

Needs Assessment Committee

Youth Meeting

Date: 6 Dec ember 2010

Participants were asked to describe the things they liked about the church and if possible, what changes they would make.

Positives

- friendly, welcoming community of all ages
- library
- Christmas eve service
- nursery
- flea market
- soup lunches
- talent balloons
- skimps
- Yard sales
- clubs
- after service coffee/tea/drinks in the gym
- food bank
- children's story
- handbells
- Operation Peace
- the balcony
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Things that They Would Change

- there should be a paid position for a youth programming coordinator
- there should be changes in Sunday School curriculum
- confirmation -- needs to be more involved
- there needs to be more learning year towards young adults and teens
- modern services/youth services
- outreach as a focus for youth
- provide more of a sense of the United Church's ideals
- music
- more services so more people can attend at different times
- paid Sunday school coordinator
- have a youth minister
- use other ways to be involved in church
- provide other times for formal Bible study
- more exciting stories like those are the when Jesus was tempted by the devil
- more lively
- more variety

Points Arising Out of Conversation following Previous Exercise

- sermons need to relate to issues on young adult/teen minds
- music/messages are too old. What about youth led services or youth services with music and sermons geared to youth
- what about using the More Voices hymnal? Could there be one hymn per service chosen by youth?
- what about including some drumming? What about bringing in some bands?
- Look at the United Church website; it is very progressive but St. James is not
- what about exploring different kinds of spirituality?
- Provide different ways to be involved in the church