Attributes for the Ideal Church

Retreat participants divided into groups and our facilitator asked us to identify attributes of the ideal church and draw it on the flip charts; the pictures aren't here, but the attributes are listed along with those things that were viewed as the positive aspects of the picture and what were the drawbacks or questions that people had.

Attributes for the Ideal Church	Positives	Opportunities/Questions
• Increasing total youth membership • Service with Jesus as the focus • Service to address people's needs (all ages) • Organization of service to others • Service focus • We demonstrate discipleship • We are a house of prayer • Ability for members to communicate what we're about • Presence outside the building • Developing relationships • Ingenuity • We are like Jesus • Doors are open • Language/concepts ae understandable to all	• Demonstration of discipleship • Service with faith	• Balance between belonging & service
• Destination Point • Activities • Christ Centered • Outwardly focused • Cross/Multi-generational • ELCA Network • Interfaith collaboration • Spiritual • Grounded in faith	• Faith centered • Building not the focus • Many ways to get to Christ • Collaborative effort • Global • Can & Wheelchair • Grounded in faith& opening up	• Not a sense of community • What is the place of our building in our mission • Multi-dimensional leadership • What got people onto the roads?
• All stages: pre-family, post kids • Whole church fun events • Weekly inter-generational night with fellowship, food & worship • Outside the building • Every person identifies strongly with at least one ministry	• Fun • Part of the community • Thought provoking & inspiring • Keeping the good and also adding • Even evolving • Inter-generational	• How do you get it done? • How do you know what is good and what is not working? • How to serve those not going through the doors? • How large is the community?

Attributes for the Ideal Church	Positives	Opportunities/Questions
• Disciples (belong) vs. Membership (joining) • Every member cares for another • More children • Praise & worship is a way of life for a family • Giggling and silence	• The building is symbol of a lot of community work	• How do we change and keep the core grace of God in everything we do? • Vision from the person involved • How do we prioritize?
• Community multi-function room • Social media streaming • Virtual giving • Zion is home for seekers of the Spirit • Dedicated education time • Ann Arbor/all people know Zion for mission & service EVENTS that occur outside Zion • Infused 11:00 service draws people to Zion • Global community • Fact based decision based on measurement • Non-judgmental • Community flocks to faith garden	• Address different life phases • More music…energetic • More audio & visual • Balance between entertainment vs. worship	• How to use technology?