

Healthy Church Check Feedback

Words to describe Westlea Church

We were asked to put down words which is how we would describe Westlea Church:

- Hungry
- Busy x 2 (too busy sometimes to do things properly)
- Involved
- Caring x 3
- Kind
- Helpful
- Generous
- Good humoured
- Jovial
- Laughterful
- Funny
- Happy
- Sparkly
- Friendly x 2
- Child-friendly
- Welcoming
- Listening
- Reliable x 2
- Safe
- Young
- Small
- (too) loud
- Noisy
- Active
- Different x 2
- Individualistic
- Informal
- Complacent
- Opinionated
- Closed mind
- Competitive x 3
- Creative
- Good singers
- Cliquey x 2
- Tardy/late
- Invisible – God only wise.

Westlea Church's vocation

We were asked to put down words which we would use to describe Westlea Church's vocation:

- Fun x 3
- Interesting
- Team player
- Caring
- Nice
- Lovely
- Nurturing
- Pastoral care
- Leading
- Focussed x2
- Sharing
- Healing
- Listening
- Hearing
- Inquiring
- More discerning
- Evangelistic
- Evangelising
- Loving (Jesus more)
- Worship God more
- Holy
- Faithful
- God
- Sacrificially generous
- Prayerful
- Enthusiastic
- Exciting
- Informing
- Showing off
- Identifiable
- Active in the community
- Out there (but not always out HERE!)
- Committed
- Serious
- The best
- Open minded
- Not sure!

Signs of a healthy church

By looking at the 7 signs of a healthy church we each rated each sign. The results were combined as follows:

<u>Sign</u>	1 low	2	3	4	5	6 high	Total
1. energized by faith	0	3	6	5	5	0	3.6
2. outward-looking focus	0	1	2	5	5	6	4.7
3. seeks to find out what God wants	0	6	8	4	1	0	3.0
4. faces the cost of change and growth	0	3	6	3	7	0	3.7
5. operates as a community	0	2	1	2	10	4	4.7
6. makes room for all	0	0	2	4	7	6	4.9
7. does a few things and does them well	0	0	6	4	6	3	4.3

Looking at the four lowest rated signs we identified separate activities we could carry out to improve these ratings and identify two points we could implement immediately and where appropriate include those responsible.

1. Energised by Faith (3.6)

- Tie specific requests to fellowship prayer
- E-mail next week sheet- how to include those not on e-mail
- Children prepared for communion
- Arrive and prepare for worship, even if you're on caretaking
- Play music in lead up to service
- Reflective overhead at start (thought of the day or similar)
- Housegroup study does not start at 9.30pm
- Music during communion
- Re-focus 4th Sunday- swap over more reflective, difference to normal service
- More child friendly for family service, include the children
- All corporate speech on screen (inc. grace and Lord's prayer)
- Jobs are a service to God
- **Weekly prayer for Sunday Club leaders, those on the rota, etc.**
- **Planned bible readings (prepare for following Sunday and quiz on reading)**

2. Outward looking focus (4.7)

- Welcome pack for people moving to new houses
- Prayer cards
- Use website more- discussion forum, prayer line **Chris S and Pete G to discuss**
- Support in local schools, e.g. Parent groups (teachers can identify needs) **Pam, Christine & Julie to consider/advise**
- Look round for existing opportunities
- Prayer walk- Tuesday house group twice a year.
- Survey (Mike's form)
- Do more with Westlea School
- Tell each other more about our activities, tell stories, support each other (swap service slot)

3. Seeks to find out what God wants (3.0)

- Post service discussion
- Taking children's activities seriously
- Drama- to include children in this too
- Use swap over for discernment/meditative
- Choose themes that are consistent across services and housegroup
- Encourage gifts- opportunities to share, other lead worship
- Take ownership of our purpose and annual report vision
- Connect with charities
- Give time and money
- Could some do more/something different
- Read bible together-whole books
- Carol singing
- Craft with children e.g. banner making
- Service themes
- **24 hour prayer day**
- Encourage some talented younger musicians to have an active part in services

4. Faces the cost of change and growth (3.7) still to discuss

5. Operates as a community (4.7) still to discuss

6. Makes room for all (4.9)

- **Church book-photos and interests of families.**
- **Welcome pack/prospectus**
- Welcome procedure
- Something to advertise our presence, especially on Sunday
- Alpha course or similar
- More Sunday club groups (to be more age specific)
- What do we do with First Steps
- Saturday am club for children to help buy parents go shopping

7. Does a few things and does them well (4.3) still to discuss

Young People's ideas

While carrying out the above discussions the children also came with the following ideas.

Guided by Christine Rogers

- Church parties
- Relevant advice and discussion for different age groups
- Light sabers
- Tanks that shoot marshmallows
- Care
- Work board/sheet
- Funnier
- Chess
- Princesses
- Flowers
- Ice cream van
- Church/Sunday club outings
- Meal
- Walk
- Identity
- Annual celebration for kids (church birthday)
- More supplies for Sunday Club
- Outside Sunday club
- More Fairtrade breakfasts
- Soak the minister
- Tree/rope swing
- Church water fight
- Butterflies
- Lots of sweets
- Bouncy castle
- Airport
- Church BBQ more than once

Unguided

- Competitions
- Snacks
- Shops
- Beach
- Moon
- Mums and Dads
- Light
- Eat more sweets/sweets after service
- Sparklers pet
- Bouncy castle
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Quizzes
- More animals (tigers, kangaroos, rabbits, dogs, ducks)
- More games
- Posters
- Leaflets
- More Parties
- Outside and inside
- Sell food and drinks
- Modern hymns
- Live band
- Recent local stories
- More people with moustaches
- Milkshakes
- Football
- Cricket area
- Tree house
- Graffiti wall
- KFC
- Dodge ball court
- Water pistols
- Climbing wall
- Fizzy drinks (Lucozade, Sprite, Powerade, Fanta, Coke)
- Spitfire airport
- 100 inch TV
- Stink bombs kit
- Comic books
- Go kart centre
- Electric guitars
- Gospel choir
- Open air church
- Hot chocolate
- Wii
- Computers
- Dancing area
- Drums
- Rollercoaster
- Paint ball court
- Presents