm welcome to a wide variety of diverse people (i.e. diversity of race, economic status, sexual orientation, physically challenged, emotional instability, age, marital status, weight, and political orientation).

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

54. In my experience, members of St. Laurence will consistently share their disagreements directly with the other person (rather than gossip to someone else).

1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Always true

55. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

MINISTRY AREA: COMMUNITY LIFE - NEW MEMBER ASSIMILATION

Goal: Make people feel welcome to St. Laurence so they continue to grow spiritually and hopefully at St. Laurence.

56. I regularly invite my non-churched friends and family members to attend church with me.

1. Never
- 2.
3. Occasionally
- 4.
5. Often

57. The congregation makes effective use of many different means of attracting new members to church (e.g. producing a community newsletter; ads in newspapers, radio/TV, and/or yellow pages; attractive, inviting buildings; attractive exterior signs communicating events; etc).

1. Never
- 2.
3. Occasionally
- 4.
5. Often

58. Members of St. Laurence recognize visitors and go out of their way to make them feel wanted and welcomed.

1. Never
- 2.
3. Occasionally
- 4.
5. Often

59. In my opinion, when a visitor attends St. Laurence someone will ask his or her name.

- 1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Always true

60. I am aware of the various materials that are available for sharing the story of St. Laurence with others.

- 1. Not true at all
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5. Always true

61. I use the various materials that are available for sharing the story of St. Laurence with others.

- 1. Never
- 2.
- 3. Occasionally
- 4.
- 5. Often

62. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

CONCLUSION

63. If you would like to add any further comments or suggestions about this survey or general comments about St. Laurence parish, please enter them here:

Thank you for helping St. Laurence to measure the implementation of the Parish's "Vision for Ministry".