

REFLECTIONS FROM SPRING GATHERING 2019: "BIG SAL"

IF OUR CONGREGATION WERE A PERSON, HOW WOULD WE DESCRIBE HIM/HER/THEM?

IDENTITY

Resilient
Committed
Older
Strong
Hopeful
Singing
Diversity of hair colour
Brain
Wiser
Less able

DREAMS

Family
Community
Heart
A home
Big Sal holding child's hand
Caring
Thinking place

INCLUSIVENESS

Tolerant Not Dogmatic
Welcoming
Inclusive
Conversation about what inclusive means –
LGBTQS
Accommodate other churches, groups
Homework
Action should reflect belief
Not being told what to do

FAITH

Relationship with God
Kind and loving God
Let go and let God
Seeking closer relationship with God
Seeking to follow teachings of Jesus

HOSPITALITY

Tolerant not dogmatic
Welcoming
Inclusive
Accommodate other churches, groups
Homework
Not being told what to do

LEADERSHIP & HUMAN RESOURCES

Minister
Britt, Lucienne, Roxanne, Lynne
New, younger volunteers
More children

SUSTAINABILITY QUESTIONS

Do we have a sustainable purpose?
Need a sustainable model.
Fiscal Responsibility
Looking to the future realistically
Are other churches in touch with reality?

REALITY CHECK

Young people feel misunderstood
Disapproval
Judgemental
Not accepted – gay, bisexual
Competition with other churches
Customs and mores change
Need to stay in tune with reality
Action should reflect belief

ACTING ON OUR FAITH

Aspiring to be relevant in the 21st Century
Listening Circle with Young people
Overcome judgement
Communicate who we are
Reaching out to Community - Mosque
Anchored
Earth-related
Conversation about what inclusive means-
LGBTQS
Action should reflect belief