

Instructions: In pairs, interview one another using the following questions. Take 30 minutes for each interview.

Be a generous listener. Do not have a dialogue, but rather take turns to actually conduct an interview. If you need more information or clarification ask follow-up questions. Use this sheet to record the results of your interview. When your interviews are completed, you will present the results to the wider group.

Before you begin to interview the other person, take a minute to read the questions and decide how you would personally answer the question, and make a mental note of your response. Now proceed with the interview, paying full attention to the other person's story, setting aside your own for the moment.

1. **Best Experience:** Reflect on your entire experience with this congregation. Recall a time when you felt most alive, most involved, spiritually touched, or most excited about your involvement. Tell me about this memorable experience that you have had with our church. Describe the event in detail. What made it an exciting experience? Who was involved? Describe how you felt. Describe what you did as a result of the experience.
 - 1b. (Optional) What do you really love to do? Tell me a story of a time when you got to do something that you really love to do that left you feeling very satisfied.
2. **Values:** What are the things you value deeply? Specifically, what are the things you value about yourself? about being a parishioner? about our church?
 - a. **Yourself:** Without being humble, what do you value most about yourself — for example, as a human being, or employee, or a friend, parent, or citizen?

(Note: From our experience, this question, which is a classic question in Appreciative Inquiry circles, often doesn't work well in large church groups. Instead, we now use question 1b.)
 - b. **Being a parishioner:** When you feel best about being a parishioner at our church, what about yourself do you value?
 - c. **Our church:** What is it about our church that you value? What is the single most important thing that our church has contributed to your life?
 - d. **Our denomination:** What is it about our denomination that you value? What is the single most important thing that our denomination has contributed to your life?
3. **Core Value:** What do you think is the core value of our church? What life-giving quality is distinctive in our church? What is the essential quality of our church that makes it what it is?
4. **Three Wishes:** If God gave you three wishes for our church, what would they be?