

ST. EDMUND'S SURVEY COMMENTS by SECTION/SUB-SECTION

SECTION ONE: CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENT

Question 15: Over the past two years, my participation in church life has increased, stayed the same, or decreased. Why? What would motivate you to increase your participation?

Increased Participation

I feel involved now.
To become a contributor helps me expand my faith
Transitioned back from another parish. Glad to be back home
It's given me faith, friends, fun and I would do more if we had more of the 3 F's!
increased due to needs of church matching my skills
SE continues to mean more and more to me and my daughter and I want to give back more and more. I cannot financially contribute as much as I'd like so I try to contribute more of my time and efforts.
I would like more praise music; used "Renew" songs as people enter the church. Cursillo group
more opportunities for adult education and community service
Change in free time has allowed increased participation
To be together and to share
Member of the Vestry working on contemporary liturgy
Since have married at St. Edmund's, have become much more involved with all aspects of the parish.
Moved from out of town, takes time to get more involved
Want to help where needed. Getting to know people in the church which helps in deciding how much and what area I want to serve.
If I see an area that needs help, I try to assist (e.g. I joined the ushers when they needed more people).
An excellent pastor like Fr. George
improved programs of interest
Increase due to more interest in a spiritual life
Our excellent bible study class led by Mother Judy. Lenten classes led by Fr. Woodward and Fr. Smythe. Chaplaincy Program - training
We love how social your church is! Everyone is so welcoming and friendly and encourages us to attend weekly!
I'm happy with current participation.

Participation Stayed the Same

Reconstitution of the Men's' Breakfast
Probably would not do more
Physically and mentally do not feel able to do more. Perhaps encouragement from community would help.
Retirement. Less demands on time during week.
I acolyte, LEM, LPC -- enough socials
when my daughter leaves for college
I like to attend church when I have few other things to do or if I haven't been in a while. I'm not sure what would make me attend more.
more music participation opportunities
We are already active participants in parish life
1. Being asked; 2. A true need; 3. An impact for people other than members.
Already feel I participate in almost everything

Increase in youth attendance / expansion of youth programs
1) my own spiritual life, 2) good preaching, 3) accessible music, 4) community involvement, such as food bank
We have 3 children that have different activities
My motto should be "I like it the way it was -- Rite One, strong inspirational leadership in the Christian tradition, no contemporary interpretations
Already very active -- hard to see doing more at church with all the rest of my responsibilities outside church
Knowing more people who also participate so the work is spread to others
I attend weekly and volunteer - so pretty much at max participation.
Active, personable, Committed minister like Fr. George
If more people attended
I have a variety of other activities and commitments that prevent me from becoming more involved
We should sing 2-3 verses not full hymns. Music needs to be more energetic. It is too slow. The service move energetic and happy. Service is too slow, too serious, needs to be more joyful.
I always come when I am here in town.
Since I'm already here most Sundays and have been active in service, I don't need motivation for increased participation.
More youthful attendance with families
A physical disability limits my current ability to participate fully.
Mainly distance from the church that prevents my family from attending and participating at church more often. Also many activities in our own community of Burbank on weekends.
Having a permanent rector makes a difference to me. I'm more motivated to attend in that situation.

Participation Decreased

in school so in town less frequently than before
I have done so much over 50 years & am now participating at a much lower level, church book club
Not being or feeling engaged after Fr. George's departure and not understanding what direction the church plans to take and how long it will take to get a new priest
Away at college, not able to be acolyte
Busy traveling - seeing my grown children, etc.
My attendance has decreased because of my age and the fact that I do not drive any longer.
Life and work changes
Getting another rector as inspirational as Fr. George
family problems caused decrease
improved health
decrease because my kids are busy with sports; with such a busy schedule it is hard to carve out the time for church on Sundays when there is a lot to do on the weekends.
Old age, moving to retirement home.
We have moved to a retirement home. Bout of cancer de-railed energy level. Being a bit younger would increase some levels of interest.
Unhappiness about the departure of Fr. George. Having reconciled my feelings about that over the last few months, our family intends to be more active this Fall.
I came to St. Edmund's because of Fr. George whom I met through SENS. I was looking for a church home, and loved Fr. George. Although we did not find the faith community among the congregation I'd hoped for, I stayed for Fr. George. Without Fr. George I have little to tie me to St. Edmund's and am attending Episcopal services elsewhere.
An increase in overall sense of parish mission in relevance and vitality.

Dealing with an elderly parent.

Question 16 Personal motivation for attending St. Edmund's

c)[serving the larger community outside St. Edmund's] We don't do this well anymore. Ex. Bad Weather Shelter
Ex. Service Trips for Youth

f,g,h Fr. George was so good at this

f - reflecting on myself and the world around me; g- seeking inspiration; h- increasing sense of spirituality

SECTION TWO – The Ministry of Our Church

WORSHIP Questions 1-10

I would be happier if we didn't sing every verse of the hymns and if we included more contemporary hymns at least a few Sundays
I like the way the 8 AM service is being done.
1. I rated worship only "4" due to the current lack of rector. 2. I think it is important politics not be present in the services.
The music aspect of the service is not as important to me as is the sermon. I am not anxious to hear a sermon which has political overtones.
I have always loved the sermons. I confess I didn't come enough, maybe every three weeks. Our daughter takes a lot of time, but will soon be in college.
Very important to me and I'm very pleased by our worship services - both 8 am and 10am
Hope to keep both Rites 1 and II. Important to those attending 8 am service. Education to our church history during sermons has been appreciated
Rob Hovencamp is a treasure
Focus on spirituality and the Holy Spirit
I have a Methodist background. This might explain my desire for a more informal service, more contemporary and lighter music and a bit less pomp and ceremony.
More contemporary music, pls, that cd appeal to the youth and young families to increase attendance, community & growth
Music needs to be more lively and varied; sing more short familiar hymns; we don't always have to sing all the verses. Sing all the songs listed in the bulletin or explain why not.
I think SE has always done a very good job emphasizing spirituality and steering clear of divisive "political" issues and I hope this continues.
#4,5,6 is dependent on who is preaching; at times more than less
Love our worship service, but don't need to sing all verses of every hymn
Sound enunciation important !
Would like to see greater use of BCP, divine office offered regularly
Should reflect the Might, Majesty and Awesome Mystery of our faith -- don't interpret and explain
Contemporary music is almost never played - just the way I like it
Hope we liven up the music -- would work toward reducing service length at 10:00 to 1 hour
Perhaps some contemporary music could be included on occasion
Tired of singing songs from the 1700s and 1800s
I enjoy the high church service at St. Ed's and look for a traditional experience, HOWEVER, the tempo of the music is too slow. I'm not hoping the selections change, I hoping the <u>speed</u> we sing the hymns increases.

I appreciate sermons that weave an explanation of the scripture (what is the point), historical context and how to apply in my life. When contemporary issues (not politics) are mentioned, I appreciate the respectful way it has been handled in past.
Sermons that make the Gospel relevant to the current issues and situations in our country are very meaningful to me.
Speak clearly - follow the gospel
Sermons should cover issues of interest to 20-30 year olds-not just older members. We need a younger priest.
Based on Fr. George's sermons
The worship service is too serious and slow. Service needs to be more energetic.
The sermon is probably the most important aspect of the experience and connection that I have with the church. I like some clear insight relating to the readings and avoiding controversial issues.
I come to learn about scripture, pray and meditate. I want a service that keeps to that purpose and only bring in outside events when it affects our church and faith.
Personally, I like the BCP and would be happy to use the actual book, although I understand that many people prefer a full bulletin to use.
Combine services often (8 and 10)
my biggest disappointment was bringing politics into the sermons
Sermons (written Word file) should be available on-line weekly so parishioners can download the document and read later if they were absent or so they can reread or share any particularly good sermons.
At 8 a.m. service, children are seldom present. Children's stories at 10 a.m. involve them. Respect for Eucharist on part of children seldom encouraged by adults/parents.
I don't like sermons that are used to comment on current politics. I am here to be fed in my faith in Christ.
This section is organized in a way that presumes or prejudices that there might be mutually exclusive sets rather than a ven diagram or molding of flavors in good food. 1. too many verses, tempo like dirges. 2. and 3. can contain both, too many hymns feel like they were plucked from the liturgical calendar. 7. liturgy "yes", current format necessarily "no", innovate and variety. We have a time capsule worship. 8. if meaningful and integrated into worship. 10. Yes! Community.
I would like an evensong service Saturday or Sunday evening. It is a lovely way to end the week or day. However maybe not every week as that can be difficult at times. Just a thought.

SECTION TWO – The Ministry of Our Church

EDUCATION Questions 11-21

Training of acolytes and lay readers could be improved for a few of the newer members.
Questions 19-20 Better if Men's' Bible class renewed.
I think the church has historically done a pretty good job of education - the opportunities have been there.
I don't have much involvement and have not been proactive in finding out more.
Important area to continue. Good program now in place with active youth ministry
Questions 13-15 -- Through Heather
Engagement is the key word for youth and families. We compete for their Sunday time, volunteer efforts and social commitment to church circles. Hence, we must adjust to what the market desires in terms of service times, issues, music. But, focus on the main issues of VALUES via Bible stories.
My daughter hasn't participated in current SS program; she aged out and is in youth group now so I didn't answer qu 13-15. Do not participate in adult ed @SE or Bible study so cannot answer qu 19-21
I have not taken advantage of all that is offered so I'm unsure about what is offered. Also, I don't know what SS is teaching.
I loved the Seder and other Lenten activities

Level of importance is high. Not certain in all areas of present level.
Sparse offerings but always worthwhile
I really appreciate reading about youth opportunities. Without the youth, our future is questionable.
13, 14 & 15. Heather's made a valuable contribution
Loved Mother Judy's bible studies !
Adult bible studies be continued. Offer Christian formation classes on a more regular basis.
Don't have children in Sunday school so do not know what is being taught. Believe that she is doing a great job.
I look for guidance as an Episcopalian. HOWEVER, I do NOT WANT POLITICS PREACHED FROM THE PULPIT! If the pastor feels strongly about an issue, then hold an after service discussion, but I DON'T WANT THEIR OPINION IN MY WORSHIP SERVICE.
Heather seems to be doing a great job. When our kids were younger, the youth program was weak. I also realize that we are at a low as far as teen participants.
Re: renewal programs etc, must be managed by experienced priest.
I don't know about renewal programs etc
17. Women's retreat??
Blank areas are because I truly don't know because my children are grown and because I don't pay much attention to areas where I have low level of importance.
I know that it is difficult to get people to church on weekday or weekend evenings. But the classes and bible studies have been the ties when I have been the most challenged spiritually.
Important to reach the younger families with children
Sadly, St. Edmund's is seriously lacking in both adult and children education.
The Sunday School program was not a good vehicle for my kids, at least, to learn basic bible stories, Christian doctrine, Episcopal traditions (elements of church service, communion rituals, names of various items and why they are used in mass). Instead, they played games and colored worksheets. I appreciate Heather and Antonio's commitment to the Sunday School and Youth programs. My kids would've gotten more out of a rigorous discussion/reading of bible stories and going to the main service. They can frolic on a slip and slide and play street hockey anytime. It's a struggle for me to get the kids to church which conflicts with sports, scouts, free time and, most importantly, is the only day my husband doesn't work. If they aren't going to get any real religious education or forge a relationship with the church, our time is far better spent taking a family bike ride. Even when my husband elected to spend his Sunday in church, it was not "family" time - the kids were in Sunday school and I was usually teaching/helping. He sat alone in the pew in a church that he didn't necessarily choose (he grew up at San Marino Community Church). We finally decided that our rare family time could be better used in other ways.
Some of these programs require critical mass for example, faith alive, marriage encounter or cursilo unless they are hosted by St. Edmunds and well promoted to attract visitors. Episcopal tradition is who we are, it is essential to explain and understand to equip members who we are and communicate it to others. Small group bible studies have been effectively used to promote education, fellowship and growth.

SECTION TWO – The Ministry of Our Church

STEWARDSHIP Questions 22-26

I feel lucky to be at St. Edmund's. My minimal pledge is at least 5%. Budget is challenge.
Recent improvement for #25, which needs to continue (#25 financial condition & needs of the church discussed with parish regularly)
Regular updates on church finances might be useful. Once-a-year at lightly attended annual meeting might be too little.
In 2015 - thru 2017 the church did a poor job of keeping the parishioners aware of its financial condition.
In the last 5 years or so, stewardship has not been discussed to the extend it needed to be. Better 10-15 years ago.
I am involved in stewardship and it is a constant challenge. However, I get a lot of satisfaction from it.

We need to understand our church "checkbook" and needs/wants just like we do personally
This is St. Edmund's great weakness. Giving, somehow, must be enhanced. In this regard, growing the congregation is especially important
The rector should tie stewardship needs to values and character stories from the Bible, but not ask for money directly.
Never once here have I heard stewardship mentioned as a valuable part of the spiritual journey
I would like to see more encouragement of people to participate in the choir and hospitality. I see a few people hanging onto many jobs when they should be getting others involved to do the work. People become more engaged with the church when they feel needed.
Letting us know, through full transparency, the needs of the church.
Stewardship campaigns vary greatly from year to year
The congregation should be aware of the status and challenges we face -- let them participate
I strongly believe financial realities of the church should be made clear to parishioners.
Recent financial reporting was great.
Quarterly reports, perhaps? So we all know where we stand financially.
Quarterly meetings whole congregation to discuss all of the above.
Stewardship is a core holistic Christian value. It embraces all aspect of Christian life and should be just below the surface in all our ministries. Too often it is reduced to money and an email pledge card.

SECTION TWO – The Ministry of Our Church

ADMINISTRATION Questions 27 -35

For #33, we need to improve our social media presence. (#33 - programs & worship services be publicized in the community)
I do not think the office staff is responsive.
The Vestry has known for 4-5 years that we need to grow membership but this has proved more difficult than anticipated due to local demographics and national trends. For questions 31-32 "in 2015-2017"
Administrative aspects of church have been generally satisfactory to good. Need a better interface with the administration of the Nursery School for a better overall operation.
We have reduced admin costs which I think will have a big impact in relieving financial stress.
Question 34 - It is done, but not achieved.
Since we are a church, we need constant updating and open conversation with all aspects of our community including surrounding city.
Don't know present level of achievement
Take burden off the Rector and hire a parish administrator
The functioning of the administration was restricted by the structure, the staff capabilities and could be enhanced with reorganization and training
Office admin and parish do not have good communication and don't understand each others' activities or needs. Been improving during transition.
I'm not sure how we reach out to the community. I would like to see us participate in "Ashes to Go".
Education & communication can be stepped up so parish members recognize financial realities
#33. Publicity in e-format is effective. Heather's Tribune contributions have been excellent. Publicize our opportunities more, but we need more opportunities. We have little relationship with our local community. #28 - Level 5 Importance; Achievement 5 for events and 2 for reports.
There has been a lack of care from business manager to support outside events
Need focus on outreach -- almost 0 currently
We need to have a parish administrator. The rector's duties should focus on pastoral and spiritual care.

Not sure of St. Edmund's is publishing the parish service times in the local newspaper
Heather doing a great job connecting with our public school at lower grades.
We can work harder to encourage growth in our faith community.
I think growth in the area of families is important for the church. Reaching out to families with children looking for a church home.
Church growth is critical because members relocate or pass on and we always need new members.
When we first started there was the bad weather shelter, food bank contributions... etc . don't see that anymore
Increase membership but am patient to wait until the new father comes in.
We must remember that this church is NOT a business. We cannot reduce or sacrifice programs to promote attendance and new membership due to "bottom line" business practices.
#35 I don't enjoy attending services at, for example, the Lutheran church and it has been my understanding St. Felicitas has not been interested in even a "friendly neighbor" relationship with us.
Administration is necessary and important, but doesn't necessarily require micro management by the rector. Hire good people and let them do their job.
see above (33,34 and 35 are all rated 5 for level of importance and all rated 1 for level of achievement)
Kudos! Much praise to the Transition Committee for making all the tough decisions needed to address financial issues facing the church. You are doing a fabulous job. God bless you! The church affairs really need to be run like a business with financial budgetary constraints dictating the level of programs, and scrutiny of all expenses, efficiency of procedures e.g. recycling, photocopying black-white vs. color, mailing vs. email. All administrative staff should have formally documented job descriptions and performance evaluations with input from all (including parish, vestry, etc) should be sought. Job performance review (including raises and whether to retain/let go) should be by committee and not at the sole discretion of priest. Approval guidelines and internal financial controls should be implemented so that every payment receives proper approval by two separate independent authorities.
The prayer for 9/11 - the lead article in Newsletter was timely and impressive. Advertising in SM Tribune not cost effective. What percent of parish members live in San Marino? #30 With a 5 day week nursery school impossible to open grounds for other community uses.
Administration should be professional, transparent and well executed. Too long there have been mistakes, opaqueness, typos followed by apologies.

SECTION TWO – The Ministry of Our Church

QUALITY OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE Questions 36 -53

Unknown. At home I've welcomed Jehovah's Witnesses for over 10 years.
Introduction of lay members to take communion to shut-ins is positive. For # 50-51, only programming/fellowship for teens for which I am aware is acolyting.
Need improvement on welcoming newcomers. My one outreach was not responded to. Office staff is not responsive.
I wish there would be more participation from families, children, and young people. But I know how few are here.
Question 36: a "5" when Fr. George was here.
One of the best aspects of St. Edmund's.
Congregational life is great. I like everyone at this church.
New home pastoral visits are a great addition. Transportation of seniors is an unmet need -- most of us help, but a central person or team might help with special events. 45. Never addressed
38. George was. 51 and 53 – Heather
I have had several surgeries in the past. Fr, George reached out to me and my family but no one else called or asked if they could help or visit
St. Edmund's has done a superb job of addressing pastoral needs of congregation and energizing spiritual growth. Adult learning opportunities have been terrific as well.

A stronger support from many for pastoral needs
cannot comment on teens and young adults; no current knowledge
items related to teen activities (qu.50-53) are "starred"
sometimes our ideal of being inclusive of all viewpoints seems to mean we just don't talk about anything controversial; there is too little outreach activity--we are a very good Episcopal social club!
SE's pastoral care and congregational life is excellent.
I'm not sure what we do to encourage teen participation. We have asked numerous times to help with hospitality and told you have to sign up for once a month--even when we have days with zero snacks. I believe this is another example of one or two people trying to do it all. I appreciate what they do and believe it is truly <u>their</u> job to get other people to do <u>the</u> job.
Would like to see more opportunities for fellowship beyond Sunday services. More hospitality volunteers & involvement so Tony doesn't have to do everything.
I'm a "doer". Our "community" is well-off; however many of our elderly parishioners are not. I miss our participation in the Bad Weather Shelter. Maybe Union Station would be easier? Quest 49. & 50. Much, much, much improvement with Heather.
Teens and collage aged youth outreach are largely ignored
Heather has tried hard to revitalize youth programs. So disappointed in the last 12 years before Heather lost some key parents who did not like their child's education.
Need to create a bridge between the youth program here & at other churches
It is difficult for a small parish to meet all the above needs and must be prioritized based on congregation desire talents available.
Sunday school program is very strong
Do good (maybe great) job of celebrating within our congregation - a poor job of extending that celebration or hospitality to the broader community
More emphasis should be placed on parish life and youth than entities or organizations outside the church. The church membership must grow significantly before it can meaningfully support outside entities. Need to attract more boys the church -- very under-represented.
We need more outreach for our community and our youth. Something that will set us apart from other communities. We need a contemporary liturgy.
The summer socials have been an excellent way for parishioners to connect.
Must find young adults to join. Unmet: music, midweek contemporary service for younger adults. Quest 45. new, younger people too, growth is from younger people
Heather always has fun activities on calendar for youth. But there is no real ACTIVE youth group. My kids have been sporadically and while they like and appreciate Heather, they say that they just sit and chat. I would like to see some level of moral type conversations, questions for teens, even outreach projects where tweens/teens can DO something - a carwash to raise \$\$ for something, coat drive in winter, gift wrapping/cookie baking for elderly at holidays. It is such a small group of teens right now and if they are not friends in school, they need a way to know each other through work/projects/a purpose? Can they pair up with other youth groups?? St. Mark's, St James, Church of our Savior. Just some thoughts.
In my Catholic upbringing, the teenagers were attending the service in the pews. This has not been part of the culture of our church.
I think it is important to involve our youth and increase participation. My children live outside California so this doesn't affect me.
Again, blank areas are due to my lack of knowledge in these areas.
The main problem is that we need more people to grow the congregation.
Regular combined services with 8 & 10 congregants; outreach to other denominations

I think encouraging programs for children and teens would encourage a younger congregation
It has been very difficult getting the teenage group kept involved
Since Heather and Antonio's arrival, the Sunday School program has improved a lot in terms of structure, introduction of church traditions, Biblical history incorporation and teaching, etc. Heather & Antonio are vastly much better than their predecessors but they face a tough non-attendance situation. Unfortunately, the teen/youth group is still a challenge primarily due to the lack of critical mass in attendance at events which may be partially due to conflicting schedules, limited time as youth already doing acolyting, interest topics, etc. Suggest parent meeting to discuss options including possibly even having acolyte role filled by adults in order to gain greater teen attendance on Sundays?
Programming is important. The church I attend in my college town does a good job of offering a variety of programming that appeals to young adults. Examples include volunteering opportunities and faith-based discussions about topical events via Theology on Tap.
Outreach to former teachers, boy and girl choirs not made. Welcome back Sundays with invitations by church members. Re: Blessing of Animals - outreach to local chapter of "service dogs". Take we do not live to Episcopal definition of the "frozen chosen".
49."activities" outside religious education (slip n slide, street hockey are not important to me. Of course building camaraderie among Sunday School / youth groups is key to engagement, but how about more time developing a good Christmas pageant with practices followed by pizza rather than trips to non-religious movies? My kids would rather do purely social things it other friends, but are happy to socialize with church friends around church activities. Why not a children's choir meeting (voluntary, for kids that would like to learn traditional hymns) a few times a year rather than a beach trip? My kids can go to the movies or the beach anytime. What we can't get elsewhere is religious instruction. 50. religious education needs - not just "needs". 52.need young adults for congregation growth.
Young adults is tough. Most go away to college and then away. SM, Pasadena, Arcadia very expensive places to live right after college and the 20s are typically an age of distance from the church. Vibrant, relevant engaged youth/teenage ministry plant seeds for future membership! #41. involved should instead be incorporated. # 52. growth possibility.

SECTION TWO – The Ministry of Our Church

CHURCH MINISTRY Questions 54 - 67

All these answers are as of Fr. George's departure. Question 64 The Chalifor concert was a glowing example of doing this well.
There are a lot of "3" answers indicating moderate level of satisfaction. I would like to make it a "5". However, considering the financial & human resources we have, it would not be possible to have as many "5s" as I would like. Considering the resources we have, I think we are doing an excellent job even though I answered 3.
62 - George did his own
Great music but too little congregational involvement!
Sometimes it is difficult to know to whom to speak about certain ministries, i.e. social
Quest 59. Most of this is check writing. Hands on increases membership.
Q. 55: Love the Bell Choir, Q. 58: Love the nursery sch., Q. 63 Love the concerts
Outreach - food pantry
54. based on Fr George; 56-59 my experience is out of date; 64. don't know; 65-67 don't know
56-58 Heather is fabulous! Don't let her leave us!
Programming is important. The church I attend in my college town does a good job of offering a variety of programming that appeals to young adults. Examples include volunteering opportunities and faith-based discussions about topical events via Theology on Tap.

58. N/A independent subset of parish. No longer adds or subtracts from parish life. Needs engaged relationship right now it is minimal. 65. Unfocused at this time. Could be a focus of community outreach to attention and commitment. 66. Or staff supporting parish life?? Unclear.

SECTION THREE – MISSION EVALUATION

More community outreach, both to help others (e.g. mission work) and to reach out to potential new members. Bigger focus on balancing budget/shoring up finances.
I am not very involved except through the 8:00 service. So really can't respond correctly
We love St. Edmund's for what it is. Big changes are not needed. Supporting current programs and members are important.
Better financial management and transparency
While the overall "mission" is fine, it is not emphasized on a regular basis.
I think we are doing all we can with the resources at hand.
We are a strong church community and hope this continues. Need to continue seeing strengths yet interested in our parish family
I believe the future of SE will come from fulfilling the needs of generations -- which comes after me. I don't always know what that is. Even responsible nieces and nephews through me off-guard with their priorities
Increase the size of the community. Definitely have more contemporary music and encourage more younger participants or older people with younger hearts to attend our services and functions. Have a rector who is charismatic in personality and spirituality.
I would like to see the development of effective programs to increase the size of the congregation so that financial stability can be achieved with enough money to enhance music and outreach programs
Growth in diversity - ethnic, given our location in SGV -- age, with younger families and children, sexual orientation, all represented at ministry levels, straight as well as gay.
if SE appeals to more young family needs and offers more appealing events and activities, our church community is likely to grow and increase community attendance and vibrancy
this mission statement is too complicated. I would like to see SE become more involved in the community at large and not just in San Marino. We are pretty welcoming and hospitable to those who are like us but I think we need to stretch beyond that.
Better define what outside organizations, charities we as a church support and be consistent in our support of the selected charities/orgs.
We might think about rethinking/updating it but I like it. We need to encourage participation.
While I love the traditional service, I believe we need to add more praise music, guitar service, more hospitality after service to get people into the church! Perhaps we could have music on the close between services so people going by will be drawn to the welcoming music and hospitality even if it is recorded.
I would like to see a youth choir. I would like to see an open choir. I would like to have a jazz mass, include high school, college and young adults.
Greater cohesion b/w 8 am & 10 am congregants
How do we increase membership by 5 families a month? How do we welcome our Chinese community? I think that answer will be by providing meaningful service hours to the High School students.
More outreach to the surrounding community. More bible study. Family & Family support activities. More contemporary music and more accessible music. Financial transparency. Managerial transparency.
Concern about decision that put church in financial difficulties. Poor decisions being rectified. Would like office for Minister downstairs where it used to be & nursery move its office upstairs. Nursery did not need or utilize the office until the poor decision was made to move church offices next door.

I would like to see the church do more outreach work with the youth program as well as promote/advertise service opportunities in weekly emails & bulletins. We do a great job of providing weekly services & inner church events, however there is a lack of connection with other churches in the local community. Doing service projects that families can do together can bring the congregation together as well as provide opportunities for families from other churches to meet.
Work on thinking about how to grow the parish
To grow the church to more tithing members in order to have paid associate, assistant and office help
I'm happy with an identity of "Episcopalians worshipping together" rather than a more targeted activist role of the Parish. Rather than targeting a specific ethnic or social group, our identity is our common faith and style of worship.
I agree strongly we fulfill the first half of the mission. I question the outreach commitment and the "useful difference we make in Christ's name". For example. Outreach to nearby communities -- hands on help -- clothing and food banks, etc. Healing Hearts Across Borders --a good example. The hierarchy of the Episcopal Church and the formality of the services is not all that welcoming to non-Episcopalians, which is why a less high church formality might serve families better
More formation and evangelization. More community service and advocacy. Public offering of the daily office.
Untapped methods to get more involvement/recruitment of the community
Return to the traditional service. Restore the majesty of our worship
St Edmunds has a wonderful youth program. I'd like to see more activities for families with kids for parents and kids to get to interact with each other.
We need an outward focus -- incredibly insular -- not reaching out at all to community. Mission statement reflects this -- does not address a role in the larger world beyond this campus
Contemporary liturgy, prayer groups, parish support groups- bereavement, divorced, parents and college students away, empty nest.
I love this church and would like to see it continue with supporting tradition. HOWEVER, give us a bit more upbeat contemporary cadence. And emphasize to our congregation and servers to <u>smile</u> . Sometimes everyone at the altar looks so serious and sour, but I know they aren't sour, so why can't we smile more in church?
I'm happy with my experience at St. Edmund's/ But I am open and looking forward to changes that may encourage new members.
More outreach and growth is needed. More definition /description of "making a useful difference in Christ's name". A vision statement with more description could be helpful to accompany the mission statement.
Growth \$\$ no need to change to find new members
The Church should recognize the opportunities for growth in the community. The new rector should be aggressive in nurturing this opportunity.
I would like to see a more vigorous, active church, with many more parishioners. Also, there should be more emphasis on regular attendance, so the effectiveness of the church is enhanced.
The worship Sunday services need to be less serious, more joyful, shorter and quicker. Our church currently has 50-70 wonderful people who attend regularly. But we need double that to increase our effectiveness of church mission and serve God's word.
A new rector like Fr. George
I think St. Edmund's has a wonderful mission. We just need more people to be interested in these ideals. I was raised Episcopalian and I like the traditional service with an inspiring sermon. I don't know what to suggest regarding children/Sunday school - people just aren't taking their children to church? Heather has fun plans, ideas -hard that only a handful of children come each time. Maybe they do need to be part of the church service and have a small children's group leave church halfway through for a small activity? And as I wrote before, teens need some attention - its not my area of specialty - but it could have a positive impact.

As the parish has decreased in participation, the financial burden has increased. This makes it very difficult to offer outreach, and this is the most glaring void in our effectiveness in fulfilling our mission statement.
Just make sure that our Sunday service etc is geared to strengthening our values as it relates to our Church doctrine not individual beliefs.
Larger attendance at special music programs. St. Ed's be more pro-active in publicizing such events to community and congregation.
While I have been extremely satisfied with St. Ed, I understand change may be necessary for future growth. So my response to #3 is selfish and given from the perspective of my needs.
Have activity in: a)see page 3, b) emphasize youth ministry and c) community outreach
I would like to see if we can attract younger members to our congregation. I think St. Edmund's is an amazing church.
Increased membership or fiscal recognition of declining membership
St. Edmund's provides comfort, peace and consolation to its current parishioners. However giving the aging/dying and moving away of many parishioners, new membership/welcoming and other financial stewardship must be highlighted to address going concern issues.
A barrier between Clergy and laity be removed. Senior Warden related to clergy enhanced the barrier. The office staff was protected from "office volunteers", proof readers, phone answerers etc. Note: All Saints, COS make extensive use of on-site volunteers. Suggestions not in tune with clergy never came up at Vestry meetings or in direct responses to the one who made the suggestion. The 75th Anniversary of St. E - missed many outreach and welcome back opportunities. Please continue: excellent, intellectually challenging sermons; faith based study programs; outstanding music with Rob's leadership; between service programs - blessing of animals, Quinn's bkfst (need PR boost); off campus activities - vergers lunch, novel pack, summer socials. Keep St. Edmunds alive please!! The Mission statement is too long. Alternative: Protector of the Faith. Wolf guarding St. Edmunds head.
We enjoy it just how it is.
I prefer tradition which is what drew me to St. Edmund's.
3. I don't know the right path for St. Edmund's.
What does this statement really mean? Place for parish conversation and exploration.
I think it would be helpful if we focused "time and talent and resources" closer to home. Last year sometime I went to a meeting at church along those lines and made the suggestion then - but nothing happened. There are very nice people involved in some outreach -- but if collecting for Tijuana or somebody in Central America -- why not help people who have foster children in Pasadena/Altadena? It's a great thing to foster a child. Certainly there are ways to help with basics financially - why not? Or treat to an outing occasionally? Or a babysitter so the parents can go out once in awhile.

SECTION FOUR – MINISTRY OF OUR PRIEST

Music is very important to me -- accessible music. I think Rob is in charge of this, not the pastor
#1 is preaching
I feel like 5,6 and 7 are all the related.