

## PARISH SELECTION UPDATE

## SEARCHING FOR A NEW RECTOR

From Eric Preston, Chair of your Parish Selection Committee. This update on the Committee's work includes the parish survey results.

---

Hello Holy Trinity Parishioners,

The consultation process with parishioners has been completed. We received over 80 responses to our survey. The survey is now closed, and the results are attached. Thank you to those who took the time to answer the survey questions.

In our focus group consultations, we had four groups with almost 30 people in total participating. Although each focus group was unique, the sessions were uniformly excellent, with a lot of wise, thoughtful, and insightful comments from the participants. The focus groups and the Reimagining reports were very valuable in informing our writing of the Parish Profile. There were some specific actions suggested in some of the focus groups, such as a homework club or an IT 'help desk' for parishioners to be run by students. These ideas have been noted and will be referred to the appropriate groups for follow-up. Thank you again for all those who participated.

We are now in the process of finalizing the Parish Profile. We expect to submit the Profile to Bishop Andrew by early April. Once he is satisfied with the Profile, it will be posted on the National Church and Diocese of Toronto websites. This is in essence our advertisement for our new priest. We will also post it on the Holy Trinity website. This will outline what we'll be looking for in our new priest and identify supporting activities that we as the congregation will have to provide to our new priest. You will also be able to refer the Profile to people who you think might be potential applicants. We hope to have the Profile approved and posted by the end of April or early May.

Thank you again for all your assistance and support in this process.

**BE SAFE, BE KIND, BE BLESSED.**

A blue decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping, semi-transparent rectangular shapes of varying shades of blue, creating a layered effect.

### **PRAYER FOR HOLY TRINITY THORNHILL'S PARISH SELECTION**

ALMIGHTY GOD, LOOK GRACIOUSLY ON US THE MEMBERS OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, THORNHILL, DURING THIS TIME OF TRANSITION. BE WITH US AND LEAD US AS WE SEEK THE NEXT PRIEST AND PASTOR FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

WE ASK YOUR DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO IDENTIFY A NEW INCUMBENT, THAT WE MAY CHOOSE A COMPETENT AND FAITHFUL LEADER WHO WILL CARE FOR YOUR PEOPLE AND EQUIP US FOR MINISTRY. GRANT THEM EARS TO HEAR THE VOICES OF THOSE WHOM THEY WILL INTERVIEW, EARS TO HEAR EACH OTHER AS THEY DELIBERATE, AND EARS THAT ARE ATTENTIVE TO YOUR VOICE AS THEY DISCERN THE BEST CHOICE FOR US AT THIS TIME.

CONTINUE TO LEAD US WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, AS WE PATIENTLY WAIT UPON YOU AND ON THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROCESS. THIS WE ASK THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN

*Written by Canon Stephen Fields, 2021*

This survey was conducted between January 24<sup>th</sup> and February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Eighty-two (82) people responded to this survey. Eleven (11) were entered manually and 71 were collected electronically.

**1. Overall, how satisfied are you with you with the direction Holy Trinity is headed, in this interim time, as we search for a new Incumbent?**

Answered: 78 Skipped: 4

Answer Choices	%	#
Very satisfied	13	10
Satisfied	46	36
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	37	29
Dissatisfied	4	3
Very dissatisfied	0	0

**2. What are the reasons you continue to attend Holy Trinity, Thornhill?**

(Note that %s do not sum to 100 due to multiple possible responses)

Answer Choices	Responses	#
Friends/Fellowship	80%	64
Location	65%	52
Music	52%	42
Worship style	46%	37
To make a contribution	45%	36
Outreach	43%	34
Clergy	25%	20
Building	24%	19
Education/Bible Study	24%	19
Programmes for seniors	16%	13
Family	14%	11
Reputation in the community	10%	8
*Other (please specify)	10%	8
Programmes for families	3%	2
	Answered	80
	Skipped	2

**3. Thinking about your ancestors, culture and who you are now, in addition to being Canadian, how would describe your ethnic or racial identity?**

Answered: 80 Skipped: 2

Ethnic/Cultural Background	Responses	#
Black	4%	3
Caribbean	8%	6
Chinese	3%	2
Multiple backgrounds	1%	1
Southeast Asian	1.0%	1
White	78%	62
*Additional backgrounds (please specify)	6%	5

**4. Gender:** (Answered: 78 Skipped: 4)

Gender	%	#
Female	78	61
Male	21	16
Other	1	1

**5. Which of the following best describes your current relationship status?**

Answered: 80 Skipped: 2

Answer Choices	Responses	#
Married	59%	47
Widowed	21%	17
Divorced	11%	9
Separated	1%	1
Single, never married	8%	6

**6. How many people currently live in your household?**

Household Size	%	#
1 person	30	25
2 people	51	42
3 people	8	6
4 people	8	6
No Response	4	3

**7. Choosing from the drop-down menu below, by clicking on the arrows, will you please tell us your age range?**

Answer Choices	Responses	#
20 years of age or younger		0
21 - 35		0
36 - 49	3%	2
50 - 64	9%	7
65 - 79	57%	45
80 years of age or older	31%	25
I choose not to answer	1%	1
	Answered	80
	Skipped	2

**8. I have attended Holy Trinity for this length of time...**

Answer Choices	Responses	
Less than 5 years	0	0
5 - 15 years	16.6%	13
16 - 24 years	7%	6
25 years or more	77%	62
	Answered	81
	Skipped	1

**9. I usually attend church...**

Answer Choices	%	#
On my own	62	50
With my partner/spouse & child/children	7	6
With my partner/spouse	26	21
With a neighbour or friend	4	3
Other (please specify)*	6	5
	Answered	81
	Skipped	1

**10. Before the pandemic arrived in March 2020, how frequently did you attend Sunday Services?**

Answer Choices	Responses	#
Almost every week	65%	53
2 - 3 times a month	21%	17
Once a month	6%	5
Less than once a month	1%	1
Special Events or Services only	6%	5
I didn't attend Sunday Services	1%	1
	Answered	81
	Skipped	1

**11. How has Covid 19 changed the way you attend church?**

Answer Choices	Responses	#
I attend by Zoom	61%	49
I attend in-person when allowed	11%	9
I attend both in-person and online	15%	12
I have stopped attending services	12%	10
Other (please specify)*	14%	11
	Answered	81
	Skipped	1

**12. Once we are allowed to resume in-person services, how do you plan to attend?**

Answer Choices	Responses	#
I will attend virtually only	3%	2
I will attend in-person only	35%	28
I prefer to have the option of both virtual and in-person attendance	61%	49
Other* (please specify)	6%	5
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>81</b>
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>1</b>

**13. Since the parish moved to Zoom services, has your level of financial support changed?**

Answer Choices	Responses	#
No change with Zoom	70%	54
Support has decreased	15%	11
Support has increased	16%	12
	Answered	77
	Skipped	5

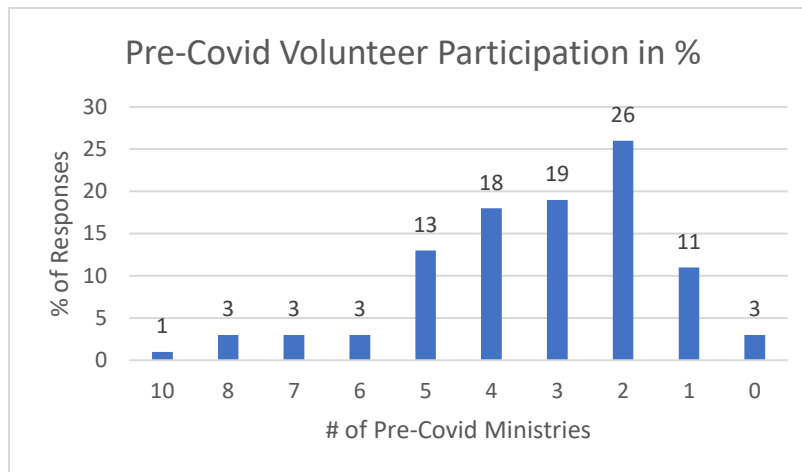
**14. My level of financial support for Holy Trinity is based on...** (Note that %s do not sum to 100 due to multiple possible responses)

Answer Choices	Responses	#
My faith & my belief	56%	46
Services & the benefits received	31%	25
My financial means	59%	48
Keep an Anglican presence in Thornhill	39%	32
Community outreach	48%	39
National & international Anglican outreach	26%	21
Social justice action	20%	16
Keep the historical church building	28%	23
CW stewardship	36%	3
Other* (please specify)	5%	4
	Answered	82
	Skipped	0

**15. Do you now, or did you before Covid 19, volunteer or assist in parish ministry, programmes, or events?**

Answer Choices	Responses	#
Yes	92%	73
No	8%	6
	Answered	79
	Skipped	3

**16. If you said yes to Question 15, how many volunteer ministries did you (before Covid), or do you now participate in, over a one year period? Please enter a number, not text, in the box below.**



The Mean number of ministries is 2.29.

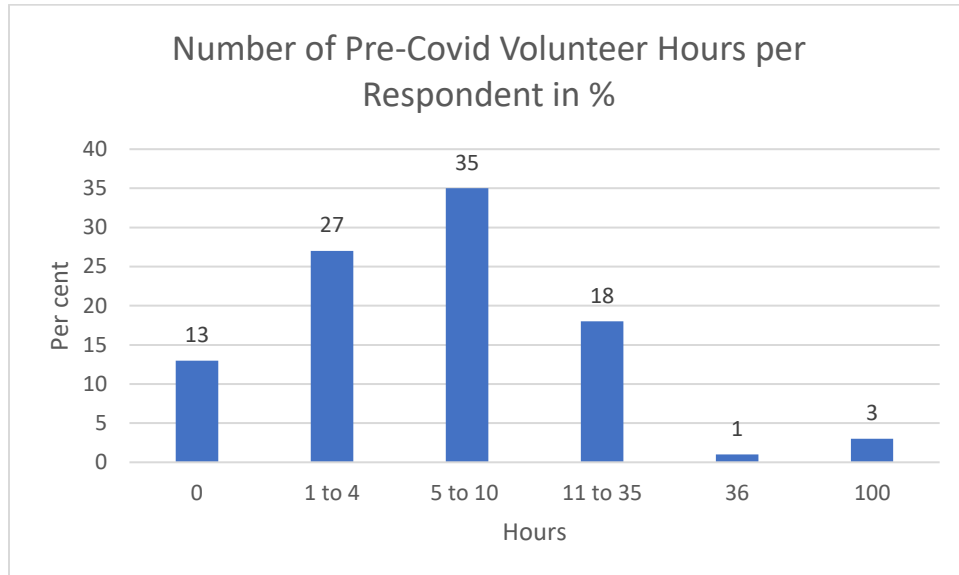
Maximum number of ministries was 10 @ 1 response

Two people reported zero ministries despite saying they had participated before Covid.

The Mode, or most common response, was 2 ministries.



**17. If you said yes to Question 15, how many hours per month did you (before Covid), or do you now, volunteer? Please enter a number, not text, in the box below.**



The Mean number is 10 hours. Maximum Number of hours is 100 @ two (2) responses

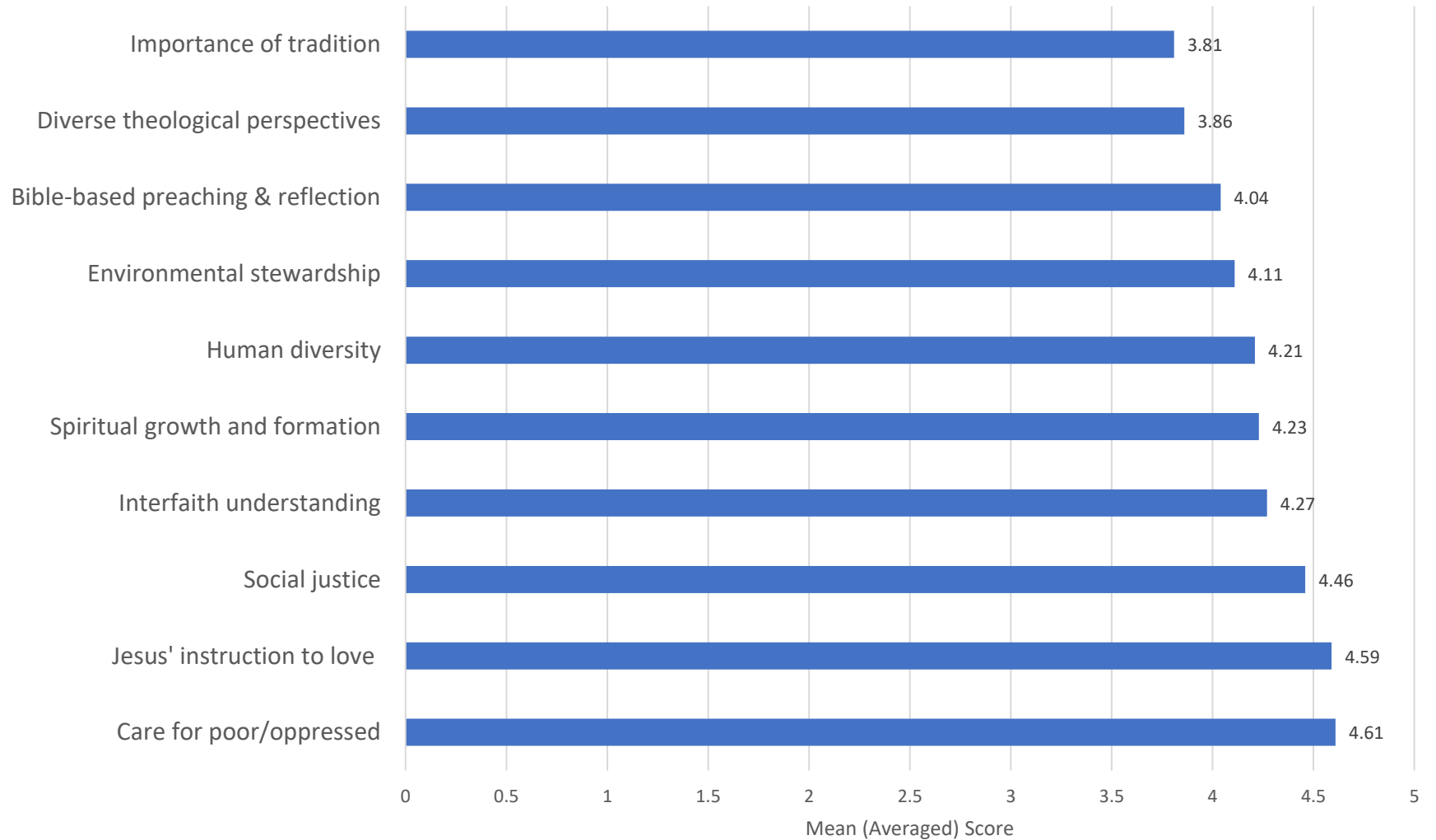
Nine (9) people reported zero hours.

The Mode, or most common response of those who did volunteer was four (4) hours.

**18. Thinking about your theological values, how important to you are the following...?**

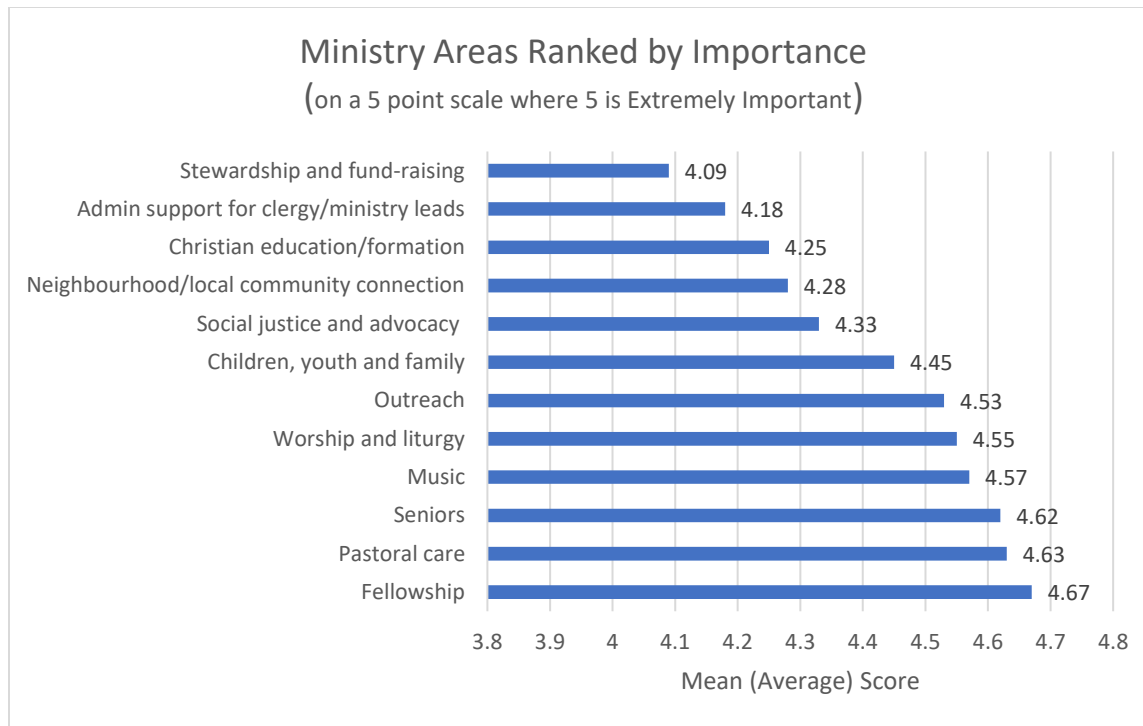
	Not at all important	Not very important	Neutral	Somewhat important	Extremely important	Total Responses
Care for poor/oppressed	0%	0%	5%	28%	66%	74
Jesus' instruction to love	0%	1%	7%	24%	68%	75
Social justice	0%	3%	6%	35%	57%	72
Interfaith understanding	0%	1%	11%	47%	41%	74
Spiritual growth & formation	1%	1%	16%	36%	45%	75
Human diversity	0%	3%	12%	47%	38%	73
Environmental stewardship	0%	6%	14%	44%	36%	72
Bible-based preaching & reflection	0%	7%	19%	38%	36%	74
Diverse theological perspectives	3%	3%	25%	44%	25%	71
Importance of tradition	3%	7%	21%	46%	24%	72
					Answered	79
					Skipped	3

### Theological Values Ranked by Importance (on a 5 point Scale where 5 is extremely important)



**19. As we consider our future as a parish, how important do you feel the following ministry areas are?**

	Not at all important	Not very important	Neutral	Somewhat important	Extremely important	Total
Admin support - clergy/ministry leads	1%	1%	18%	36%	43%	72
Children, youth and family	1%	1%	8%	30%	59%	76
Christian education/formation	1%	0%	15%	40%	44%	75
Neighbourhood/local community	0%	1%	8%	52%	39%	75
Fellowship	0%	0%	3%	28%	69%	75
Music	1%	0%	4%	30%	64%	76
Outreach	0%	0%	5%	36%	59%	73
Pastoral care	0%	0%	8%	21%	71%	76
Seniors	0%	0%	3%	32%	65%	77
Social justice and advocacy	0%	1%	11%	40%	47%	72
Stewardship and fund-raising	1%	1%	12%	57%	28%	74
Worship and liturgy	0%	0%	8%	29%	63%	75
						79 Answered
						3 Skipped



**Question 20. Clergy Competencies: As we consider our future as a parish, how important do you feel the following ministry areas are?** Answered: 79 Skipped: 3

**Question 21: What are the first 3 characters of your postal code?** 79/82 respondents.

	Not at all important	Not very important	Neutral	Somewhat important	Extremely important	Total Responses
Pastoral care	0%	0%	3%	30%	68%	77
Concern & empathy	0%	0%	0%	17%	83%	77
Availability to parishioners	0%	0%	1%	22%	77%	78
Empowers laity	0%	1%	7%	43%	49%	74
Progressive Anglican worship	0%	4%	8%	40%	48%	75
Gospel, relevant preaching	0%	1%	4%	30%	64%	76
Communicates/preaches engagingly	0%	0%	0%	21%	79%	78
Youth ministry skills	0%	1%	7%	39%	53%	76
Missional vision	0%	0%	11%	46%	43%	74
community, interfaith, ecumenical focus	0%	1%	5%	49%	44%	73
Strong call, deep faith	0%	0%	5%	26%	69%	77
Good steward	0%	0%	7%	52%	41%	75
Works collaboratively	0%	0%	4%	22%	74%	76
Democratic & consultative decision-maker	0%	0%	4%	29%	67%	75
Inspiring and strategic	0%	0%	3%	33%	64%	75
Adaptive, flexible change agent	0%	0%	8%	42%	49%	71
Firm, fair in confronting bad behaviour	0%	0%	1%	21%	78%	73
Fair & respectful with staff	0%	0%	3%	20%	78%	76
Comfortable with technology	0%	0%	5%	51%	43%	76
Supports racial diversity	3%	1%	9%	37%	49%	75
Encourages a vibrant music	1%	0%	5%	30%	63%	76

