

Transition Times

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Church Health Survey Results

The Church Health Surveys have been returned, and we received 53 completed ones from adults involved in our congregation. This is a good sample for understanding perceptions on our congregational strengths and weaknesses.

The strongest categories indicated were Stewardship of Resources and Passionate Spirituality. Three areas were relatively weak. These included Great Commission Driven, Intentional Disciple-making, and Leadership

Transition Team Progress

The Transition Team has now formally met four times. The meetings have continued to be both insightful and inspiring in understanding our church health. In addition, the Team has been bonding as brothers and sisters in Christ, and a sense of unity in collaboration has been growing among us.

In these four meetings we have considered biblical passages related to church health, reviewed our congregational history for insights to our current values and needs, examined aspects of congregational life according to a typical church life cycle, and

Multiplication. The significance of these categories must be understood, however, in light of what the survey actually assesses. The Transition Team will therefore be working on interpreting the results to apply them most effectively to our future initiatives.

A full report will be presented to the congregation at the Church Supper on Saturday August 12. Everyone is invited to sign up for this today on the sheet in the foyer!

reviewed the results of our congregational input to the church health survey.

While we have begun to see trends and overlapping areas of need in these various exercises, it is still too early to draw formal conclusions. A brief preliminary report will be given at the church supper on the 12th, and a more formal report will be prepared for the quarterly congregational meeting in September. Please continue to pray for the Team as we seek to serve the congregation in preparing for the future.

Reflections

Lydia and I have now been serving the Arthur EFC for over four months and we can honestly say that we are loving living here! I hope that is reflected in our relationships with you. We had our first house guests visit for three days from Kansas City. We have been close friends with them for over 40 years and it reminded me of the importance of long-term relationships even when long distances are involved. Many of you appreciate such relationships locally with friends and family that you have known since your school days. Those who are more transient miss out on many of the blessings such relationships can bring.

We have also been enjoying our Summer experiences here. The 4th of July parade in Battle Creek was a highlight. The continued avenues of ministry such as ASP, VBS, and visiting missionaries have been very encouraging. There has been church activity almost every weekend! And I have come to appreciate rain as I never have before!

Disclaimer: The statements and opinions contained in this newsletter are the sole responsibility of Interim Pastor Marty Crain.