

## St. Columba's Church: Listening Forum

June 4, 2023

The Listening Forum was very helpful in identifying our priorities that we are looking for in our new rector. As ideas were shared and voted on as our highest priorities, 1) outreach and growth were the top priority, and 2) increasing energy into services was the next highest priority. Qualities that were discussed are listed below with the highest priorities listed first.

### Outreach and Growth

1. Someone who can grow St. Columba's by engaging and encouraging youth, young families, and the community. (26 total votes)
  - *Someone with empathy who can engage and encourage youth and young families (16)*
  - *Outreach to military, preschool, CSUCI, and Scouts (8)*
  - *Offering other programs in spiritual wellness (yoga, etc.), aside from traditional church (2)*

Suggestions included more involvement with the preschool families (preschoolers participating in regular chapel in the church, involving preschool families in services, and offering monthly "dinner out" meals at the church or other events that would offer family time), increasing involvement with scouts, reaching out to military families, and reaching out at CSUCI.

2. Someone who can make a name for St. Columba's in the community as a place of inclusion where all are welcome. (20 total votes)
  - *Outreach to the community; how to stand out from other styles of churches; A place where you can be your "authentic self;" "Overt not covert" (14)*
  - *Being known in the community to bring in new people (4)*
  - *Challenges the status quo; inclusive and different (2)*

### Building Increased Energy into Services

Someone who brings increased energy into services. (28 total votes)

- *Someone who brings increased energy into services with traditional but reviving engagement (14)*
- *Building our music program, including choir (10)*
- *Someone with energy and initiative (4)*

### Additional Qualities Discussed

Experienced (3)

Good managerial skills (3)

Someone with a family and kids that could be involved in the community (2)

Compassionate, who will help bring us closer to God (1)

Offering programs outside of Sunday services that feel worthwhile to busy working and young families (1)

Tech savvy

Will come among us and has good pastoral skills

Embraces change and is a forward thinker

Strong preaching

Open to a variety of theological positions including those of other faiths

30+ attendees