



DISCERNMENT / *categorized input*

| | A | B | C | D | E | F |
|----|--|------------|-----------|---|--|--|
| 1 | <h1 style="margin: 0;">DISCERNMENT / <i>categorized input</i></h1> | | | | | |
| 2 | | frequency | # | possible specific action | clarifying comments 1 | clarifying comments 2 |
| 3 | 1. How do we want to be challenged both spiritually and intellectually? | | | | | |
| 4 | Worship (theology) | | 66 | | | |
| 5 | Theology, Progressive (worship) [historically and culturally] | ////////// | 14 | anchor with stories and history and scripture | Jesus and historical context; origins of Christianity | fluent witness to this path, always open to new insights and new discoveries |
| 6 | Teach vs. Preach (chalnge and draw in vs. "TELL") | /// | 3 | | challenge some old interpretations of scripture | speak to be understood by all audiences |
| 7 | Theology, more traditional (worship) | / | 1 | | | |
| 8 | Jesus is our model; primary is to follow The Way; sermons should reflect Jesus | //// | 5 | | How do we "be" Jesus in the world? Absorb intellectual, practice spiritually and act | |
| 9 | open to new ideas | //// | 4 | | | |
| 10 | non-dogmatic | //// | 5 | | | |
| 11 | non dualistic theology | /// | 3 | | | |
| 12 | compare biblical text to modern situations: pray & act. | //////// | 8 | | | |
| 13 | Complexity not to be feared but embraced | //// | 4 | | | |
| 14 | "God is Still Speaking" exploration | //// | 6 | | | |
| 15 | CCC message = love and action, not doctrine, literalism | /// | 4 | | | |
| 16 | Acknowledge many paths to God; non-exclusive | //// | 5 | | and comments about clarifying our path as learn wisdom from others | |

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| 17 | want Bible re: justice, equality, fairness and inclusion and Creation (climate justice) | /// | 3 | | social justice as Christian; not associated with one political party | |
| 18 | Share message of NT more than OT | / | 1 | | wow. I'd like to talk about that one! | |
| 19 | | | | | | |
| 20 | Worship (experience) | | 28 | | | |
| 21 | " " Examen first to settle us | / | 1 | | | |
| 22 | avoid political correctness (e.g. "Our Father" for common ground) vs. #8 ("open") for opening the familiar to new light | / | 1 | | | |
| 23 | Spiritual Practice in worship | ///// | 6 | want pastor steeped in array of spiritual practices and to share | want marriage of historical context (intellectual) and spiritual direction (feeling) | |
| 24 | More ritual | /// | 3 | | (some appreciate mission statement and Countryside Blessing as predictable, repeated practices) | |
| 25 | support Music | ///// | 6 | | Music for K-8th is also support for families | |
| 26 | Two types worship services: Traditional and Contemporary | // | 2 | | | |
| 27 | Want old hymns | // | 2 | | | |
| 28 | Don't like old hymns and words that are inconsistent with who we are | / | 1 | | | |
| 29 | Accept wide array of beliefs; wide spectrum from agnostic, progressive, traditional. Explore together! | // | 2 | | | |
| 30 | Love leaving worship hearing Countryside Blessing | /// | 3 | | | |
| 31 | Institute Gratitude practice to strengthen our service | / | 1 | | | |
| 32 | | | | | | |

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| 33 | Deepening Faith (study, etc...) | | 49 | | | |
| 35 | Theology, more traditional (class or Bible study) | / | 1 | | | |
| 36 | 101 class GREAT. Need 102 level | / | 1 | include board scope, paths to involvement | | |
| 37 | Take Bible seriously, not literally | ///// | 5 | like sermons to comment on passages and context | don't want to leave brain at door. Discomfort difficult but useful for my growth | (not "liberal", but penetrating and fearless) |
| 39 | UCC designations help people find us & deepen our understanding | //////// | 7 | help members discern their passion to serve and connect to others who share that (like FATE, LGBTQIA+, etc.) | many accolades for those series of presentations (So many Thank-You's on this point) | Brave space = non-judgment on discussion; accountability; relationship honored; training on topics; outlet for sharing progress and what learned |
| 40 | UCC and CCC history for all, not just new members | / | 1 | | | |
| 41 | explore church polity (UCC, CCC and conference) | / | 1 | explore church polity (UCC, CCC and conference) | / | 1 |
| 42 | Phoenix Affirmations as core values | ////////// | 9 | | | |
| 43 | want Bible re: justice, equality, fairness and inclusion and Creation (climate justice) | /// | 3 | | social justice as Christian; not associated with one political party | |
| 44 | Opportunity for literalists and symbolic readers of the Bible to engage together | / | 1 | | | |
| 45 | | | | | | |
| 46 | Spiritual Practice | | 25 | | | |
| 47 | Spiritual Practice taught or modeled | ///// | 5 | | One response: Intellect engaged as looking for spirituality | Leader who does not act like they are the only party in relationship with God |

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| 48 | Spiritual strengthening in order to go do social justice work | // | 11 | | | |
| 49 | Discern God's energy; cultivate God within | ///// | 5 | challenge [expand?] limited perspectives on Christianity (judgmental and protectionist pictures of Christians) | "want visionary challenges which depend on relationships with one another, new and old members together" | Forward thinking; leading Christianity. (Christianity must change or die perspective) |
| 50 | emphasize worship | // | 2 | | spiritual nugget with new perspectives | |
| 51 | Taize option | // | 2 | | | |
| 52 | | | | | | |
| 53 | Member Stories | | 7 | | | |
| 54 | share our own faith stories | /// | 3 | | (Lots of kudos for stories from parishoners during the UCC tenets | |
| 55 | hear faith stories of others | /// | 3 | | | |
| 56 | appreciate our racial justice book clubs | / | 1 | | | |
| 57 | | | | | | |
| 58 | Leadership Characteristics | | 38 | | | |
| 59 | Minister deep understanding of scripture; keep scripture in sermons | //////// | 8 | | | |
| 60 | pastoral gifts with individuals | // | 2 | | | |
| 61 | This interim situation has been disruptive; we may need a 2nd interim; interim to lead forward | // | 2 | | | |
| 62 | We must move forward: define what we want and move toward that--then search for right leader | // | 2 | | | |
| 63 | Intellectual rigor: Greek and Hebrew translations | ///// | 6 | | | |
| 64 | Preaching that leads to action | // | 2 | | | |

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| 65 | Preaching: kindness that encourages living the faith in everyday life | / | 1 | | | |
| 66 | Scripture from pulpit should give meaning to everyday life; applicability | //// | 4 | | | |
| 67 | feel dumbed down worship this year | / | 1 | | | |
| 68 | Use TF clergy periodically to help us heal; interim not healing or leading | / | 1 | | | |
| 69 | Need authenticity from our leaders | // | 2 | | youth can smell hypocrisy | |
| 70 | Team builder with a record of accomplishment | / | 1 | | | |
| 71 | Lead by example of Christian servanthood and connect to UCC designations; bridge faith to action | ///// | 6 | | could we have coordinators for each designation? | |
| 72 | | | | | | |
| 73 | Wider Church Programming | | 29 | | | |
| 74 | more emphasis on children/youth programming; value input and direction from youth | ////////// | 11 | | 1 person said: more content for youth??? Another said: invest in youth as the future of the church.... Another said: services for youth in their challenging moments. One said "church-lite" will attract them! | several + comments about children needing to know why we are the kind of church we are. Deb says maybe we need more outreach to adults re: kids programming..... |
| 75 | Prayer retreats; grounded through contemplative prayer as individuals and in small groups. | //// | 5 | Ongoing opportunities for contemplation; multiple times a year have worship be a contemplative opportunity | help congregation "listen to Spirit"; then take individual calls to small groups with others for action | |

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| 76 | Amplify and Simplify joining/starting a small group | //// | 4 | (especially for new members) | (not sure this should be in the service category, but showed up most often here) | |
| 77 | Festival of Talents or some way to involve in life of church | //// | 4 | | encourage leadership positions to strengthen commitment/involvement | |
| 78 | Volunteer database: interests and skills | /// | 3 | | | |
| 79 | Bi-annually discuss what our mission statement means to us | / | 1 | | | |
| 80 | faith studies intergenerational | / | 1 | | | |
| 81 | | | | | | |
| 82 | 2. What is our call to serve? (What do we value?) | | | | | |
| 83 | Needs Determination (process) | | 17 | | | |
| 84 | encourage priority setting (climate, immigration, racial justice) | //////// | 7 | View these designations grounded in faith! | All important to the world; but prioritize and revisit priorities over time | can't do it all |
| 85 | Many needs in the world: each member can choose their own calling to serve + What are the gifts that WE bring? Determine our service priorities by using our greatest gifts! | // | 2 | | | |
| 86 | Serving together creates sense of community (especially after the long covid disconnect) | /// | 3 | | | |
| 87 | Inventory of community needs (compare to volunteer database) | //// | 5 | | don't duplicate but find unique and needed service | |
| 88 | | | | | | |
| 89 | Project Choices | | 31 | | | |
| 90 | Community Cupboard & food bank (expansion?) | //////// | 9 | | | |
| 91 | Immigration volunteerism (+ non-English speakers) | //// | 5 | | | |

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| 92 | support an Immigrant family | // | 2 | | | |
| 93 | outreach to marginalized | //// | 4 | | | |
| 94 | Racial justice projects | //// | 4 | We need more in Nebraska; TF a good start | | |
| 95 | felons | / | 1 | | | |
| 96 | climate justice | ///// | 6 | | Scary, said one. | frame as creation justice |
| 97 | <u>Systemic</u> Justice issues: advocate, march, explore policy | ///// | 6 | respond to hurt; support growth of others | Not just generosity (which is great) but also action to change systems! | explore issues as matters of faith rather than political... |
| 98 | Compile and distribute CCC history of service | / | 1 | | | |
| 99 | clearinghouse for helping individual members (e.g., wheelchair ramp thru volunteer action) | / | 1 | | | Note: Derek Miller did a project for a ch. Member this month |
| 100 | mission work for Youth and Adults together | /// | 3 | | | |
| 101 | Stephen ministry promoted | /// | 3 | | But also said Use Stephen ministers to draw people back in; acknowledge care for those isolated because of Covid | |
| 102 | visitation corps (visit those in nursing or home care) | / | 1 | | | |
| 103 | grants to organizations that help people help themselves (e.g. Kiva type????) | / | 1 | | Some of the Service entries said : focus in AND focus out (members and community in need) | |
| 104 | support for those without technology | / | 1 | | | |
| 105 | support for members needing transportaion | / | 1 | | I remember this effort; insurance stopped us | |
| 106 | Present service WITH the served, not as do-gooders or rescuers | / | 1 | | | |

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| 107 | Value of Service | | 10 | | | |
| 108 | live out the "Christian You" | / | 1 | | | |
| 109 | Encourage more hands on projects; WHOLE church | /// | 3 | | pantry, face of CCC in community, coat giveaway | |
| 110 | Transform people | / | 1 | | | |
| 111 | Spread our message of inclusivity; All are Welcome | /// | 3 | | | |
| 112 | repectful of mores of others when serving | / | 1 | | | |
| 113 | Family Values would be evident when we gain 2nd generation families | / | 1 | | | |
| 114 | | | | | | |
| 115 | 3. What does it mean to be the Christian partner on the Tri-Faith Commons? | | | | | |
| 116 | CCC Participation, structure | | 25 | | | |
| 117 | expand Tf encouragement* | /////// | 7 | | Prepare for surprise! Be open. Ready to be shocked (?) | |
| 118 | TF should be a priority | //// | 4 | | for congregation; for seated pastor | |
| 119 | TF joint programs (e.g., preschool, youth, refugees, P-Flag) | // | 2 | | | |
| 120 | How can we best welcome TF visitors? Hosts? Guides? Intentionality | // | 2 | | help ease people in to participation with guides and information | |
| 121 | Need a CCC TF coordinator to help | //// | 4 | | | |
| 122 | Need a CCC coordinator to help connect to community groups (Lutheran Fam Svc model) | // | 2 | | | |
| 123 | Be ourselves as we celebrate diversity; share what we learn with the world | //// | 4 | | | |
| 124 | | | | | | |

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| 125 | Curiosity / Commitment | | 27 | | | |
| 126 | Visit others' services | ///// | 6 | | ask for support and accompaniment; organize us for easing us into comfort | suggest a visitor weekend at each congregation |
| 127 | Serve the community WITH our TF partners, forming relationships as we serve | //// | 5 | | Testimonials from CCC people who have loved their TF interaction | |
| 128 | More educational opportunities with Rabbi and Imam; with AMI and Temple people | //////// | 8 | | some said preach, some said study. One said 101 classes to find commonality and "enlightening understanding" | several said would love their interpretation of NT passages...(eric's podcast with Jamal and Brian and Aryeh); Some said: CCC organize and take us to services at Temple & AMI |
| 129 | Promote a TF Sunday | //// | 5 | | want some on weekend for working persons | |
| 130 | Share newsletters of 3 congregations | / | 1 | | ? Worship Friday for AMI, Friday and Sat for Temple. | |
| 131 | Publish a Q & A about TF | // | 2 | | gather Q. Post answers. Video answers to increase comfort and welcome | Deb: follow up again on this |
| 132 | Programs: Ed | | 43 | | | |
| 133 | | | | | | |
| 134 | learn about prayer in Islam (and Judaism) | // | 2 | | | |
| 135 | Learn about mosque and temple activities | /// | 3 | | | |
| 136 | more info about individual TF members---joys, concerns, milestones; maybe in CCC newsletter | / | 1 | | | |
| 137 | Share stories re: caregiving from each partner | / | 1 | | | |

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| 138 | Don't de-emphasize our Christian identity | / | 1 | | | |
| 139 | Concern @ Christianity getting a bad rap; distinguish in the many paths. Ours SHOULD be an inclusive message | / | 1 | | | |
| 140 | more focus on spiritual food from TF experiences | / | 1 | | | |
| 141 | More shared activities for TF members | //// | 4 | Stories in C10? | | |
| 142 | Use TF building | /// | 3 | cooking classes | | |
| 143 | learn more about cultural norms and religious values of our TF neighbors | / | 1 | | familiarity and comfort/"ownership" | |
| 144 | Emphasize <i>our</i> Christian path (as distinct from stereotypes of a Christianity that excludes and warns of punishment) | ///// | 6 | DEEPEN our Christian path as we learn about other paths. Be challenged and open to growth | some noted that we had lots of "education" in our TF discernment process but that newer members may have missed that opportunity (see line 128) | Not only learn about Islam and Judaism but share our Christian path (see 112) |
| 145 | Rotate clergy periodically among TF partners | /// | 3 | | affirm significance of CCC/UCC within Christendom | |
| 146 | Book studies, book clubs for TF members | // | 2 | | | |
| 147 | Love Abraham's White Board....expand knowledge about it | /// | 3 | | | |
| 148 | Would like TF panels in accessible places | //// | 4 | (want recorded events available. They are! We have to communicate that better????) | think of "beyond print" ways to publicize these opportunities....(many respondents who asked for content but guessing they don't know about this....) | |
| 149 | Ask AMI if we could help tutor new Afghan refugees | / | 1 | | | |
| 150 | Promote a TF Sunday | / | 1 | | | |
| 151 | Publish a Q & A about TF | / | 1 | | ? Worship Friday for AMI, Friday and Sat for Temple. | |

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| 152 | Rotate clergy periodically among TF partners | // | 2 | | gather Q. Post answers. Video answers to increase comfort and welcome | Deb: follow up again on this |
| 153 | TF small groups | // | 2 | | | |
| 154 | | | | | | |
| 155 | Programs: Serve together | | 10 | | | |
| 156 | More shared volunteer opportunities for TF members | ///// | 6 | | | |
| 157 | Ask AMI if we could help tutor new Afghan refugees | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 158 | Promote a TF Sunday | / | 1 | | ? Worship Friday for AMI, Friday and Sat for Temple. | |
| 159 | Be advocates to stop cycles of violence; our TF friends are recipients of hatred. We need to be a Christian voice for justice, risk offending other Christians | // | 2 | | engage other Christians to challenge exclusivity | |
| 160 | Programs: Social/relationships | | 28 | | | |
| 161 | Revive TF Neighbor to Neighbor | //// | 4 | | | |
| 162 | More opportunities such as picnic, stories from the bridge, neighbor to neighbor, youth council | //// | 4 | | | |
| 163 | More opportunities such as picnic, stories from the bridge, neighbor to neighbor, youth council | ///// | 5 | | youth are our future | loved cookie bank activity with AMI and Temple |
| 164 | Share newsletters of 3 congregations | ///// | 5 | | youth are our future | loved cookie bank activity with AMI and Temple |
| 165 | | | | | | |
| 166 | Miscellaneous Issues Noted | | | | | |
| 167 | Pastoral Care staff and volunteers | / | 1 | | | |
| 168 | OTOC or political activism; Issue centered not partisan but take a stand on immigration, racial justice, climate, LGBTQ | / | 1 | | | |
| 169 | Political: maybe we need to learn HOW to converse with compassion and Christian concern | // | 2 | | | |

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| 170 | honor diverse opinions (not sure if theological, political or both from this entry???) | /// | 3 | | | |
| 171 | more purposefully integrate new members | //// | 4 | | get comfortable with disagreement | |
| 172 | Advocate for (less valued) faith paths | /// | 3 | (e.g., volunteer options) | | |
| 173 | Many members joined BECAUSE of TF | / | 1 | | | |
| 174 | emphasize our progressive aspirations | //////// | 9 | | (showed up in this section and TF section!) | "Ours is not the only way" demonstrates Christian love and relationship |
| 175 | Ministers with UCC foundation | /// | 3 | | | |
| 176 | Minister who will challenge us (spirit and action) | // | 2 | | | |
| 177 | Discussion of spiritual fulfillment (pleasant message) vs. intellectual challenge. Can we acknowledge that some weeks will meet the needs of some worshippers and some the needs of others. Accept that our concern for <i>all</i> means we sometimes prioritize the needs of others. | //////// | 8 | | one member said:"I like to be challenged directly; makes me question my assumptions about how to live God's word" | Want to be challenged the way my journey group challenges me: conversation, study, bible, authors and prayer.... |
| 178 | One minister can't be all things to all people; Compensate for gifts of one with gifts of another....Collaborative behavior (and collaborative hiring) vs. collaborative model | / | 1 | | | |
| 179 | We need to "throw our hearts over the bar and say 'I am not leaving, I am staying and I am going to be a part of making us what we can be'". | /// | 3 | | | |
| 180 | Members don't necessarily know about BBB, Stephen Ministry, small groups nor Tri-Faith opportunities. | / | 1 | | | |
| 181 | Minister with accessible language | // | 2 | | | |
| 182 | minister focused on us, not world | / | 1 | | | |
| 183 | Minister as spiritual director | / | 1 | | | |
| 184 | Form newcomers groups | / | 1 | | | |
| 185 | more intentionality meeting new people | / | 1 | | | |

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| 186 | Form newcomers groups | // | 2 | | what if we invited new members to dinner in a home with 2 other families? | |
| 187 | look forward to singing together | / | 1 | | | |
| 188 | Be a model for Peace: we don't have to think alike to love alike | /// | 3 | | | |
| 189 | More participation from congregation in worship roles | / | 1 | | | |
| 190 | Darkwood Brew: loved the perspectives of other faith leaders. Conversations helped spiritual growth in Christianity | | | | | |
| 191 | appreciate sermons on youtube for re-connecting or attending when can't get out | //// | 4 | | | |
| 192 | Love Examen. How about Labyrinth or other spiritual practices | / | 1 | | | |
| 193 | Be a community role model: Loving, accepting, open-minded to dispel (young people's) view that Christians judgmental and hateful | / | 1 | | | |
| 194 | So many good programs: Look at website. Sign up. BE ENGAGED | / | 1 | | | |
| 195 | Need new photo directory | // | 2 | | | |
| 196 | Need to reach out/interview people no longer attending, find out what they need to feel welcomed.... | / | 1 | | | |
| 197 | Use TV to attract new members | / | 1 | | | |
| 198 | How do we heal our congregation: individual or collective? | / | 1 | | | |
| 199 | Hopeful. We can do what it takes | / | 1 | | | |
| 200 | More family events | / | 1 | | | |
| 201 | Keep messages simple | / | 1 | | | |

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| 202 | RECLAIM our strong sense of community and care for one another | // | 2 | | "CCC has a soul that is authentic so we will survive this rocky time" | |
| 203 | church is fractured and divided during 2021 | / | 1 | | "I may not stay" | |