

Listening Meetings Question 2b: What is missing (FUMC not doing to meet your needs?)

- Maybe needed prayer
- Fellowship/hospitality hours. Everyone loves this and supports setting up and bringing food, but it is hard to find people to clean up after and use dishwasher
- Need MORE hospitality/fellowship time
- Lost good friends from FUMC
- Need to establish a culture of help
- Service needs to be more Bible-based, maybe less music to add more 'meat'
- Too much music
- Time for contemplation during meaningful times—example: a soloist sang a beautiful, touching song and before time to let its 'power' sink in we went right into a congregation song; needed transition time. Perhaps pastors need to be aware of situations like this and adjust in the moment; maybe say something like, 'Let's just sit with this for a bit' instead of immediately moving on.
- Need more nudging to encourage people to participate—personal contact/phone calls
- Need someone(s) to recruit volunteers (Volunteer Coordinator?)
- Hospitality/Fellowship could be a group project—Sunday school classes, youth, choir
- Could youth help? Make coffee, clean up?
- Maybe just have coffee and donuts or cookies for hospitality, don't need spread
- Bell choir used to sell donuts to fund projects/travel but were told to start. Could they do this again?
- We are missing middle age/younger adults with children (Union ministry was brought up)
- Planning worship is left too much to the pastors to plan; why? We need input from the congregation.
- Don't like 'canned' material for worship, want more personalization
- We need a Worship Committee. What happened to it?
- We need promotional materials to hand out to invite people to church
- We need to start having a bulletin again with more information—when to stand (would like to stand for the first song), sit, weekly calendar information
- Friendliness—pastors and congregation
- Young families participating
- Sermons are too Biblical instead of 'how can I do better today;' how do I help people today?; Application of sermon to daily life /////
- Greeting before/during service (this is great PR) /
- Ministers walking around before service instead of sitting on chancel //
- Senior newsletters with biographies of members
- Scripture from Old and New Testaments each week
- Acolytes /
- Ushers /
- Doxology and Gloria Patri (why don't we sing them?)
- Sing alongs, people's choice
- Peppy songs as well as old favorites (who chooses songs/music?)
- Need new/youth participation in church and activities /
- Have youth active in service (bells, children's message); they need to be part of us (may discourage some youth)
- Church is a continuum from youth – old age
- Develop youth (14 – college)
- Vibrancy (because of numbers)
- No time for fellowship after service
- Would like to see: service-fellowship-service
- I contact God through fellowship with others, doesn't matter what kind of service

- Miss contemporary service (although the model/music is 1980s)
- Blending contemporary music with traditional
- KIDS
- If we are *really* concerned about kids, more adults need to be upstairs
- Diversity
- Passing the peace (greeting one another during service) //
- Communication on Union ministry
- Miss Bible Study ///
- Miss young adults/college age
- Would like ministers to wear stoles
- We are growing or we are dying; we need VOLUNTEERS //
- Sign of a church not doing well is the lack of office hours and a change in the availability of pastors actually in the physical church building during the week. It is awkward to have a church whose doors are actually NOT open for several days a week.
- Why isn't Lee preaching. I want to see her more!
- Youth and young adult funding //
- No men in caring ministry
- We need an outreach person/committee
- We need a hospitality person/committee
- YOUNG ADULTS gathering group //
- Miss connection with Searchers
- Child care for Searchers or whenever there are church activities //
- Increase generational span
- Not having a large group for "young adults"/families
- Not replacing Jessica's position, we are missing that vital leadership and outreach that we need to grow
- Diverse congregation (economically and racially)
- Saturday night service
- Child care for kids older than six
- Promotional materials (in places such as those meeting with NA, AA, etc)
- Broader generational ministries (in addition to specific ages)
- Bible studies //
- Communication (we didn't know why young adults no longer came to Searchers)
- Liked style of praise service—more relaxed, upbeat
- Praise songs during traditional services
- Staffing and volunteers—greeting, ushers, acolytes
- Volunteer coordinator
- Nothing from my viewpoint
- There is not enough emphasis on Jesus and what He has done and continues to do for us in this world. There is definitely not enough information or emphasis as to how to develop a personal relationship with Him (i.e., how to be saved) and how sin is corrupting this world and the reason for the problems that we face daily in this life. The children's and youth Sunday School should definitely emphasize a more personal relationship with God and the need for this in each life. Learning practical lessons about these topics will make all the difference if we can grow our children in the faith, and then we will have a continued population of church goers because they will truly believe that the Church is a valued part of society. This is especially important as there is more moral breakdown in society as a whole as we move closer and closer to the Rapture. If we never teach or discuss this, how will our congregation know what to expect and how to handle the challenges that life brings?

- The building is locked down like a fortress so we're missing the vitality and engagement that comes with having lots of outside groups using the building, and that lack is seriously damaging our presence in the Loveland community
- There needs to be more support from leadership for the couple of groups that are still trying to play to our strengths in community-building and outreach/service
- There is too much focus on doing the 'right' (stilted and un-Methodist) kind of preaching/worship that is disconnected from the lives of people, so it is becoming unwelcoming.