

**Listening Session Responses St. Andrew's, Burt & St. Paul's, Lewiston
Sunday, September 8, 2024**

1. Describe a moment in St. Andrew's/St. Paul's recent ministry which you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.

St. Andrew's, Burt

1. Summer fest (4)
2. Love Rising (3)
3. Fish Fry (3)
4. Community store (3)
5. Adopted Families (2)
6. Pet Food Pantry (2)
7. Bazaar (2)
8. Newfane Rehab Center (2)
9. Digital ministry (2)
10. Choir
11. Fried chicken dinner
12. Bible Study
13. Grants/Pavilion
14. Easter egg hunt
15. Pumpkin painting
16. Shawn Slother
17. St. Paul's Lenten Service
18. Small population of children (elementary thru high school)
19. Ability to rally and come together

St. Paul's, Lewiston

1. Tuscarora School (2)
 2. Pet Pantry (2)
 3. Water Table (2)
 4. Animal blessing (2)
 5. Halloween – passing out candy (2)
 6. Passion Play & Dinner (2)
 7. Veteran's Support
 8. Car park
 9. Singing in church
 10. Organist
 11. Warm, welcoming community
 12. Ransomville Heritage Manor
 13. ERD
 14. Spin art
 15. Mitten Tree
 16. Carolyn House
 17. Coffee Hour fellowship
 18. Parish picnic
 19. Parking project
 20. Special services (9/11, Police, Ukraine)
 21. Collaboration with Lewiston Village Events
 22. Christmas Walk
- Joint – shared fundraisers

Church/Parish Community:

2. As a worshipping community, how does St. Andrew's/St. Paul's care for the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of its parishioners?

a. How has being part of St. Andrew's/St. Paul's helped you and your family grow?

St. Andrew's, Burt

1. Music ministry – choir (4)
2. Assist elderly with transportation (2)
3. Elevator (2)
4. "We truly are a family!" (2)
5. Youth events – intergenerational ministry (2)
6. Financial support for youth to attend camp (2)
7. Crisis care (2)
8. Autopsy of a Deceased Church (2)
9. Support families through divorce
10. Support families through adoption process
11. Support families during legal battles
12. Support families through sudden loss
13. Funeral luncheons
14. Driveway and sidewalk plowing
15. Air conditioning
16. Sound system
17. Altar always looks beautiful
18. Coffee hour ministry
19. Pre-service coffee and treats
20. Vestry calling members during COVID
21. Listen and help to mitigate fear of change
22. "We party!"
23. Care for those who are sick or shut-in
24. Sunday school
25. Digital ministry
26. Volunteer opportunities
27. Supportive community
28. Love Rising
29. Generational connections
30. Friendship
31. Prayer Shawl

St. Paul's, Lewiston

1. Birthday and sympathy cards (3)
2. Prayer list (2)
3. Coffee hour (2)
4. Open-mindedness (2)
5. Announcements in worship (2)
6. Meeting individual needs
7. Blessings for birthdays and anniversaries
8. Rides for elderly
9. Assistance with moving
10. Vestry calling tree
11. Email sermon and reading each Sunday
12. Eucharistic visitation

Outreach/Local Community:

3. Describe St. Andrew's/St. Paul's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical region.

a. How does St. Andrew's/St. Paul's connect to the needs of the community?

b. If St. Andrew's/St. Paul's did not exist, what would the community miss most about it?

St. Andrew's, Burt

1. Community store (5)
2. Fish fry (5)
3. Food pantry (4)
4. Adopted families (4)
5. Pet food pantry (3)
6. Easter egg hunt (3)
7. Love Rising (3)
8. Newfane Rehab services (3)
9. Bazaar (3)
10. Migrant ministry (2)
11. Joint: ERD Campaign with St. Paul's (2)
12. Intergenerational events
13. Pumpkin painting
14. Summer fest
15. Gospel groove band
16. Backpacks
17. Representation at Convention
18. Little Roses

St. Paul's, Lewiston

1. Clothing shed (3)
2. Pet blessing (2)
3. Ransomville Heritage Manor (Assisted Living) (2)
4. Backpacks
5. Adoption families
6. Food
7. Abuse
8. Halloween candy
9. Ashes to Go
10. AA meetings
11. All mission projects
12. Parking Lot
13. Diocesan youth group involvement
14. Tuscarora School
15. Community missions
16. Domestic Violence Shelter – Vermont
17. ERD
18. Partnering with Lewiston Festivals
19. "We really don't know what the community needs...working on this...need to do better."

Conflict Resolution:

4. What is St. Andrew's/St. Paul's experience of conflict? And how have you addressed it?

St. Andrew's, Burt

1. TV monitor in sanctuary – just did it (4)
2. Active children (3)
3. Ladies' Account Line (2)
4. Bulletin vs. Book of Common Prayer
5. Priest issues – they left
6. Pastoral care – spoke to the warden
7. Financial help
8. Drama when leadership of events changes
9. Clashing of "old" expectations with the new
10. Transitions of leadership for events
11. Get info out early, be diplomatic, and repetitive
12. Strong warden leadership and communication of strategy
13. Being empathetic
14. Active listening
15. Keep feelers out listening to be aware and deal with issues early
16. Learned to agree and disagree on many topics
17. Randi's sabbatical – book study and positive shift to Morning Prayer
18. Utilized mediators between parishioners and clergy
19. Some people simply left
20. "Parking lot" conversations – conversations to happen in committee and safely discussed

St. Paul's, Lewiston

1. Lack of sufficient communication
2. Misunderstood emails
3. Ask for input before decision-making
4. Included all-involved people
5. In-person communication is more effective
6. Boils down to communication
7. Pastoral care – spoke with warden
8. Memorial fund
9. Financial help
10. Direction of the church
11. Family conflicts – conversations with the priest and group meetings
12. Priest issues – addressed with the vestry
13. Grumbling – bring to the leadership

Change:

5. What is your experience leading/addressing change at St. Andrew's/St. Paul's? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?

St. Andrew's, Burt

1. Randi's sabbatical – learned independence, communal growth, and morning prayer (2)
2. Reluctance to female priest – it worked out
3. Change from Judith to Randi – learned independence, communal growth, people volunteered, some left
4. COVID – digital ministry evolved; some people left
5. Transitions in music ministry from Joe to Evan – difficult, but wonderful end product
6. Trying to do things in updated ways (i.e., online options)
7. Need for multiple formats – tech and written
8. Before church Coffee Bar – overtime very popular
9. Having leaders be flexible/open thinkers, blending old and new traditions
10. Listening to both sides
11. Sometimes just doing it – Vestry being willing to take the grumbling
12. Bazaar name change – one person shut it down
13. Change in ministry leadership – don't want to lead, but don't want to surrender control

St. Paul's, Lewiston

1. Zoom during COVID
2. Change in service time
3. Communication and compromise
4. Sabbatical supply
5. Rectory
6. Short notice (30 days) on Randi's departure
7. Dying, older congregation
8. Lots of priest changes
9. Desensitized to changing priests
10. Changing the seating – financial reasons stopped it
11. Easier to accept and understand when communication is thorough and ongoing
12. Monthly newsletter and announcements are an effective form of communication
13. Change goes poorly when there is a lack of understanding and vision of the whole picture.

Future:

6. How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?

a. What do you think God wants St. Andrew's/St. Paul's to be in the next 3-5 years?

b. How is St. Andrew's/St. Paul's preparing for that vision?

St. Andrew's, Burt

1. Greater involvement with community (2)
2. Flexibility and financial responsibility – in order to fulfill our mission of sharing God's love
3. Bring community to the church – find out what they need
4. Families and young adults
5. Adapting traditions to the current population
6. Open-mindedness
7. Being realistic with finances and time commitments from the priest
8. Thinking of ways we can raise up lay leaders to fill more gaps
9. Zoom production
10. Full ability to broadcast to the great community
11. Worship is going in a different direction
12. Challenge to reach the 20-40 age group
13. More community involvement – town quarterly paper, pavilion
14. Welcoming everyone to church – being more present

St. Paul's, Lewiston

1. Grow the congregation (2)
2. Greater involvement in the community
3. Continue partnership with St. Andrew's
4. Continue community mission projects
5. Bring in families and youth
6. Joint efforts with St. Andrew's to increase
7. Get involved with Niagara Pride

Leadership:

7. Please provide words describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community.

a. What have you valued about your clergy in the past?

b. How has your clergy or other leadership disappointed you in the Past?

- Family-oriented
- Compassionate
- Warm
- Caring
- Strong preaching
- Mediator
- Good communicator
- Motivator
- Good listener
- Truthful
- Empathetic
- Positive
- Involved
- Values music
- Happy
- Patient
- Technologically competent
- Likes to drive!
- Appreciates rural ministry
- Gospel connector
- Down to earth
- Hopeful
- Able to connect with youth
- Affordable
- Flexible
- Sense of humor
- Party animal
- Social
- Friendly
- Energetic
- Available
- Youth
- Open
- Fun
- Realistic
- Normal
- Pastoral care