



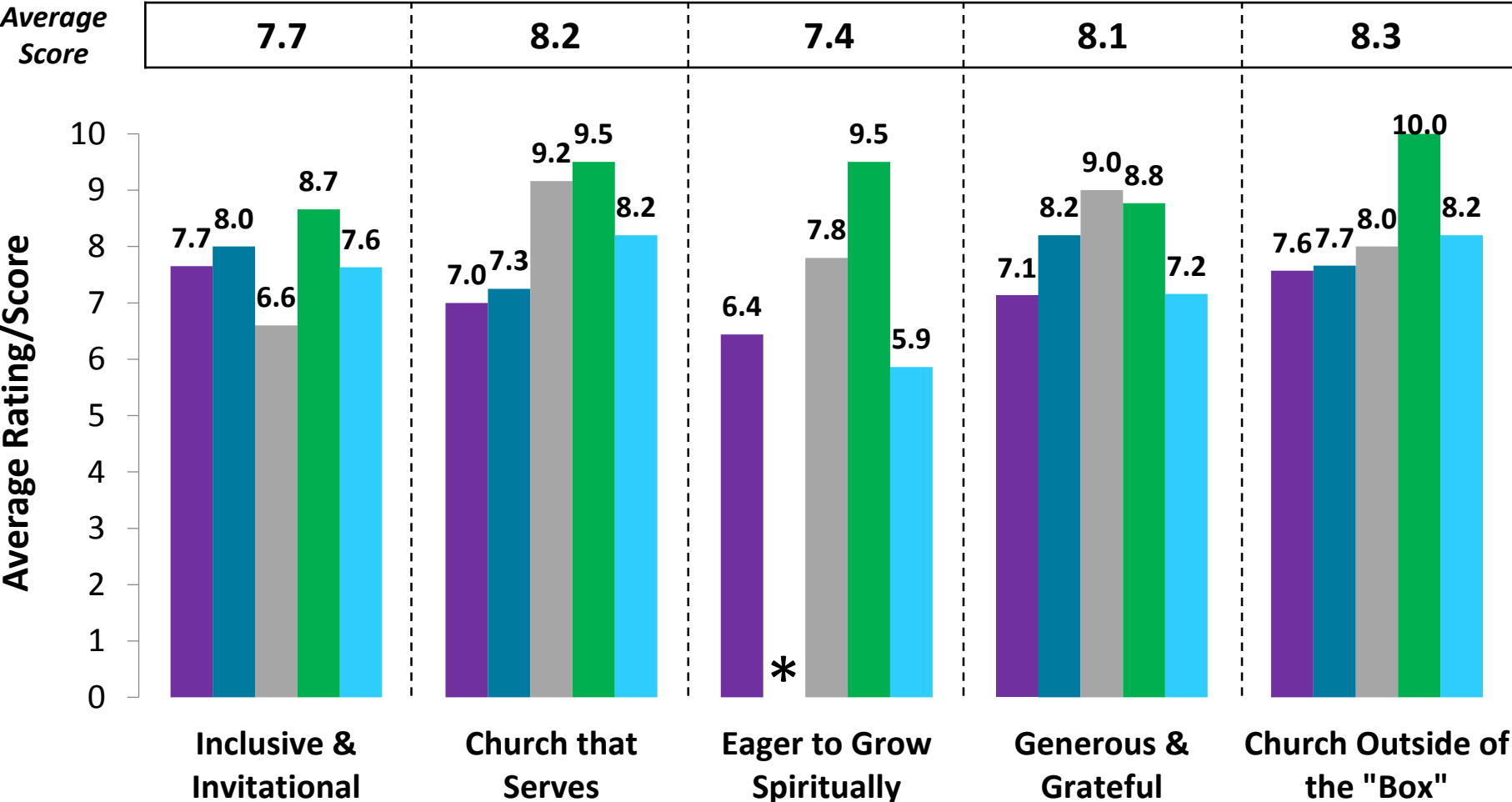
**GOOD SAMARITAN**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Followers of Jesus,  
with open minds and hearts to serve*

**Aggregated Cottage Discussion Output**

*All Sessions*

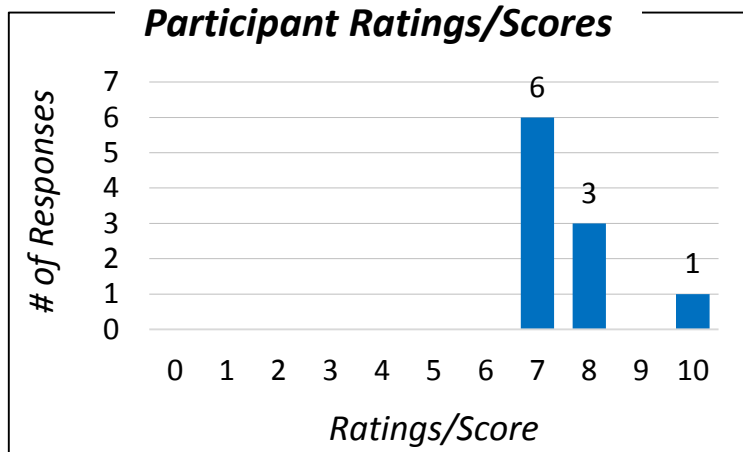
# Aggregated Overall Core Value Ratings/Scores – All Sessions



\*Note: No scores were volunteered from the group on “Eager to Grow Spiritually” core value

# INCLUSIVE & INVITATIONAL

# Inclusive & Invitational – Session 1



**Average Score: 7.65**

## Core Value Definition

Everyone, without exception, is included and valued at Good Samaritan, and we believe we are stronger together because of our diversity. We proactively seek out and invite neighbors, newcomers, and spiritual seekers to be a part of our community and welcome them warmly.

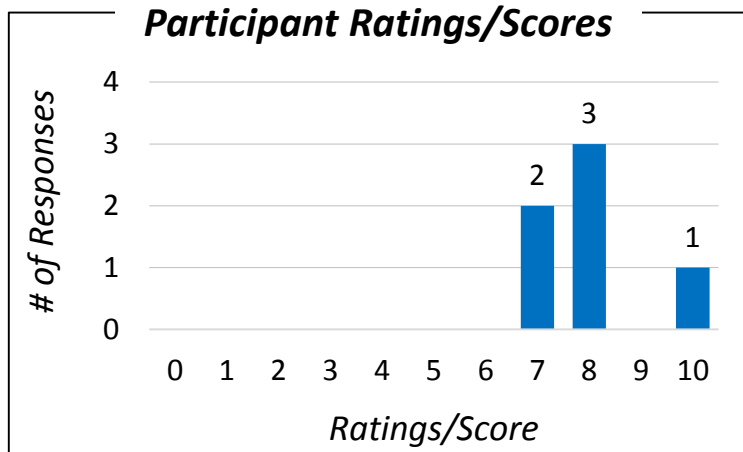
## Scoring Rationale

- *Need more diversity – mainly social diversity now*
- *Need to intentionally include everyone beyond those who are on the fringes*
- *Great success with diversity club at B-burg HS*
- *Episcopal language/jargon barrier for newbies*
- *Hard to keep up with new people – identifying, getting to know them, etc.*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Continue to Search Engine Optimization (SEO) efforts*
- *Promote diversity / inter-mixing of the church groups and population*
- *Encourage / coach members on extending personal invitations for neighbors/friends/family to attend events*
- *Find/develop events to generate deeper relationships between members (e.g. R&R nights, Going Deeper)*
- *Continue to seek out non-members who are on the fringes*

# Inclusive & Invitational – Session 2



**Average Score: 8.0**

## Core Value Definition

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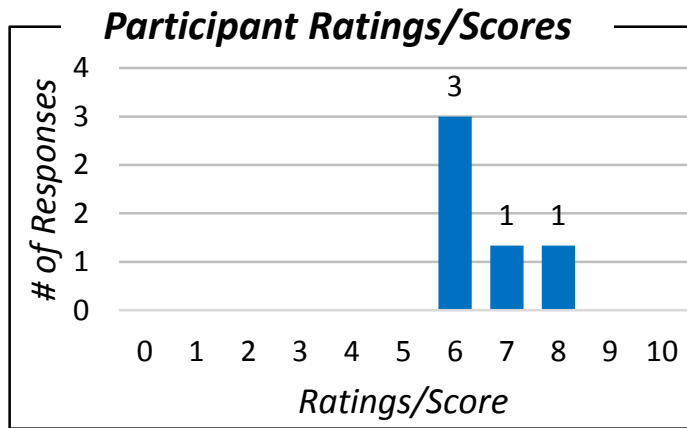
## Scoring Rationale

- *Cultural diversity is not strong yet*
- *Good Sams is very welcoming and made me feel at home*
- *Multi-dimensional families, but not cultural*
- *High in diversity of ages in leadership*
- *LGBTQ involvement is unlike many/most churches*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Seek ways to reach out to more diverse cultural groups*
- *Find ways to connect with family, potentially with “kids” activities (e.g. s’mores truck, lemonade stand, trick or treat groups at Halloween, etc.)*
- *Parents night out (activities for parents with child care)*
- *Seek out those outside of the “true” Brownsburg area*
- *Inter-faith engagement through service activities (e.g. Islamic Society, etc.)*
- *Community conversations/roundtables at library about current issues/diversity*

# Inclusive & Invitational – Session 3



Average Score: 6.6

## Core Value Definition

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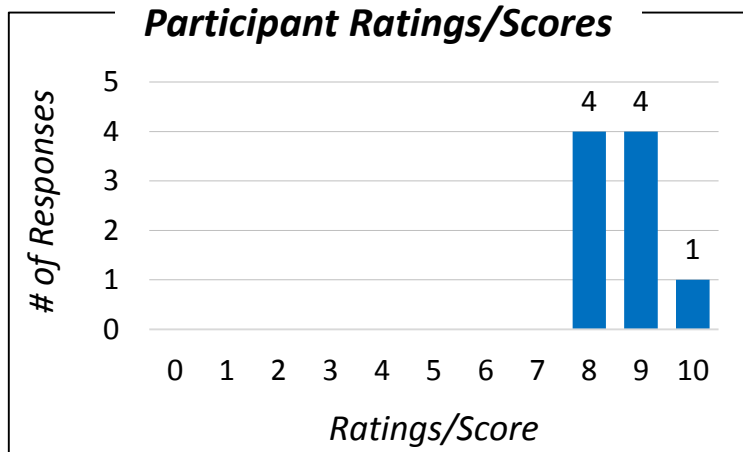
## Scoring Rationale

- *We're ignoring teens & preteens right now.*
- *I'm not sure how we overcome barriers people have to entering church.*
- *We are good with welcoming/including LGBTQ community, but I don't know if we know what it means to be inclusive outside this group.*
- *I'm curious to know what the demographics are for our area....*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *People are swinging back toward more traditional liturgy. How do we emphasize that we have that?*
- *We need a multi-use community building.*
- *Develop a strong ministry with teens.*
- *We are not racially diverse; how do we develop a plan to reconcile this?*

# Inclusive & Invitational – Session 4



**Average Score: 8.66**

## Core Value Definition

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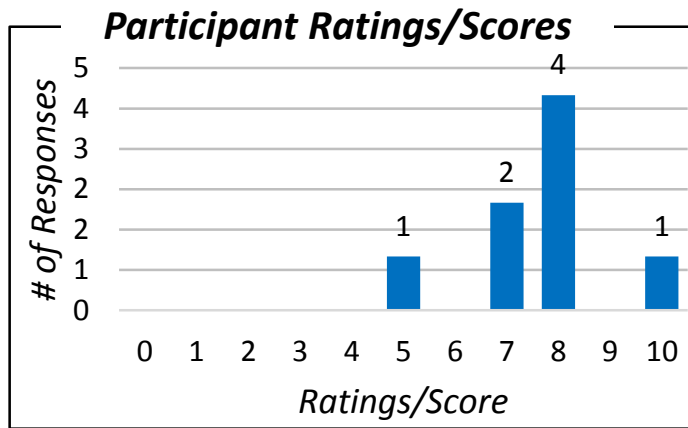
## Scoring Rationale

- *Greeters/welcome bags are good and low-pressure for newcomers*
- *Doing well currently but could have more focused approach on seeking families with children*
- *More people can be reached – More teenage kids specifically but also across all ages*
- *Try to have a population that mirrors the community more*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Seek more socio-economic diversity*
- *Try to engage even more with the community via off-site meetings/events (e.g. Pub Theology, public events, etc.)*
- *Focus on being specific and deliberate about seeking introductions, partnerships, etc. with diverse groups*
- *Extend reach further out to the Pike/Wayne Townships*

# Inclusive & Invitational – Session 5



**Average Score: 7.63**

## Scoring Rationale

- *We can always grow to include different backgrounds*
- *Feel welcomed, but there is a feeling of “what’s next?”*
- *Good at welcoming but there may be opportunities for more inclusive language*
- *There are areas where we are failing certain groups: teenage youth to young adults – How can we actively pull these people in?*
- *Pub Theology/Billboard attract people to us*

## Core Value Definition

Everyone, without exception, is included and valued at Good Samaritan, and we believe we are stronger together because of our diversity. We proactively seek out and invite neighbors, newcomers, and spiritual seekers to be a part of our community and welcome them warmly.

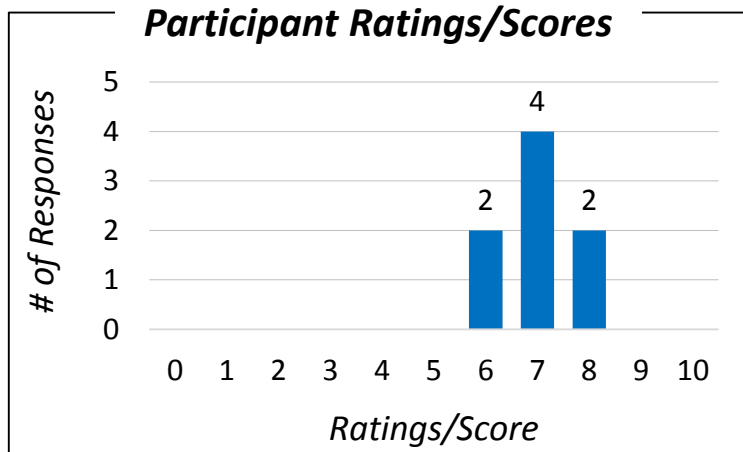
## What to do and/or Why?

- *Seek/invite influential cultural leaders to join attend our services or events*
- *Seek counsel from churches who do cultural diversity well*
- *Seek opportunities to welcome/invite those who are recipients of service activities to worship with us*
- *Create inter-faith worship and service opportunities*
- *Create an annual festival (e.g. Cultural Fest)*
- *Strong youth/adult programming (e.g. bible studies)*



# CHURCH THAT SERVES

# Church that Serves – Session 1



**Average Score: 7.00**

## Core Value Definition

At every gathering of our community, we always engage in an act of service or outreach to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need, or we reflect on our lives of servant-disciples as a preparation to serve others.

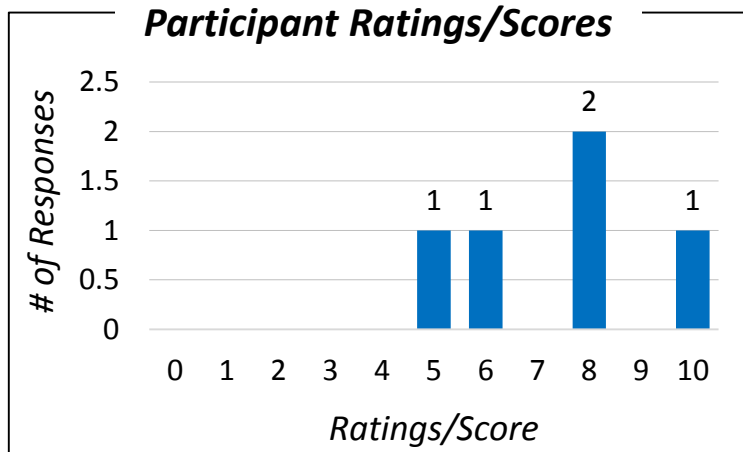
## Scoring Rationale

- *Good progress but some activities seem trivial (sandwiches for Bloomington church)*
- *Serving at low levels now and need to expand*
- *Good partnering to date but need to dream big*
- *Bishop's Committee need to vet places to spend resources*
- *Maintain focus on service and not just activities to build community*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Serve beyond economic needs – Find spiritual needs too*
- *Give close to home rather than farther away*
- *Seek opportunities beyond current spectrum*
- *Partner with other organizations for a larger impact*
- *Vacation Bible School or partnering with other churches (e.g. Messiah Lutheran)*
- *Listen and seek opportunities from members to serve*
- *Find one big service event to serve as “capstone” or primary focus*

# Church that Serves – Session 2



**Average Score: 7.25**

## Core Value Definition

At every gathering of our community, we always engage in an act of service or outreach to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need, or we reflect on our lives of servant-disciples as a preparation to serve others.

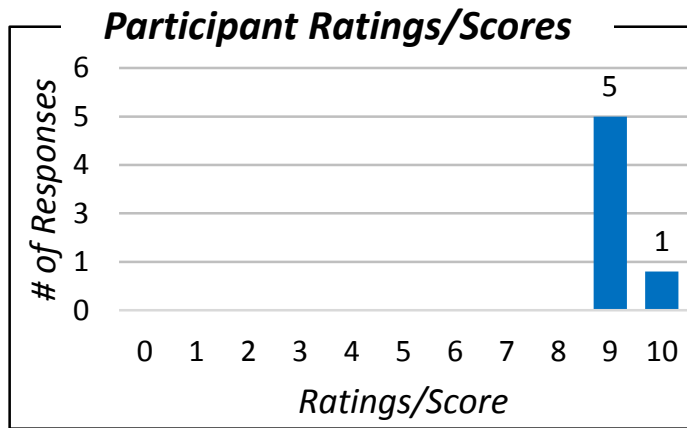
## Scoring Rationale

- *Good start but we can engage more on social justice issues at multiple levels*
- *We are spread too thin... not focused enough on where service is going*
- *Great on being reactionary to community needs (e.g. Harris), but need to be more focused*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Getting deeper with other entities where we are currently engaged*
- *Find ways to engage those who we serve to potentially become part of the congregation*
- *Seek ways to take giving/service beyond current levels and help more people (Think bigger)*
- *Revision or addition of community groups at Good Sams (e.g. Harris leader, Food pantry leader, etc.)*

# Church that Serves – Session 3



Average Score: 9.16

## Core Value Definition

At every gathering of our community, we always engage in an act of service or outreach to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need, or we reflect on our lives of servant-disciples as a preparation to serve others.

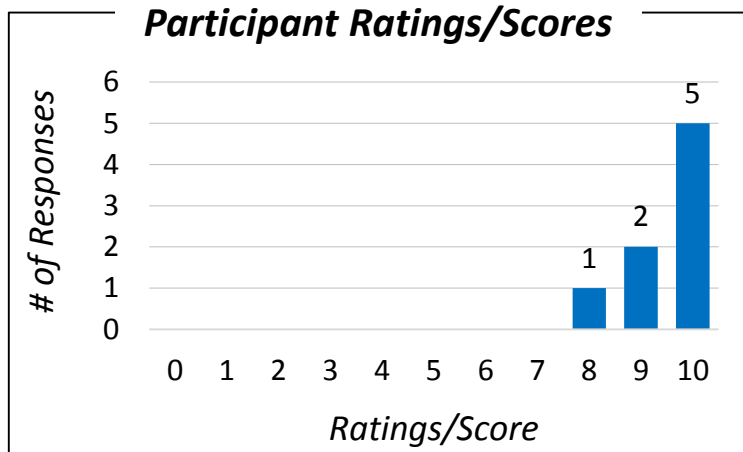
## Scoring Rationale

- *We are doing an awesome job with this, but there's still lots of room to grow.*
- *Starting with this value while we are still small is so important to me.*
- *As a community, I think there's a lot we are not able to handle, but we are already doing this well.*
- *We do it well, but there's always room for improvement.*
- *This is one of the strengths of Good Sam's.*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Maybe we send representatives to town hall meetings?*
- *I would like to address issues of homelessness, especially for families with children. How can we help provide stability?*
- *Is there a concrete way to help fund after-school participation for kids who cannot afford it?*
- *There doesn't seem to be one central clearinghouse in the community. How could we be a hub to collect and share resources?*

# Church that Serves – Session 4



**Average Score: 9.5**

## Core Value Definition

At every gathering of our community, we always engage in an act of service or outreach to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need, or we reflect on our lives of servant-disciples as a preparation to serve others.

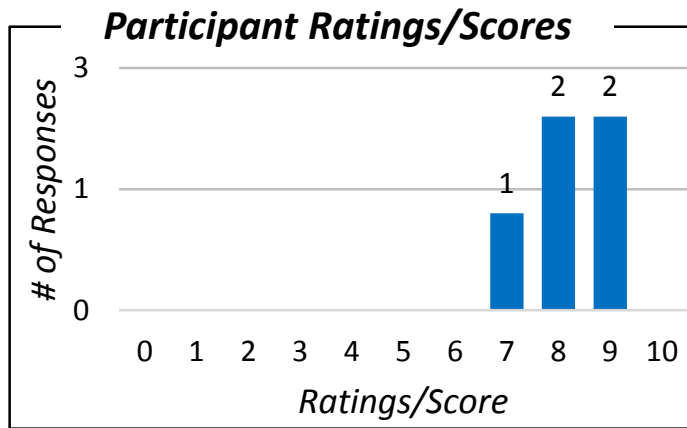
## Scoring Rationale

- *More “present” in community than other churches*
- *More outreach is possible, but very positive impact is apparent*
- *Create an environment where we can serve 2x-3x times per week*
- *Love that we address those on the “fringes”*
- *Even small acts of kindness are very impactful*
- *Barbi’s work to involve/teach kids is incredible*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Continue work with Harris but expand efforts to BHS beyond Equality club*
- *Create “youth-specific” service opportunities*
- *Seek ways to address opioid/alcohol issues*
- *Are there ways to provide youth league assistance (e.g. scholarships to allow kids to participate in youth league yet maintain dignity)*
- *Consider a “keystone” service activity – might be through Harris but could be elsewhere*

# Church that Serves – Session 5



**Average Score: 8.2**

## Core Value Definition

At every gathering of our community, we always engage in an act of service or outreach to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need, or we reflect on our lives of servant-disciples as a preparation to serve others.

## Scoring Rationale

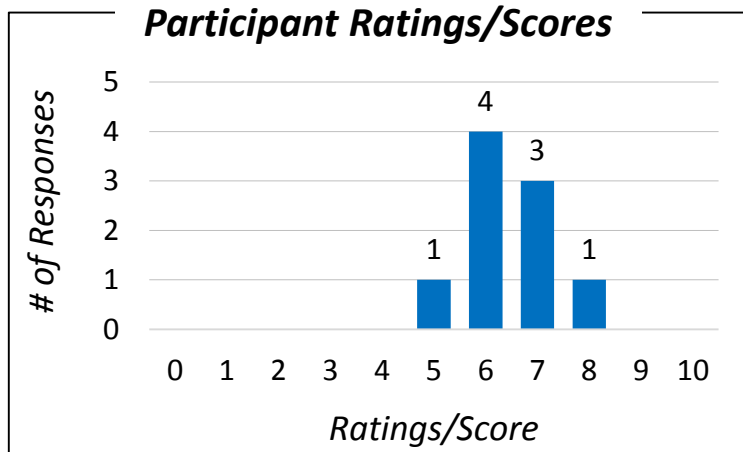
- *Are we finding the people with the most need? How do we find them?*
- *Many people talk about serving, but we do it!*
- *We do a lot, but how long can we sustain this pace? Too many projects? Are limits needed? Rotate people?*
- *Is our outreach too disjointed? How do we get people involved outside of Sunday post-service activities?*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Seek partnerships with other churches/faiths, especially for youth activities*
- *Define core outreach missions as well as ways to onboard and off-board people as leaders*
- *Faith-driven parent support group (1x-2x monthly) to have a dialogue on parental issues (faith or non-faith)*
- *Build our network to find people in need*
- *Separate outreach into short-term and long-term range*
- *Elder care/support group*

# GROWING SPITITUALLY

# Growing Spiritually – Session 1



**Average Score: 6.44**

## Core Value Definition

We invite everyone to go deeper in their spiritual lives, to tell their spiritual story to others in a way that feels appropriate to them, to get “uncomfortable”, and to try new spiritual things.

## Scoring Rationale

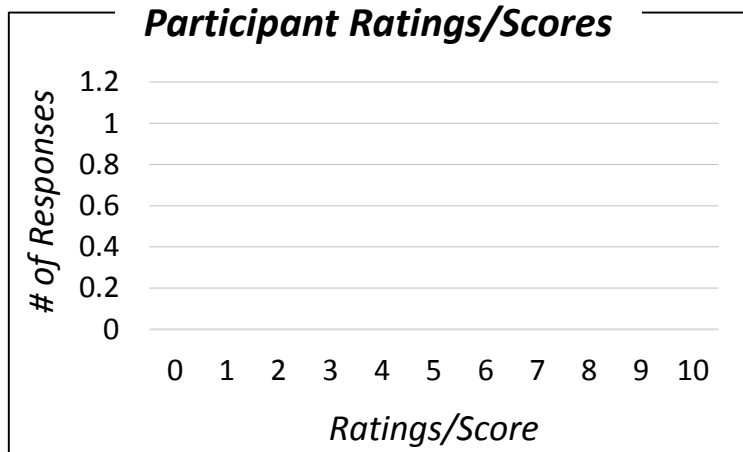
- *Opportunities are not openly apparent*
- *Church intro activities are good, but learning drops after initial series activities beyond EFM (which is scary)*
- *Would like for the church to be more bible-oriented... service is good but needs more context*
- *Appreciate the effort to create opportunities, but need to be more proactive about getting attendance*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Create scripture learning events at multiple levels (e.g. intro, skilled, advanced) in small groups or similar*
- *Create an introduction/learning event for the Book of Common Prayer*
- *Sharing ways for people to explore scripture, especially for those with limited amounts of time*
- *Established a “road map” for how people progress spiritually like we have for the introduction portion*
- *Pub theology is good – VBS? Men’s breakfast?*



# Growing Spiritually – Session 2



**Average Score: N/A\***

*\*No scores were volunteered by the group*

## Core Value Definition

We invite everyone to go deeper in their spiritual lives, to tell their spiritual story to others in a way that feels appropriate to them, to get “uncomfortable”, and to try new spiritual things.

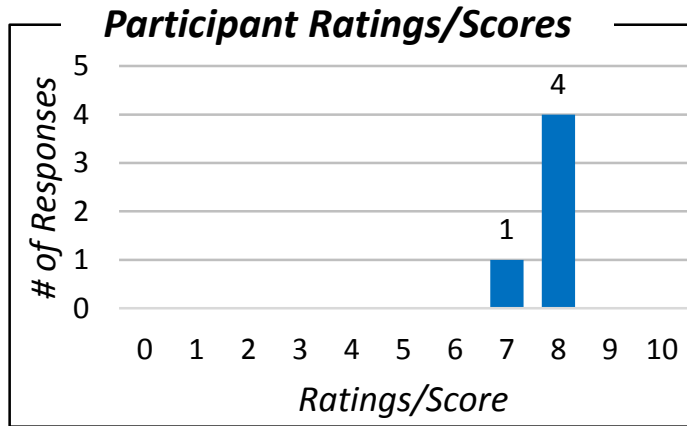
## Scoring Rationale

- *Defining spirituality is difficult in comparison to a doctrine*
- *Spirituality can mean different things to many people*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Develop multiple “pathways” to spiritual growth (e.g. just starting, done it all your life, and in between)*
- *Create parents group to address difficult topics like how to explain difficult world problems (e.g. shootings)*
- *Family group events that present “spiritually” beyond a Sunday activity (e.g. parents + youth and youth only)*
- *Spiritually is more of a doctrine than core value*
- *Seek partnerships childcare providers (e.g. Kids Depot) to allow for parents “spiritual” events to happen more less difficult*

# Growing Spiritually – Session 3



**Average Score: 7.8**

## Core Value Definition

We invite everyone to go deeper in their spiritual lives, to tell their spiritual story to others in a way that feels appropriate to them, to get “uncomfortable”, and to try new spiritual things.

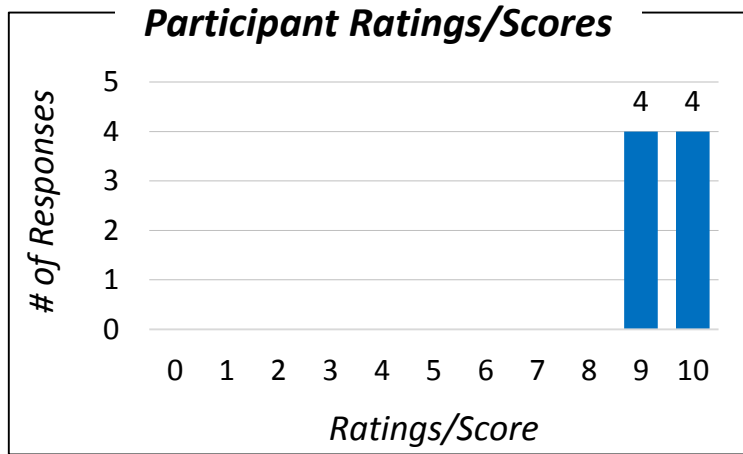
## Scoring Rationale

- *We have offered a lot that I have never seen other churches do (e.g. Pub Theology).*
- *There’s so much energy, so much going on, it’s a lot to keep up with.*
- *We could do more in areas with grief and loss.*
- *I like the Sunday morning conversations we do every other week or so.*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *I’d like to see us offer more web resources.*
- *I’d like more small groups.*
- *Grief/loss groups: loss of child/infertility/miscarriage, loss of parent/spouse, divorce*
- *We need to be more intentional about what happens for people after Going Deeper. Where do they go after that?*

# Growing Spiritually – Session 4



**Average Score: 9.5**

## Core Value Definition

We invite everyone to go deeper in their spiritual lives, to tell their spiritual story to others in a way that feels appropriate to them, to get “uncomfortable”, and to try new spiritual things.

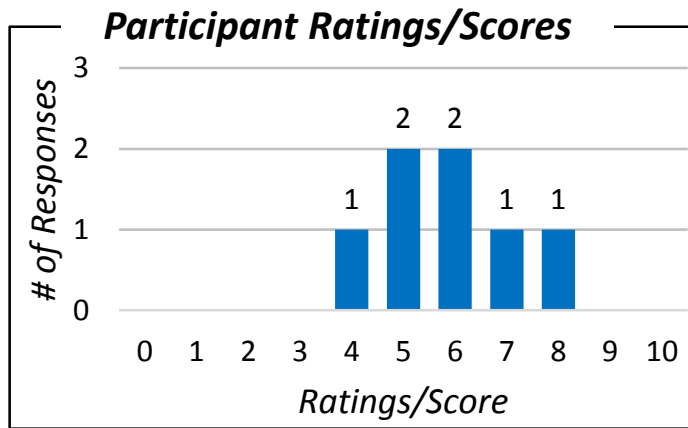
## Scoring Rationale

- *Multiple layers of “intensity” are available for members*
- *Good Sams creates an environment of spiritual connection – Sermons tie to relatable/current topics*
- *We are good at “meeting people where they are” rather than where they “should be”*
- *Room to grow, but doing a good job currently*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Continue and encourage “Going Deeper” sessions*
- *Seek out ways to include teens/youth in creative ways*
- *Ensure multiple levels of “intensity” remain and seeks ways to expand each level to keep things “fresh”*
- *Consider “sub-division” to maintain small feel as we continue to grow*

# Growing Spiritually – Session 5



Average Score: 5.86

## Core Value Definition

We invite everyone to go deeper in their spiritual lives, to tell their spiritual story to others in a way that feels appropriate to them, to get “uncomfortable”, and to try new spiritual things.

## Scoring Rationale

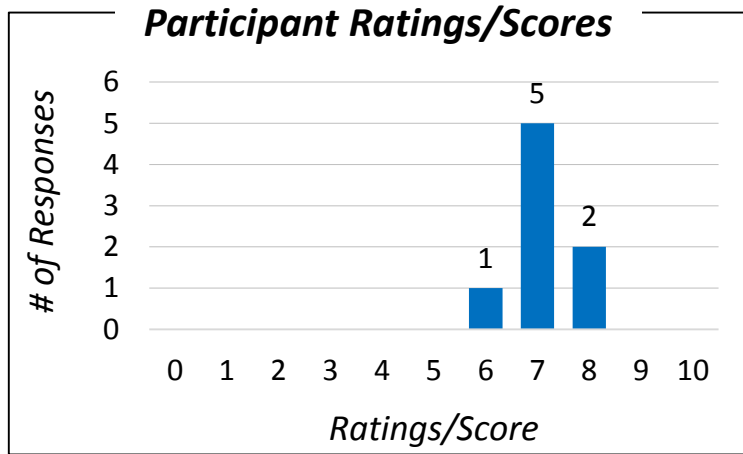
- *We need something else aside from Sundays like bible studies, women’s/men’s group, youth group*
- *Lots going on at the same time and it is overwhelming – I don’t know where to focus or what to do*
- *We need more options – Then make sure people know*
- *Maybe our weakest point – can we expand what “growing spiritually” means? (e.g. compline & hike)*
- *Challenge is resources – who leads theses? when/where?*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *More bible studies, life support groups – not necessarily led by Gray or Erin*
- *Maybe less structured times together (e.g. build in fellowship time to service opportunities)*
- *Protect people/leaders from burnout – can we collaborate with other churches (e.g. bible studies)*
- *Regular potlucks/food gatherings*
- *More small groups to hear each other’s stories*
- *More creative or less structured activities like compline & hike*

# GENEROUS & GRATEFUL

# Generous & Grateful – Session 1



**Average Score: 7.13**

## Core Value Definition

All we have is a gift from God, and we are a people who live from a center of gratitude. We say thank you frequently to God and to others. We also give generously of our resources to support our common ministry.

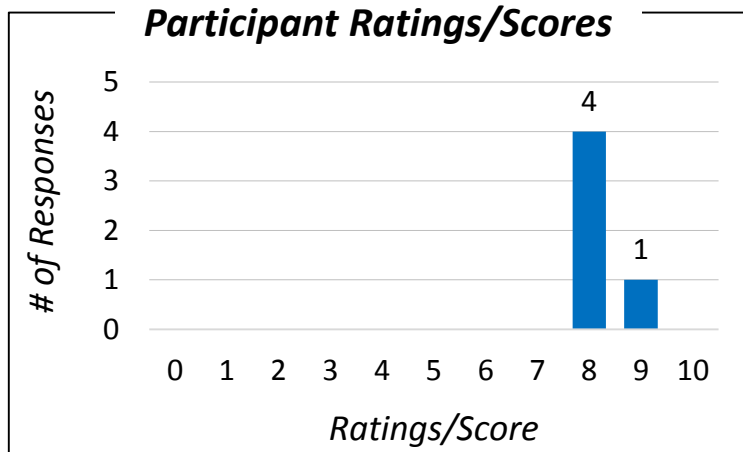
## Scoring Rationale

- *When you ask, you receive... e.g. Deb Samples support*
- *So many opportunities to donate “things” that people may be excluded who are unable to donate*
- *Gratefulness is very apparent (e.g. thank you notes), but are we being resourceful?*
- *The ability to see the impact of the service, donations, and other work is important (e.g. backpack campaign)*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Seek monetary donation to the church first and then have the church purchase items (e.g. pencils, bags, etc.) rather than relying on individual weekly donations*
- *Would like to hear more “success stories” to make people aware of their impact*
- *More advanced notice on what needs to be bought and when (e.g. socks month, backpack month, etc.)*
- *Make sure to never lose the fact that first-timers gift is their presence*

# Generous & Grateful – Session 2



**Average Score: 8.2**

## Core Value Definition

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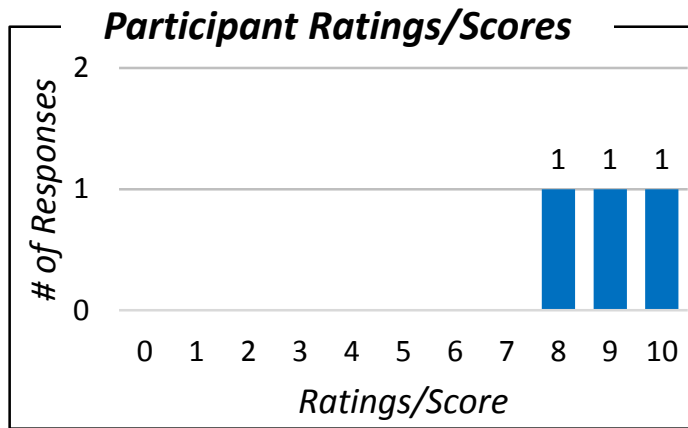
## Scoring Rationale

- *Good Sams weekly activities embody this value*
- *We need to be more efficient, deliberate, and tactical in service activities and overall giving to the community*
- *Many members have met someone impacted by Good Sams positivity – community presence is apparent*
- *This core value pairs with Service and Inclusive & Invitation closely – Difference is muddy*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Might be useful to focus generosity on certain causes to maximize impact*
- *Find non-monetary ways to serve (e.g. helping elderly on grocery store trip)*
- *Be responsive to community needs but balance that with activities where we choose to focus (e.g. do ad-hoc generosity, but never lose core goals/missions)*
- *Seek a wide array of generous activities to ensure we never become “stale”*

# Generous & Grateful – Session 3



Average Score: 9.0

## Scoring Rationale

- *I feel like the congregation is always there to help.*
- *I've been in churches where there are only certain entry points. We do this well and we are flexible. I hope that will continue.*
- *How do we follow-thru on deeper needs in our community that aren't "band-aid" fixes?*
- *Part of the reason we are able to be responsible is because of the funds we've been granted. We will need to be financially responsible for this in the near future.*

## Core Value Definition

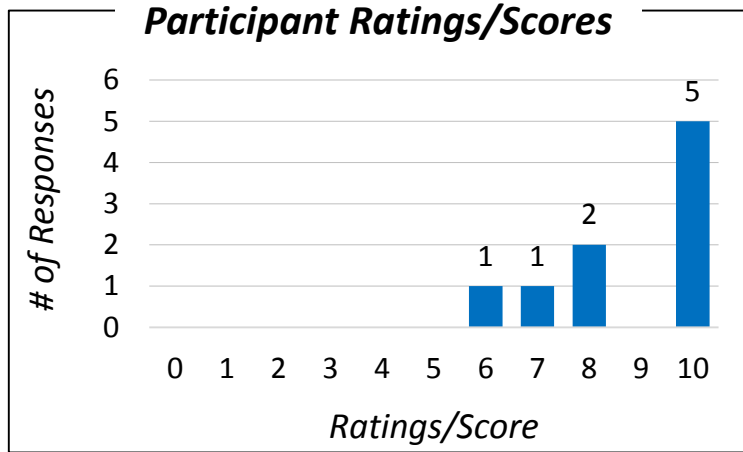
All we have is a gift from God, and we are a people who live from a center of gratitude. We say thank you frequently to God and to others. We also give generously of our resources to support our common ministry.

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Have a leadership plan in place that maintains flexibility to be responsive with giving/serving others.*
- *Ask people to be a part of experiences and make personal connections to those we serve.*
- *We cannot move in one "herd" now as much. May need to focus more on relationships?*
- *I'd like to have some time to think about generosity in my own personal life.*



# Generous & Grateful – Session 4



**Average Score: 8.77**

## Core Value Definition

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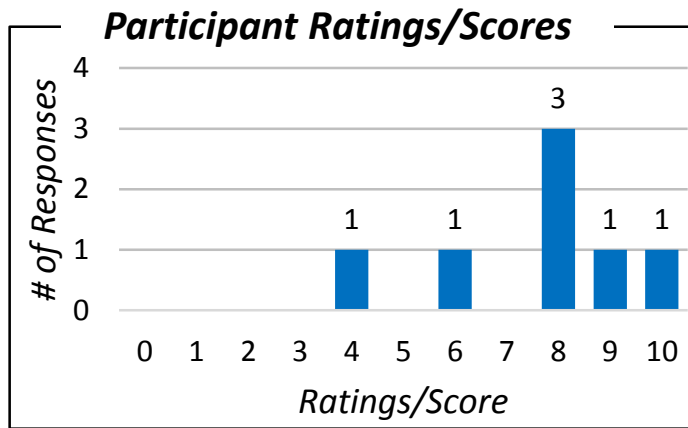
## Scoring Rationale

- *Thankfulness is regular presence inside and outside the church*
- *We can do more around tithing to sustain the church*
- *Not certain about long-term ability to pay salaries and fund service/giving opportunities*
- *People are eager to share abilities/skills/time*
- *Work with Equality Alliance has been incredible*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Make the needs of the church (financial and other forms of giving) more “known”*
- *Seek out feedback continuously about what is valued by the congregation (e.g. expand work with Harris or expand elsewhere?)*
- *Consider appropriate community spaces for Good Sams in the longer-term horizon (e.g. office space, building, etc.)*

# Generous & Grateful – Session 5



**Average Score: 7.16**

## Scoring Rationale

- *I appreciate the quarterly “thank you” notes*
- *We don’t have a “legacy” building – if we decide to have a building, can we afford to continue outreach?*
- *I do not know when the annual meeting is*
- *We are generous with time, but how are we doing with our expenses? – More communication/transparency*
- *People bring stuff in abundance for service drives*

## Core Value Definition

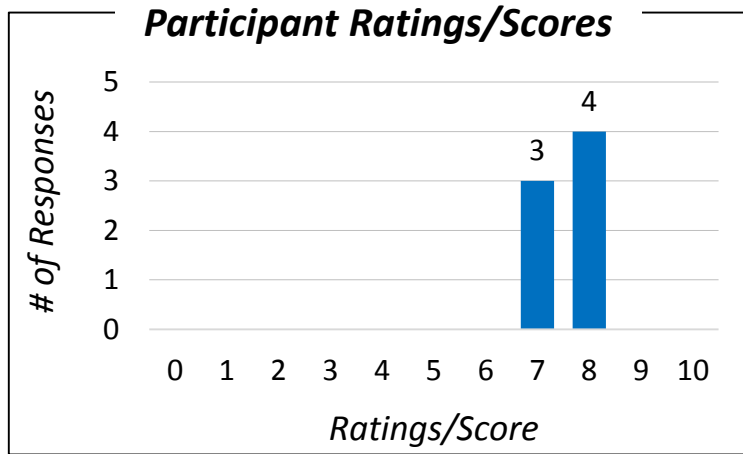
All we have is a gift from God, and we are a people who live from a center of gratitude. We say thank you frequently to God and to others. We also give generously of our resources to support our common ministry.

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Be more transparent with expenditures, etc.*
- *How do we balance generosity with leadership costs and outreach?*
- *How do we show gratitude to the congregation in a way that is supportive for their bringing “stuff” for drives?*
- *56<sup>th</sup> St. Land use – Communal or church space? Maybe ask community/Brownsburg what they want*
- *If we use land as service base, should we do it in an “inclusive” way?*

# CHURCH “OUTSIDE OF THE BOX”

# Church Outside of the “Box” – Session 1



**Average Score: 7.57**

## Core Value Definition

We are flexible and open, creative and curious, and we enjoy continuing to change the status quo rather than settling into comfortable habits or rhythms. We like to surprise others with what the notion of church can be.

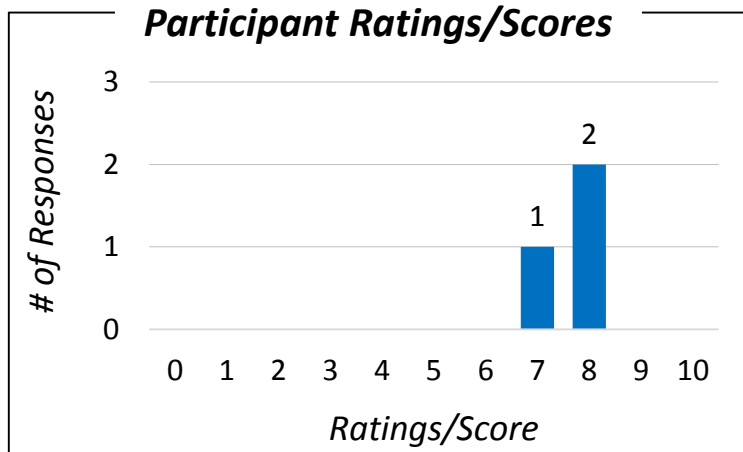
## Scoring Rationale

- *“Building-less” is good because it is not draining financially*
- *Shown leadership with discussions at Pub Theology that may not happen otherwise in Brownsburg*
- *Trade-off of having vs. not having a building could be a difficult decision for some*
- *Need to continue to maximizing what we do with what we have*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Need to seek options for a full-time place for private ministry and other more personal scenarios*
- *Might be worth exploring office space instead of building a new facility*
- *Are partnerships with Messiah Lutheran possible to utilize their space during downtimes?*
- *Need more structure/direction around the traditional church “activities” (e.g. marriage, burial) without a building*

# Church Outside of the “Box” – Session 2



**Average Score: 7.66**

## Core Value Definition

We are flexible and open, creative and curious, and we enjoy continuing to change the status quo rather than settling into comfortable habits or rhythms. We like to surprise others with what the notion of church can be.

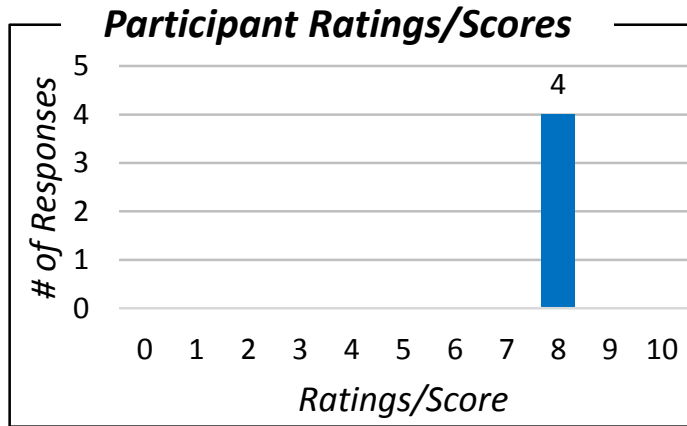
## Scoring Rationale

- *Relationship with Harris has led to other opportunities within the community*
- *Music is good but need to be more driven by how the church community/diversity should*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *“Alternative” services or music to cater to the diverse audience of Good Sams*
- *Seek out natural places where we fit (e.g. Pub Theology, service projects, etc.)*
- *Children involvement – activities, youth groups, game night, video game night, etc.*
- *Multi-church / multi-faith events to provide event scale and introduce children to others “like them”*

# Church Outside of the “Box” – Session 3



**Average Score: 8.0**

## Core Value Definition

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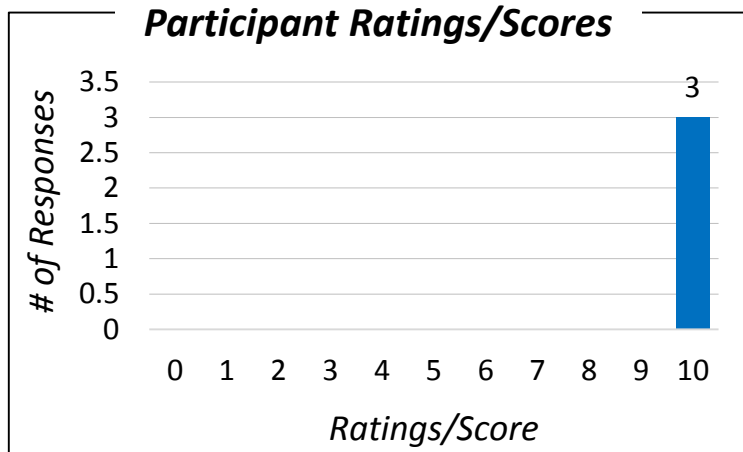
## Scoring Rationale

- *We have done some pretty creative things. We’ve changed spaces and been flexible.*
- *No one is saying “we always used to do it this way!”*
- *Work with LGBTQ community is woven into our fabric.*
- *I would never have gone to church in a bar, but Pub Theology has been great.*
- *Outreach projects seem like natural social centers for us.*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *We have to be intentional about how we welcome others*
- *Should we do a progressive meal so we can visit with each other in our homes since we don’t have a “home”?*
- *Are there music and arts opportunities for us? There doesn’t seem to be a lot of this in Brownsburg. Maybe this is an area for us to be unusual?*
- *Are there Pub Theology spin-offs?*

# Church Outside of the “Box” – Session 4



**Average Score: 10.0**

## Core Value Definition

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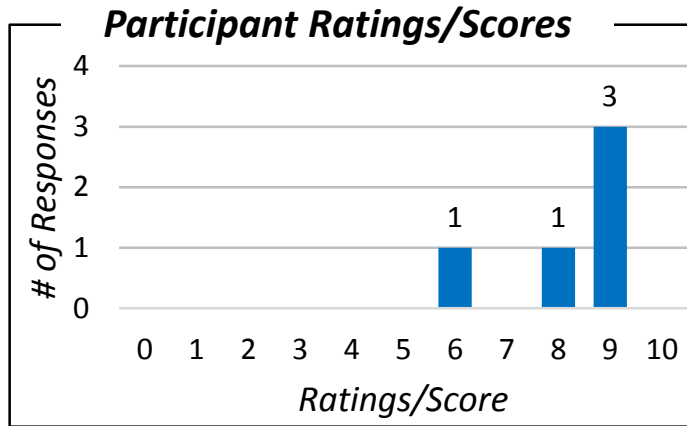
## Scoring Rationale

- *Entire group concurred this was an incredible strength in the group and focused significantly on section below*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Can a middle school Equality Club be created/supported?*
- *Create Brownsburg youth group (wider than Good Sams by partnering with other churches)*
- *Can a Good Sams “Block Party” be created?*
- *Good Sams building be co-located with Boys & Girls club? (potential to leverage Lowe’s/United Way partnership)*
- *Can Good Sams be the catalyst for concert series to provide exposure to various cultures through music?*
- *Diversity of service – outdoor services? Modern music?*
- *Maybe the Good Sams “building” could be an outdoor pavilion?*

# Church Outside of the “Box” – Session 5



**Average Score: 8.2**

## Core Value Definition

We are flexible and open, creative and curious, and we enjoy continuing to change the status quo rather than settling into comfortable habits or rhythms. We like to surprise others with what the notion of church can be.

## Scoring Rationale

- *We are in a routine, can we mix it up?*
- *Leadership is outside the box, which helps*
- *Having been raised in a traditional church, I think we are doing a great job*
- *Music is outside the box*
- *Be approachable – don't get stuck in rigid doctrine*
- *Love that we have different services at different locations (e.g. Good Friday, Election prayer, interfaith events)*

## What to do and/or Why?

- *Would like to see youth-led service(s)*
- *Keep liturgy fresh, different and varied locations*
- *Would like to see services at other times (e.g. 8am)*
- *Focus on inclusive language and be welcoming and accessible for “outsiders” of the Episcopal tradition*
- *Having instructions on website of what to expect was very useful – keep doing this in different ways*



# OTHER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/QUESTIONS

# Other Comments/Questions/Concerns – Session 1

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- Identify Good Sams strengths and weaknesses deliberately have a very direct discussion on how to improve strengths while mitigating weaknesses

# Other Comments/Questions/Concerns – Session 2

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- Youth minister needs to be an area of importance
  - We need to find youth activities to get the children more involved in the church
  - May a big “signature” event for the youth (maybe partnering with other churches to get scale?)
- How do we secure “pastoral survival”?
  - In other words, how do we ensure Gray (and all key personnel) do not get burned out
- What are ways to manage growth without outgrowing ourselves?
  - In other words, how do we maintain the identity of Good Sams and not turn into “just another Episcopal Church”?
- How do we meet each other where we are?
  - How do we find more ways to meet people in the community?
  - How do we pair folks within Good Sams with learning opportunities where they are in their spiritual journey?
  - How do we find more service opportunities that speak to areas of interest in our church and community?

## Other Comments/Questions/Concerns – Session 3

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- Is there a way I can plan my funeral and do end-of-life planning with Good Sam's?
- Under spirituality, we didn't mention our worship at all! The sermons and the music are good for me...I like having a variety.
- Do we have an organized, intentional way of pastoral care right now?
- I'm worried about students in the summers who don't have food to eat at home.
- What about stewardship and finances? How will we fund our future?

## Other Comments/Questions/Concerns – Session 4

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- No supplementary commentary provided

## Other Comments/Questions/Concerns – Session 5

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- Barriers to folks coming to Good Sams:
  - How can we reach the “un-churched” or anti-church people?
  - Didn’t know Good Sams existed, how can we get on people’s radar? (Marketing or signage to increase visibility more?)
  - Being open to diversity of ideas and the language we use → being open will help bring people in