

Discerning Our Church's Future Listening to God's Voice and Setting Intention

On Sunday, March 17th, at a reception following the traditional worship service the house meeting facilitators presented the congregation with its "Report to the Congregation." This report summarized what we learned about ourselves and our surrounding communities and what God has been whispering to us about how to move forward by looking purposefully outward.

A "working why" was proposed which leaned into our gifts around hospitality and individual and community needs around wellness – *To be a mission-oriented congregation carrying out God's calling to our church by caring for and supporting the spiritual, emotional, and physical health of all members within our surrounding communities.* We were asked to consider how this mission statement resonated with us. Could we bring it to life given our passion, energy, and resources?

We set out next steps to further reflect on our mission and gather additional information on our resources. Using the spiritual gifts inventory as a start, we will be asking people about their individual passions and willingness to become actively involved. We are also working on budgets to begin to shape a future that puts human, financial, and physical resources to work for our mission. Additionally, Rev. Cindy is leveraging the Hope Partnership and regional ministry to identify additional resources to support our efforts.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please reach out to one of the house meeting facilitators to share your thoughts.