

Vision Path Development Team

“Younger Congregation Members Over Time”

Our recent survey revealed that the highest perceived need of the congregation was “fostering the needs of younger families”. What this might translate into is the age bracket of 18 to 40 years of age. Digging into the church archives and files, data were obtained on membership for approximately this group of young adults (most of which were younger families). Over time church membership for this group has been somewhat slim in comparison to the entire membership. In 1997, there was only 1% (18 to 34 year old), then during 2007 there existed 10% (18 to 39 year old), and presently in 2014 only 9% (18 to 40 year old) represented young adults and/or families. Apparently, there seems to be an age gap in the overall age distribution of our congregation. Also, it appears that little has been done to expand the number of young adults and/or younger families. The time has come to pursue this membership deficit and a present priority vision path. The Vision Path Development Team hopefully will uncover some of the “unknowns” and associated needs by way of its scheduled interviews and discussion sessions with target populations. The knowledge uncovered and synthesized hopefully will provide the basis for a strategic plan to further develop the vision path of “fostering the needs of younger families”, and bring to fruition greater church membership falling into this age bracket.