

Define & Discover

The Define & Discover process at ESC enjoyed a very good turnout, over 200 parishioners. As participants conducted interviews and listened to one another's stories, the feeling of connectedness was powerful. The experience was generally perceived as very positive, providing parishioners a chance to voice their vision for Eastern Shore Chapel. Participants were receptive, cooperative, willing and eager to participate in the process. There was a willingness to be curious, to ask as well as answer questions and listen carefully to responses. An abiding love for ESC and its ministries could be heard in responses to questions about resources, strengths and our facility. What is good, what is revered, what could be imagined were all explored. Participants were eager to make ESC a more accessible, efficient and, most of all, spiritual setting to conduct Christ's work both in the ESC family and in the larger community.

Our congregation is very warm and welcoming to visitors and newcomers. It is easy to be welcoming to new people, but more telling is the obvious love, respect and caring we have for one another. Newcomers recognize sincerity. The Newcomer Committee does a tremendous job of welcoming newcomers. Childcare, greeters, hugs and smiles are all a big part of making people feel as if they are being welcomed home. Our clergy are friendly, approachable, and welcoming to all.

The liturgy at ESC is universal and appeals to every generation while being beautiful and maintaining Episcopal tradition. There is an energizing, majestic and sacramental feel to the services. The sermons are thought-provoking, intelligent and relate to every-day challenges. The music program is outstanding and a big part of what makes liturgy here so majestic and stirring. There are a variety of services from Rite I & II to our newer Rite III, Evensong and Healing services.

ESC offers a variety of fellowship opportunities, from small groups to Bible studies, Wednesday dinners and foyer groups. Fellowship in small group settings is vital to nourishing the closeness of the community. It is vital that social, fellowship and other small group opportunities continue and increase.

Why are you here?

Sense of Community

- ESC is my home, family
- A home away from home
- Deep sense of community, fellowship
- Friendly, comfortable atmosphere

Music

Liturgy

- Theology of clergy
- Traditional worship
- Experience spiritual growth, feel fed spiritually

Youth Programs

Outreach Programs

Parish Day School

What Excites You?

Clergy/Staff & Growth potential

- A new beginning, unlimited potential
- Strong clergy and staff
- New rector with new vision
- Moving forward, growth potential
- Energy and enthusiasm
- Openness to change

Church Community

- Welcoming to all, warmth
- Sense of family, community
- Opportunities for fellowship (small groups, foyer, Weds dinners)
- Easy to get involved
- Enthusiasm & seriousness of faith

Worship

- Liturgy
- Evensong, Easter, Good Friday and other "special" services
- Educational
- Sermons thought provoking

Music program

Outreach programs

- Desire to serve the community
- Hands-on, not just giving money

Needs

Spiritual & Emotional

- Vision, purpose
- Feel part of a community
- To serve
- To be safe, included, loved, to laugh

Programs

- More/better programs for seniors
- More/better programs for singles, young adults
- Support for parents, marriages
- More social opportunities
- More small group opportunities

Facilities

- More space, larger parish hall
- Facilities for youth programs
- More space for Christian education
- More parking
- Choir moved to chancel
- Updated/more modern facilities

Outreach

- Expand Parish Day School
- Expand existing outreach programs

Worship/Liturgy

- Continue strong worship programs

Stewardship

- Increased giving
- Stronger stewardship program

Hopes

ESC community

- Outreach to increase diversity and inclusiveness at ESC
- Maintain the “small church feel” while growing at the same time
- Develop channels of communication to allow this growing community to maintain its close-knit feel
- Establish ESC as an inclusive and progressive community, social justice

Worship

- Continue current liturgical worship
- Return of Village service
- More emphasis on what Episcopalians believe
- Increase Evensong services

Programs

- Singles ministry
- More outreach to community, bring more newcomers to ESC
- Evening Bible study led by clergy
- Expand Sunday education hour
- More small groups to discussion and study
- Programs for young adults
- Adult pilgrimage
- Counselor on staff

Outreach

- Improved ministries to elderly
- Expand existing outreach programs

Christian Education

- Grow all education programs
- Hire clergy person for youth

Facilities

- More space
- Increase staff to support program growth
- Move choir to chancel

Stewardship

- More emphasis on stewardship
- Increased giving and support for programs

Dreaming BIG

- Separate building for Parish Day School
- Performing arts facility
- Assisted living facility
- Homeless shelter
- Labyrinth
- Multilevel parking facility
- Retreat/summer camp facility
- Gymnasium
- Home for disabled adults
- Cemetery expansion

Personal Data of Participants

Age	13-18	19-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	66-75	75 +
TOTAL	5	0	7	31	35	50	34	23

Gender: Male Female

TOTAL 77 110

Number in Family

	TOTAL
1	34
2	58
3	26
4	38
5	15
6	5
9	1

Talents

Counseling, musician, singing, baking/cooking, listening, gardening, speaking, wood working, reading, parenting, accounting/business, teaching, computers, mentoring/coaching, leadership, acting, medical, pastoral care, artist, sales, sewing/knitting, languages, building, writing, math/science

Committees on which you serve

Parish Day School, Stephen Ministry, Buildings & Grounds, Newcomer, Adopt-a-Plot, Food Closet, JCOC cooking, Vestry, acolyte, lector, Eucharistic minister, choir, Pastoral Care, Outreach, Stewardship, Planned Giving, Rectory Renovation, Cemetery, Peanut Group, Parish Book Store, Finance, Sunday school teacher, WESC, Music, Altar Guild, women's groups, Bible study, Eucharistic Visitor, Mission team, Hospitality, Discernment, J2A, Diocesan committees, Library

Profession (Artist, Doctor, Lawyer, Teacher, Phone skills, etc. - current or retired)

Author, hospitality industry, public relations, teacher, military, health care, architect, student, artist, homemaker, lawyer, banker, contractor, grain elevator operator, fire fighter, engineer, publishing, real estate & development, clerical, photographer, sales, interior design & decorating, telecommunications