

## Search Committee - Focus Groups

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### 1. What drew you to St Paul and St Andrew?

- Friends
- Parents (Long-term members)
- Church family (The people are so important)
- Hospitality
- Priest
- Children picked
  - Church
  - Priest
- Convenient - stayed became family
- Was Episcopalian - moved to area and had prior attendance
- Looking for good Catholic Church - not available - attended one time and decided to stay.
- Nice people
- Episcopal Church treated women better.

### 2. What are the (3) most important attributes of your next rector?

- Committed to parish
- Respect church members
- Be one of us
- Middle-aged
- Attract young people to be involved
- Sense of humor
- Available for counseling
- Flexibility

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- Approachable
- “Southern Ways” embracer
- Good speaker
- Good sermon
- Embrace church music
- Sense of humor
- Good with youth
- Compassionate
- Kind
- Good counselor
- Know their limits
- Empathy
- Spiritually centered

3. What “strengths, opportunities, and challenges” are most important to our parish?

- Strengths
  - People
  - We are a team - self sufficient, family
  - Mutual support
  - Good cooks
  - Strong lay leadership
  - Good music
  - Active ECW
  - Lay readers
  - Acolytes
  - Buildings and grounds

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- Financially strong
- Location
- Wide variety of talents
- Eucharistically centered
- Communication skills
- Willingness to work with different age groups
- Good vocabulary
- Educate us in church history
- Support Sunday School education for the youth
- Someone who will draw new members
- Encourage diversity

Opportunities:

- Increase our parish
- More youth activities (could be community oriented)
- Get more people involved
- Grow spiritually

Challenges:

- Maintaining & keeping membership
- Much accomplished with a few
- A priest who can accept the financial situation
- Grow spiritually
- Part-time vs full-time
- Finding a priest who will mirror our values
- Keeping people involved in participation of activities

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- Aging parish
- Declining enrollment
- Making church more “important” factor in everyone’s life
- Finances of the church
- Finding time to visit the shut-in’s
- Keeping up with buildings and grounds
- Expand outreach
- Encourage youth programs, readers, acolytes