

A Summary of Results from the Sunday Survey  
January 22, 2012

Total surveys received: 133

Number received by length of attendance:

0 – 5 years:	44
5 – 10 years:	24
10 – 20 years:	29
>20 years	36

Number received by age group:

< 18 years	1
18 – 24 years	7
<u>25 – 34 years</u>	<u>5</u>
Total XY	13

35 – 44 years	15
45 – 54 years	19
<u>55 – 64 years</u>	<u>34</u>
Total Boomer	68

64 – 74 years	24
74 – 84 years	26
<u>&gt; 84 years</u>	<u>2</u>
Total Civic	52

**In my opinion, St. Paul's greatest strengths are:**

Each survey could list three strengths for an overall total of 399 possible mentions.

**1. The music, the sermons, the traditional liturgy**

This received 91 mentions, 23% of the total possible mentions

XY – 20% of possible mentions

Boomer – 23% of possible mentions

Civic – 23% of possible mentions

“A plethora of worship opportunities and incredible music”

“The beauty of the music.”

“An eloquent, intellectual approach.”

“The spiritual depth of worship.

“The traditional feel of the service.”

“We appreciate being challenged intellectually as well as spiritually; love our music!”

“The uniformly high quality of preaching.”

“Great preaching that touches hearts and minds.”

## **2. The people, the welcome, the sense of community**

This received 75 mentions, 19% of the total possible mentions

XY – 13% of possible mentions

Boomer – 20% of possible mentions

Civic – 19% of possible mentions

“The people – congregation and clergy.”

“Friendly, welcoming parish.”

“Community of fabulous people – accepting and warm.”

“The love of each person I have met.”

“The kindness and openness of people.”

“The care, belief, and love of the parish.”

“People’s willingness to share their gifts.”

## **3. Outreach**

This received 60 mentions, 15% of the total possible mentions

XY – 15% of possible mentions

Boomer – 14% of possible mentions

Civic – 17% of possible mentions

“Strong commitment to service and the community.”

“Community involvement – both historic and ongoing”

“Commitment to social justice ministries.”

“Commitment to serving God and the community.”

“Social responsibility – acting on this.”

“Strong Christ-like ministries.”

## **4. Inclusiveness, open-mindedness, welcoming to all, progressive/liberal**

This received 53 mentions, 13% of the total possible mentions

XY – 15% of possible mentions

Boomer – 15% of possible mentions

Civic – 10% of possible mentions

“I don’t have to belong to this religion/church in order to receive a blessing or be welcome.”

“Positive, progressive Christian message.”

“Tolerance of people in all their ways and forms.”

“Open doctrine/ allows for questioning of scripture and doctrine.”

“The acceptance of all people into the congregation.”

“The message that all people deserve salvation.”

“Welcoming to all people – unconditional communion!”

“Loving, overt inclusion of ALL because of Christ’s love for us.”

## **5. Our Clergy and staff**

This received 47 mentions, 12% of the total possible mentions

XY – 5% of possible mentions

Boomer – 13% of possible mentions

Civic – 12% of possible mentions

“Truly compassionate clergy.”

“Laughter and humor of the clergy.”

“Loving and supportive clergy”

“Dedication of the clergy.”

“Talented and generous clergy.”

“Strong Rector and Associates.”

“Support and friendliness of the clergy.”

**Complete this statement: If we could strengthen St. Paul’s in the next few years, I would like to see us:**

### **1. Children and youth: improve, update, engage**

This received 27 mentions, 20% of all surveys.

Selected comments:

“Build a better children’s program and youth program”

“Have lots of children and adolescents excited about what they are doing at St. Paul’s.”

Develop service projects in which children, youth, and adults can work together.

“A more consistent program for youth with opportunities for biblical learning, discussion, and community service”

“Develop a strong middle and upper school curriculum with leadership that has a natural charisma with that age group.”

### **2. Community building: newcomers, small groups, growth**

This also received 27 mentions, 20% of all surveys.

Selected comments:

“Build intra-parish friendship”

“Bring back foyers!”

“Wear nametags – so newcomers can learn our names”

“Provide more opportunities for small groups, spiritual growth, and sharing.”

“Become more racially, socio-economically, and culturally diverse.”

“Build the congregation in a cross-generational way.”

**3. 20's – 40's/ evangelism: proactive, outreach to unchurched, worship**

This received 26 mentions, 19.5% of all surveys.

Selected comments:

“Build a stronger community of young, working professionals (20's and 30's)”

“Do more to create community for graduate students and young professionals.”

“More young adults getting involved in the 10:00 a.m. service”

“Have a Mothers Morning Out program.”

“Growing the church in the 20 somethings by having contemporary services.”

Growing our young family programs including adding a 9:00 a.m. service.

“Do more to reach out to the unchurched – most have no idea that they can belong to a church and have ideas of their own.

“Improve offerings for young families.”

“A major, parish-wide effort to attract and retain young families with children to regular church attendance.”

**4. Outreach: narrow, define, serve**

This received 18 mentions, 14% of all surveys.

Selected comments:

“Continue with outreach and be a leader in this regard in our community.”

“Find housing options for everyone.”

“Work for peace and justice.”

“Concentration on a few areas.”

“Reach out to our vulnerable environment and speak to protect it.”

“Present more opportunities for social service and challenge members to serve.”

“Identify several most important service areas – paralleling what we've done with grants.”

**5. Programming: inclusion, addressing doubts**

This received 14 mentions, 11% of all surveys

Selected comments:

“It feels like the same group of people carries the church”

“Growing our ministries, giving, stewardship ethic, and action”

“More extensive adult education program.”

“Sponsor/steward art events in our community.”

“Be part of the “counter-culture” of Charlottesville – our younger generations could come to God through this.”

“Feeding our flock – especially those who have doubts.”  
“More activities available during the day.”  
“Strengthen programs for those who live alone.”  
“More serious and material engagement with the intellectual, cultural and political issues of our time and situation.”

**6. University of Virginia: reexamine, redefine, recommit, incorporate**  
This received 11 mentions, 8% of all surveys.

Selected comments:

“Increase involvement and incorporation with the University.”  
“Greater focus on projects with UVA, especially in the area of the environment and leadership in reaching out to the interfaith community.”  
“I would like to see more students in the pews.”  
“Recommit to our relationship with UVA, redefining that mission, and capitalizing on our location and heritage, i.e. playing to our natural strength.”  
“Focus and strengthen.”  
“Do considerably more to strengthen the mission to the students.”

**Selected comments in other areas:**

Facilities:

“Make facilities more accessible to those with disabilities.”  
“Expand the Memorial Garden to provide a place for meditation and prayer.”  
“Provide more space for contemplation.”  
“Continue cleaning the physical plant and garden.”  
“Better sound for the hard of hearing.”

Worship:

“Incorporate more spirituality in our services and meetings by teaching the power of prayer, the importance of silence, and praying for each other as a regular practice.”  
“Continue to provide many opportunities for worship as a strengthening element so that we are blessed with the energy to go out into the world showing Christ’s love to others in ways we are called to do. Through these actions, along with a deepening spiritual understanding and personal relationship with God, we may bring others into the fold.”

General comments:

“Be bold in leadership for culture change – community, nation, world.”  
“Consider a bus/van for Westminster Canterbury and use at night.”  
“Be more of a community presence – publicize our activities.”