



## **St. Lawrence District Congregational Conversation Results**

This fact sheet includes basic information and some of the issues, problems and solutions, which **St. Lawrence District** congregations discussed in their congregational conversations.

***Do these results match what you would expect from other congregations in your district? What would you expect to be different?***

### **The Basics**

- Six (6) congregations from the **St. Lawrence District** returned report forms.
- Five (5) were **mid-size** congregations and one (1) was a **large** congregation.
- All six (6) were **Welcoming Congregations**.
- None currently have a youth position on their Board of Trustees.

### **Intergenerational Community Relations**

- Four (4) congregations mentioned the **strong bonds** within their youth group.
- Four (4) congregations discussed the **structural barriers** to intergenerational community
- One (1) congregation mentioned "**youth/adult shared values**" as a strength of their youth ministry.

### **Mission, Vision and Priorities**

- One (1) congregation had a **Youth Adult Committee**.
- Three (3) congregations mentioned the **enthusiasm** of youth in their congregation.
- Two (2) congregations **decided to create a vision** for youth ministry as a result of their conversation.
- One (1) congregation decided to emphasize the importance of youth ministry by **recognizing and rewarding commitment**.



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### Curriculum, Resources and Transitional Age Youth

- All six (6) congregations had **youth groups with advisors**. One congregation had a **paid advisor** who works **5 hours/week**.
- Two congregations said **COA** was important to their youth ministry and another said **OWL** was a driving force.
- One congregation decided to **better serve middle school youth** and another decided to **serve youth who are in college or bridging**.

### Leadership Development and Opportunities for Practice

- One congregation discussed "**empowerment of youth**" and "**effective youth and adult leadership**" as a positive aspect of their youth ministry.
- Another congregation mentioned there was a "**clash between structure and empowerment**" in their congregation.
- One congregation mentioned the "**lack of opportunity to participate in church business** (no representation or power sharing)."
- One congregation decided to "**increase the participation** of youth on committees" as a result of their conversation.

### Serving the Spiritual Needs of Youth

- Two (2) congregations mentioned that youth ministry lacked "**spirituality**."
- One (1) congregation decided to "explore alternatives to Sunday Service that creates opportunities for **youth focused spiritual growth**."
- As a result of their conversations, four (4) congregations decided to increase or improve their **minister's support** of youth. One (1) congregation decided to re-configure their Associate Minister's position to be their Youth Minister.