



Discernment Retreat Discussion Responses April 20, 2024

Presbytery Leadership met to discuss what was learned from the Storytelling, Polls, demographics and small group discussions.

What did we learn from data and gathered stories ?

- Faith is still important
- Family ties/nostalgia
- Members vs. Non members - how can we fully welcome those who are not “members”
- Trust the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit is in the rituals
- Ministry to those who are present and still inviting those who aren't there yet
- Keep your head level
- Needs of our neighbors
- Pay attention - demographics don't tell the whole story
- Creativity
- Building relations
- We still need to learn - what does the church look like in community
- Stewardship connection/Stewardship + faith
- Connections are IMPORTANT
- Mental and emotional health are a post pandemic concern
- Pastors need support - more than they may know
- Cohort groups are needed
- Need to embrace different types of Pastoral models
- Community Building within the presbytery/ Overcoming History of past presbyteries
- How do we help churches lead change
- How do we help our churches manage conflict