

## Additional Comments from Parish Survey that are not included in the Parish Profile Report

Parishioners were also given the opportunity to share their thoughts and elaborate on the qualities they'd like to see in a new rector. These included someone who is easy to talk to and understanding of parishioners' problems; can lead successful meetings; is, along with their family, actively involved in parish life; is not afraid to share their personal beliefs and struggles; can speak on diverse subject matters; can calmly lead the congregation through tough times such as COVID and other disruptive forces; is not afraid of confrontation and is willing to deal with difficult situations; someone who makes each parishioner feel important, particularly the home-bound; has ideas for youth programs; can nurture the relationship with our Children's Learning Center through Christian teaching of the children and being present to their families; and can combine the traditional with new ideas.

Regarding parish life in general and hopes for St. Columba's future, we heard that our parishioners desire more prayer groups; more social options and events including game nights; more small groups, dinners, house church, etc.; an expanded music program incorporating modern and ethnic music in addition to boosting the choir; to continue exploring contemplative worship opportunities; perhaps considering worship times other than 9:30; creating new adult education opportunities; developing programs to support newcomers; considering a more casual service to attract younger folks/families; incorporating more of the Book of Common Prayer; continuing book groups; furthering our introduction into Celtic Spirituality and the writings of John Philip Newell; returning to communion at the alter rail; partnering with local churches for youth activities; opportunities for discipleship training and practices; more periods of silence and retreat days; incorporating scripture message into relatable, current events; and a strong spiritual connection with the Rector, with programs to help grow in faith, cultivating a personal relationship with God and a reliance on the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.