

Future Quest Survey Results

Q1: 65+ years old

Q2

I would look for a church with a welcoming atmosphere and an informal Sunday service i.e. a more understanding of what the Bible preaches (in layman's terms)

Q3

Much of what I mentioned in #2 - the fellowship is outstanding - there are many interesting activities and very inspiring Sunday Service with great music.

Q4

I would love to see more youth coming to church - therefore a youth minister to inspire them.

Q1: 25 to 40 years old

Q2

Comfortable, casual environment. Happy people.

Q3

Vibrant childrens and music programs.

Q4

Increase the number of paid staff.

Q1: 25 to 40 years old

Q2

A church that has a welcoming and vibrant atmosphere, an exciting music program, and has a strong youth presence (as they are the future of the church).

Q3

I was very impressed with the youth presence, and many of the people I have met are very friendly.

Q4

1) As much as I love the casual look and feel, I think the front foyer area of the church (in front of the office), as well as possibly the library, could be cleaned up a little and made to look a bit more professional. This is the first thing that visitors and new members see when they walk into the church. It just doesn't feel like a young, vibrant and wel-

coming area. It just looks and feels like stuff that is there has been around for years (eg. can all the flyers that are really old be recycled, and maybe the library can be updated a bit... again remove some of the much older books and materials that might not be relevant). ----- 2) Has there been any thought to maybe having an evening service. I would love to be able to go to an evening service (Friday maybe?).

Q1: 25 to 40 years old

Q2

We would look for a church that was in a church not a school or another building. For the spiritual side we would talk to the ministers and see if it was an atmosphere that was beneficial to our family.

Q3

Church structure, Sunday school program for our child, like the community that is with the church, the two Reverends are approachable and understand the real world. They also seem to be happy to have people in their church and I do not see them shunning new members away.

Q4

What time church started. 1030 would be better for our family.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

A welcoming church. A church that teaches the gospel and believes in Jesus Christ.

Q3

The people. The activities. The ministerial team.

Q4

I would like to see us get to the point where we are not constantly worried about how we will pay our bills every month. That we have the financial and people resources to accomplish our mission.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Music Engaged Youth Community Outreach Welcoming and Inclusive Relaxed atmosphere

Q3

Location Church School Program Music

Q4

I have not been attending regularly and don't feel I can comment.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Welcoming, inclusive, groups for all ages, wide ranging music programmes, community involvement.

Q3

Welcoming, inclusive, groups for all ages, wide ranging music programmes, community involvement, sense of "family".

Q4

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Yes. Having a faith community is very important to me.

Q3

theology; accepting; music; the team; sense of joy

Q4

to not be so caught up in the ritual on Sundays ... lose those gowns; stop standing for the Gospel; get More Voices

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

fellowship, inspiration and support

Q3

the above plus our pastoral team is top notch

Q4

I am happy with everything Eden United Church has to offer me and would welcome any changes to help bring members together.

Q1: 25 to 40 years old

Q2

-lots of family activities -great, uplifting music -strong sunday school program integrating music

Q3

-location -need for community/extended family -place to feel safe and accepted -guidance for raising my children

Q4

-getting more people involved (seems like a small group of people do it all) -stronger
sunday school program and more family events

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

friendl, acvtive, music

Q3

friendly

Q4

some older hymns sung more regularly

Q1:

Q2

Q3

Q4

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

friendly, active and music

Q3

friendly

Q4

more trtaditional hymns

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

-strong youth group and youth involvement -contemporary Christian music in the serv-
ices -sermons that relate to everyday, modern life -young families, to ensure the future
of the church

Q3

-welcoming, friendly atmosphere -"down to earth" services -music -stongfamily/youth
involvement

Q4

-more use of contemporary Christian music in the service, for the congregation to sing, like we do for the hymns -even more involvement of children and youth in the services

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

I would look for a church that provides a more contemporary and flexible worship service that expresses and embraces through it's worship a wider diversity of spirituality. What I mean is making use of prayers, readings and music (rock, blues, country, classical, choral, etc) from the society we live in....as these in many ways are more current and relevant to the times we live in. I find the church tends to be stuck in the past traditions, which are not helpful in making the gospel relevant for today.

Q3

There is a sense of community and expression of Social Justice that gets lived out here.

Q4

I would change the way we staff our ministries.....I am not sure we need to have two people doing similar things.....maybe we can accomplish more by having the staffing mix more focused on specific areas of ministry in our community.

Q1: 25 to 40 years old

Q2

A welcoming environment, a minister who talks to the congregation, not above them, a choir/music program that is impressive, interesting and engaging.

Q3

The family that I have created for myself and my family, the relaxed atmosphere, the joy in seeing others and growing with them.

Q4

One thing I would change is the lack of programming for young families. It's so difficult in this day and age, but there needs to be something that brings us in. Also, I would like to see the sermons be less technical and academic (Barry), and more engaging and in the form of story telling and explanation (Evelyn).

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Vibrant outreach and educational programming. Quality music and sermons are also important.

Q3

Same as above.

Q4

More openness to change particularly in the areas of inclusive language and liturgy. Would love to have two worship services to meet the different congregational needs with regard to changing understandings of who/what God is.

Q1:

Q2

Q3

Q4

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

wide variety of interests within the church itself ie. groups for teens women men etc., friendly faces, approachable people

Q3

friendly faces, great things for all to do, great leadership

Q4

that more people would be involved in the running of the groups, volunteering their time to help make the groups run efficiently

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

I would first look for united church as they have the same beliefs as I do. If I was unhappy then I would look for a church with those same beliefs, very liberal.

Q3

the closest united church. but specifically the order of service, music, fellowship with other women ie strong UCW

Q4

not much, sometimes we stand too much during a service, very hard on the feet if you have problems and for the seniors. And even though we are told, if you are able, people are not comfortable with that as it singles them out. Why do we stand for the reading of the bible?

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Friendly people, interesting and capable Minister, dynamic congregation

Q3

Haven't attended in quite a long while.

Q4

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

A dynamic ministry team with leadership skills, A friendly congregation A great music program Meaningful church school program for children and youth

Q3

All of the above!

Q4

The addition of spritual leadership for our youth. Hiring another youth worker or finding aother source.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

importance and focus on the youth of the church strong sense of community involve-ment supportive staff and ministerial team excellent music leadership easy to understand sermons that relate on a lay level to our daily lives welcoming enviornment

Q3

all of the above plus social involvement

Q4

more financial support from congregation more volunteers, current 20% do 80% of the volunteer work continue to encourage individuals to contribute their time and talents would like to have music playing in the sanctuary during the day.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Adult fellowship - not just couples - singles as well

Q3

Misisters are friendly and accessable if needed

Q4

I find the UCW group on a whole very cliky -- Some ladies are very welcoming and some ladies are still walking by me in the mall after 15 years.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Being spoken to by more than one person. Modern theology spoken and sung in the worship service.

Q3

After some persistence, being spoken to by more than one person. Barry and Evelyn's willingness to move away from the lectionary at times and use other resources.

Q4

More services that use books like Brandon Scott's or Marcus Borg's and other researchers.

Q1: 65+ years old

Q2

One that is accepting of all people regardless of race, colour, sexual preference or creed. A church that provides a variety of activities for various interest groups. One that is unafraid to voice and discuss the questions that people have about their faith. One that is committed to acting out the social behaviours taught to us by Jesus' example.

Q3

It encompasses most of what I expressed in No.2 The high level of music. The variety of approach from our two ministers. The love and care one feels from fellow members.

Q4

A loosening of rules and regulations. Because things have been done a certain way it doesn't mean it's the only way. Videos and references to contemporary thinkers and how it affects our world can add a greater social element. Regulations such as our ministers must wear robes seems unnecessary to me.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Lots of activity

Q3

the activities that are ongoing and the amount of things you can get involved in

Q4

A convenient time for bible study or religious reflection that fits into a busy schedule not weekday mornings or Saturday early mornings Hard to do I'm sure

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Something close to the style of service at Eden and the friendship

Q3

History, a desire to see Eden succeed in a time when growth should be easy. Friendship, feeling welcome, group activities

Q4

Q1:

Q2

Q3

Q4

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Caring, friendly, strong program for children & youth good use of music ... conscious awareness and involvement in affecting current social issues at home and world wide.....open attitude to all race , religion and sexuality.

Q3

friendliness, supportive, sermons that address today's challenges , open acceptance of everyone. Social consciousness Opportunity to learn ..multifaith opportunities, Bible study ,

Q4

would like service options.....one weekday evening, one sunday service.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

A warm church where I could meet and make friends with morals and similar beliefs as myself. An engaging preacher.

Q3

Friends. The feeling that this is my church home.

Q4

The things I would change are not realistic. So my answer is: nothing.

Q1: 25 to 40 years old

Q2

Friendly congregation, children involvement

Q3

Friendly congregation, children involvement

Q4

Introduce a Sunday School class for toddler ages so that they don't have to go to the nursery with the babies.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

United Church denomination simulating sermons--thought-provoking church involved in outreach activities

Q3

location--close to home Sunday School

Q4

--should return to having two services on Sundays --should never exceed one hour in length for Sunday services, other United churches care able to do this, why not Eden, don't try to cram everyone into one service --a sermon should be a sermon , not a workshop where you go and talk to people

Q1: 25 to 40 years old

Q2

I would look for a great music program with interesting and challenging music. I would also look for a dynamic minister who uses stories, technology and other interesting ways of giving the message. The church would need to have a friendly, welcoming atmosphere.

Q3

I really liked the music under the direction of David Ambrose. The atmosphere was also very friendly.

Q4

I would want the sermons to be more dynamic, more interesting, with the use of stories and technology (video clips, etc.). I would also like to see the young people who are out of high school participating in the service, even if just to be there to listen.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

An open minded minister. Friendly congregation. Strong women's group's.

Q3

Women's church group.

Q4

Less discussion on money. Some of us can not afford to pay our bills and the one place you feel you should be able to find peace is at church. Instead you have to carry the burden of the church's problems as well as your own. I do not come to church as much as I should but to me it is not the peaceful place to talk to God that it used to be.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Modern and Activities

Q3

Proximity and People

Q4

Q1: 65+ years old

Q2

Look for a much smaller building, also environmentally friendly with low maintenance. Central to the community with multi-use possibilities.

Q3

Situation, closeness, family connections.

Q4

Possibility of more partitioning of the sanctuary giving smaller useable areas. Reduce the height of the sanctuary and save on heating.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

People around my age, programming that suits my interests, theology that I can live with (i.e. no Bible-thumping, hell or damnation type stuff), inviting church members, less focus on stewardship and more focus on welcome (when we last moved, all three churches we attended talked about \$ the week we went), music.

Q3

Sense of community (our second family - we've been with Eden over 20 years). The willingness of our leadership to accept and promote that we're all on a journey and not in the same place, yet try to be all-inclusive.

Q4

The politics, although not overwhelming, still influential in church decisions.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Welcoming, friendly, inclusive, lots of music, ways to become involved that support the community

Q3

Welcoming, Friendly, inclusive, lots of music, programs that support the community.

Q4

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

I would look for a church like Eden--community focused, close to home; dynamic ministerial leadership.

Q3

A sense of belonging Fellowship Like minded, spiritual people

Q4

The young set(25-40)need, in my opinion, to take on more leadership in the church. The folk leading the committees have been doing so for years and years. I feel tired and would welcome leadership or at the very least help from fresh faces.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

a welcoming environment the message given by the minister(s) in their sermon music

Q3

the ministers and their messages the music the welcoming environment the UCW and the people I have met

Q4

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Friendly people interesting sermons lots of things happening for all ages

Q3

Friendly people, lots of fellowship

Q4

Not being in debt.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

adult social events, women's group, music
Q3

friendly people, UCW, bookclub, coffee time after church
Q4

I don't like toddlers running around, crying while I am trying to hear the church service, sermon, music etc. At my last church toddlers, babies were in an nursery. If parent was needed number would discreetly be on a screen.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old
Q2

Up to date worship styles and leadership, friendly community, open doors, a busy church with programs offered for all ages
Q3

A friendly, busy community, welcoming of all, excellent music and worship services with up to date, use of multi media
Q4

Reduction of financial worries - a 5+ year plan for operational expenses and expected costs of keeping our doors open - review of all current expenses A new vision statement and a 5 year plan for that visioning More fellowship, less work for the core few

Q1: 19 to 24 years old
Q2

- Convenience (close to my house) - Strong youth involvement - Sermons that make me think
Q3

- tradition - friends - sense of belonging
Q4

- sermons (more intellectual, less icebreaker games) - more religious focus in high-school sunday school

Q1: 41 to 65 years old
Q2

strong music program, sense of community, friendliness, acceptance.
Q3

the very strong sense of community and commitment of the people.
Q4

actually nothing - I'm very satisfied

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

One that has more interesting services (more upbeat music, shorter sermons, and can relate to all age groups) and that stick to the one-hour time frame. I would also look for a good youth group that my children are excited to belong too (Eden does offer this, which we are very grateful for)

Q3

baking and crafts

Q4

More interesting services (as stated above). I have mentioned many times over the years that I feel the services are too long, in particular the sermons. I am not alone with this feeling, as I know of many members who simply have either left the church or do not attend as often because of this. I realize they want to get everything in, but by making the services so long they can lose the attention of the congregation. I have visited many churches where they have a meaningful service but stay within the one-hour time frame.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

strong sunday school, great music, relaxed worship service, personable ministers, programs for all ages (children, youth, adults), friendly people

Q3

large sunday school and youth, active UCW, friends, good music

Q4

no debt (ha ha), ministers involved with youth, program for people 20 to 30, active adult fellowship group

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Friendly, active church, excellent music, choir, etc., different activities to choose from, bazaars, social get-togethers, programs for youth.

Q3

Music, warm congregation, programs for youth, social get-togethers.

Q4

Q1:

Q2

Q3

Q4

Q1: 19 to 24 years old

Q2

A community, a place to find new friends, new experiences mixed with familiar and new traditions. I would look for a church that welcomed young people while valuing their contributions and talents rather than their lack of financial contribution. I would also look for a church that was more young adult friendly that incorporated some of the newer traditions and worship styles (worship through song, group bible study at accessible times, conventions and conferences, kingdom bound) like some churches in our area. I think most of all though I would look for a church that supported it's congregation through local missions.

Q3

A younger outlook on religion and religious diversity today. Time and talent.

Q4

If I could change Eden United Church I would make it a less exclusive community that accepted any help rather than criticizing what we did last year from what "mistakes" were made this year. I would also focus on making eden more intergenerational through family worship. Advertising events more, and have more events that are not fundraisers so that the whole congregation can participate even if they are unable to give the church as much money.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Traditional service format, nice facility, friendly, welcoming atmosphere.

Q3

See above.

Q4

Less emphasis on financial issues.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Welcoming church with great programs for social involvement. Services would need to be enriching/challenging and with great music. Accessible ministerial staff. good children's programming.

Q3

-involvement with children and youth -involvement with music -support of Eden's ministry through participating in outreach programs.

Q4

I don't know what we need to change but something isn't working. I think we have terrific ministers and wonderful leadership from the congregation but we are shrinking very quickly. It's the same families doing the same work. There are very few new families and the children's numbers are decreasing. I believe this is partially due to the community in which we live. When our son was young, his school was large and there were numerous grade six classes. In the same school now there is only one grade 6 class. The age of our community is older than it was 20 years ago when the newest "Eden" opened its doors. I am very concerned about the drop in attendance. We're competing with several very flamboyant and charismatic churches so maybe we're not attracting the young families. One thing I'd change would be to stop having three Christmas Eve services and have one, "absolutely full to the rafters" family service at 7:00. Have lots of wonderful music and make it a warm, family service. I miss seeing everyone on Christmas Eve. although I like the atmosphere of the 10:30 service, I'd much rather an earlier celebration with more people.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Friendly church people - not in cliques Music ministry Adaptable worship Strong leadership from not just the ministers but members of the church

Q3

Friendly church family Music ministry Compatibility with worship and ministry Strong leadership

Q4

Continued youth leadership with Youth minister Flexible worship services Better communication between committees, ministers and church members Encourage new members to join committees and replace those that have been doing all the work

Q1: 25 to 40 years old

Q2

A strong community which is welcoming towards new individuals, a good music program, and opportunities to get involved with the church community (youth activities, Sunday school, committees etc)

Q3

The passionate and dedication of the Eden staff, the amazing musical talent (the choir, folk group, hand bell choirs and individuals who share their talents) the friendly members and the familiar faces as well as the opportunities for involvement on several levels.
Q4

Nothing- there isn't anything at Eden that I dislike so much that I would want it changed.

Q1: 65+ years old
Q2

A welcoming, warm and friendly congregation with a mixture of young and old membership.
Q3

Friendship, caring for each other, music and the overall work for those less fortunate (ie Food Bank).
Q4

A more welcoming church where every new member or visitor is greeted by all members of the congregation.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old
Q2

welcoming, esthetically pleasing (i.e. stained glass, etc.), good music, relevant sermons (to today's life)
Q3

location, good size (not too big or too small), attractive sanctuary, good choir/music, Rev King - like his style
Q4

Be more aware of and welcoming to newcomers! It is hard enough to walk in alone. I have signed envelopes, guest book and written notes asking for more info and no one has ever contacted me. (Many churches follow up by phone after one visit.) No one notices a lone new person...makes it seem unfriendly!!

Q1: 41 to 65 years old
Q2

Fellowship, opportunity to pursue spiritual growth, taking an active role in the life work of the Church.
Q3

Christian fellowship, personal support, opportunity to become active in the life-work of Eden United and the community, discovering a closer connection with GOD by being a member of Eden United.

Q4

I would not. Eden United provides the support and challenges to pursue one's Spirituality and Spiritual growth in an atmosphere of Christian fellowship and by being a member of a supportive Church family.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

A church that has a good community based congregation Weekly groups for Men, Woman and Children Warmth and Friendship

Q3

Friends Weekly groups warmth

Q4

That someone calls me when they have not seen me at church for a while

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

I would look for a church with many children in the congregation. Since I have children I would want to see that there is youth of their ages. I would look for a church that has a wide variety of youth as well as more "mature" folks in the church. I think that a healthy church has this variety involved in it.

Q3

A place to meet and share in the spirit of God. A comforting place where you are always welcome even if you can't make it every Sunday.

Q4

Wow, I honestly cannot think of anything that I would want to see changed. I love our church and all it has to offer. As I go home and go back to my old church I can see the differences and wish that my old church could use us as a model.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

Liberal theology, meaningful community work, active youth stream, admirable ministers and other church officials.

Q3

Everything I described in question 2.

Q4

I have sometimes felt that Eden's expectations of me and my family in terms of time and money have become a little daunting. On the other hand: (1) I fully realize that Eden requires significant resources to do its significant work; (2) I know there are others in the church community doing far more than we are; and (3) Eden uses its resources well. I'm actually quite proud of my affiliation with this church. So I'm not sure I would ask for change in this regard; it may simply be an occasional frustration that those of us who treasure Eden and our ties to it must "endure" in order to ensure the church continues to rise to our hopes for it. All the best to Eden, its staff, volunteers, and the congregation at large, in 2008. (And my apologies for the late submission of this; it's been a distracting run-up to Christmas....)

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

The size of congregation. A warm, welcoming atmosphere. Music aspect. Children's programs.

Q3

Eden has a wonderful warm atmosphere. Great music. Worship is very meaningful.

Q4

More volunteers. Get more people involved in committees.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

The size of congregation. A warm, welcoming atmosphere. Music aspect. Children's programs.

Q3

Eden has a wonderful warm atmosphere. Great music. Worship is very meaningful.

Q4

More volunteers. Get more people involved in committees.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

proximity to home; friendliness of the people; good leadership; good music

Q3

the people; the ministers; the music; and, of course, I like that it's close to home (but that's certainly not the main reason!)

Q4

I like it the way it is, but it would be great if we had more money or somehow had our debt erased. I feel that money issues are always looming over us, which is a bit depressing.

Q1: 41 to 65 years old

Q2

vibrant congregation active good fellowship

Q3

family and friends

Q4

i would like to see some of the sermons more related to the times of the day or at least draw comparisons to whats happening in todays world