



November 10, 2021

Dear Church Family,

In our initial letter, we shared with you three core values that First UMC Escondido expresses in each of its three worshipping bodies: Worship, Community, and being Intergenerational.

We then invited everyone to participate in a survey designed to help us determine if, across our three congregations, we mean the same thing when discussing the core values. We are grateful for the 209 surveys returned, which offers a very good cross-section of our whole church.

The results of the survey clearly show that

1. We value being able to Worship in three distinct styles, and not all together in one.
2. We also value being Intergenerational, and in creating space for persons of all ages.
3. We value and believe that the Community of the church is a place where all belong.

Of the three values, our strongest shared core value is Community. Across each congregation the responses revealed that we believe our church is a place where all belong. Our definition of “all” includes those already in the building and those outside the confines of our campus. This is an optimistic outlook for growth, as it suggests we value reaching out to those who are not yet already a part of our community and connecting them with the church.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and feedback as our process unfolds. Moving forward, our next step will be to assess the physical spaces of our campus and how those spaces and the ministries that occupy them reflect the values of Community, Worship, and being Intergenerational.

Upon completion of our assessment work, we plan to hold a meeting for the whole church to present our findings, and to engage in a time of questions and answers.

Please be on the lookout for an invitation to join us in our presentation.

Sincerely,

Strategic Growth and Planning Committee