

Monthly Evaluation Summary – March 2018 – Zion (26 forms returned)

What things about your church worship service are important to you?

- Traditional service & music; Lord's Prayer & Apostle's Creed
- Like rotation of the Lord's Prayer/Try different versions than just the Abba Prayer
- It's nice to change it up once in awhile
- Music program/I am enjoying the variety/Uplifting music/Music is a huge part of worship for me.
- We find Joyful Noisemakers accompanying hymns a distraction. Could they play on their own during the service?
- The music & the message & the fellowship after the service.
- Connecting with fellow worshipers/Being with other people/Sense of community
- The caring for one another/People helping others to feel welcome
- Extra people taking part/Lay readers – good to hear different voices/Participation of congregation – reading Minute for Mission, short meaningful skits
- That I feel part of the service, not just an onlooker
- Candle Lighting ceremony
- A peaceful & prayerful start to the service/Moment of centeredness at beginning of service
- Like silent meditation during Prayers of the People
- Honest, heart-felt prayer
- Meaningful message/Something to ponder or think about/thought provoking
- A message which addresses life and faith/Speak of things to do with everyday life/A reflection of what is going on in the world/Has relevance to our daily lives
- The services are fine. The time is the problem; it's too early. Some regulars are finding it difficult to get to church for different reasons.
- That our worship service starts with the congregation standing, as the choir comes into the sanctuary in an order of fashion, followed by the minister
- The Integration Team is doing a super job – not an easy task. Now the congregation & groups need to be really encouraged to start working in teams on projects. Working together – especially in the kitchens, can do a lot to enable bonding. We need to REALLY start to get to know each other – go beyond the superficial smile & lukewarm hug to reaching out to offer support, encouragement, comfort, shared joys. Once we truly become a church family, we can start reaching beyond the walls to find ways to serve

the needs of others & know what those needs really are. (an additional February comment received after the Jan/Feb evaluation summary was distributed)

What things about your church building and/or location are important to you?

- Accessibility/Easily navigated stairs
- Adequate/Ample parking
- Good acoustics/sound system/hearing assistive devices
- A designated place for children and Sunday School
- It feels nice to have an almost full church!!!
- The sacred feeling of the worship, with the beautiful stained glass windows
- Bright/airy sanctuary
- Both churches have a sanctuary that enhances the things that are important to me
- The building itself is less relevant than the answers to the first question
- Ample room in choir loft
- The Christian Education building/Second to none in the county
- Like use of projection screen in Minden
- Good water & kitchen facilities for outreach projects
- Room for expansion in future, if needed/Room to grow
- Versatility...a building for worship, town meetings, interest groups, concert venue, close proximity to funeral home for luncheons following funerals
- My hearing is not good...talk slow & clear..."not just the minister"
- Put BOTH buildings up for sale. Neither would sell quickly, but once one does, the decision is taken out of our hands.
- Close to home/Close to where we live/Close to the office
- Older people are relocating to town & walking to church/New people are moving into Minden (condos/apts.)/Larger community in Minden to draw from

What did you like about the worship service(s) and/or location this month?

- Music/Liked mix of older & newer hymns
- The choir is a special group & the service would not be the same without them. (I don't care if they wear their choir gowns.)
- Very pleased to have additions to the choir
- Message
- Focused Moment/Getting used to the Focused Moment, but like the idea.

- Seeing so many at church/I loved seeing the greater numbers/Good attendance in spite of problematic weather/Sense of fuller church/Increased energy with more people/I love the energy of worshipping jointly!
- Presence of small children in church
- Crafts for children are excellent
- I like the way the service has more continuity & flows well
- I really enjoy the different things that Max is trying during the service.
- I liked Debbie's attempt at experimental worship – the centering moment at the first, the acted out scripture, & the involvement of participants.
- Wish to sing the Lord's Prayer & say the Apostle's Creed occasionally

What did you not like about the worship service(s)and/or location this month?

- There should be one person from Minden & one person from Zion to greet people...not two from the church where the service is held. We are one church.
- The separation between the two congregations is starting to improve, but "stiffness" still present
- I did not like the sloppy, haphazard way of starting the service/Start of service is unruly/It was hard to prepare for worship, prayer and reflection after the initial "hubbub".
- Cramped choir loft/Distance of choir from pews/As a choir member, I prefer having the choir come in together, as opposed to "drifting in". However, some social interaction before the service has some merit.
- I don't like the Announcements at the end.
- I miss the Sung Blessing at the end; it was a lovely way to end the hour spent with God.
- The Lord's Prayer was not said...instead the Abba Prayer
- The Lord's Prayer is not hanging from the rafters anymore. (?)
- 9:30 services are too early. (10:30 or 11 is better time)
- The wandering around prior to worship
- Everyone must drive to Zion.
- Worried about seating capacity when cottagers return/Concerned that Zion sanctuary is not large enough for amalgamated congregation & visitors/Concerned about fire code or emergency/More room in Minden church

Monthly Evaluation Summary – April 2018 – Minden (7 forms returned)

What things about your church worship service are important to you?

- Music/Mix of old & new hymns/Hymns that are suitable to congregational singing
- Keep the music program moving forward. Melissa's doing a great job.
- Involvement of lay people reading scripture
- Explaining the stories in the Bible to reveal their message, without speaking as if the stories are literal/Sermons that are Bible versed but do not suggest a literal acceptance
- I like a sermon that gets me thinking or gives me a message/Uplifting message
- Truth
- Nice, bright church
- Good acoustics
- Social time is important to me
- Church worship for me needs to combine many different modalities and sense of reverence and serenity at times, but also be entertaining, lively, interactive, and provoke thought. A sense of caring and camaraderie & fellowship keeps church members bonded, but also need a sense that through our service, we are reaching out to others not in the church. (rec'd June 24th)

What things about your church building and/or location are important to you?

- Acoustics
- Accessibility/Easy access/Easy entry for all
- Proximity to home
- Proximity to larger town
- Choir room with space to put music
- Room for music...room for people...room to grow
- It's important that my church can be multi-purpose and large enough to contain a service & community
- Need a good kitchen & dining area for events

What did you like about the worship service(s) and/or location this month?

- Good number of people out each time
- Well-prepared and thoughtful sermons
- Minden church is closer to home and larger community

What did you not like about the worship service(s) and/or location this month?

- As a choir member, I felt very removed from the rest of my colleagues in the congregation.
- Organ was too loud when Joyful Noisemakers played
- Do not like the earlier time of 9:30, but realize this can't be helped
- I did not miss the Responsive Reading.