

## Discussion Questions

1. If you could transform one thing about the world, what would it be?

**Do not record answers**

2. In your time here, how has St. James changed and how has St. James stayed the same?
3. What three adjectives would you use to describe St. James?
4. According to who St. James is today, what is our “business?” In other words, what is the “Why” of St. James? Why does St. James exist? What is our purpose?

## Discussion Questions

### Question 2 Notes

In your time here, how has St. James changed and how has St. James stayed the same?

- Change:

proud of the changes we have made, members are involved in committees and ministries, outreach, in-reach w/ more members group, diverse, music (do not like the current situation, moved away from familiar and traditional), become more political, grown with new members (need to know each other because of it), numbers in church (up and down and up and down), more children and families currently, recent positive feel to the church, welcome committee, younger generation taking on leadership roles, all are welcomed, more communication between church and school, more female governance, beginnings of diversity, communication is weaker, we are friendly but we don't know each other well, financial support is down on average,

- Same:

pride in the traditions of St. James, sense of community, beauty of the facilities, same mission, continue to struggle with youth programming, perception of St. James continues to be "old, wealthy, stuffy, etc." even if not true, continually bonds and loves each other, welcoming, caring, although welcoming younger families it is still an older congregation, family feel, school is important ministry, outreach has targeted ourselves or people like us, could still do better at incorporating new people in the life of the church, people sit in the same place each week,

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### Question 3 Notes

What three adjectives would you use to describe St. James?

Old school, authoritative vibe (a little), beautiful liturgy, comfortable, worship, apathetic, traditional, outreach (school, feeding ministry, work after Katrina), strong lay leadership, beautiful church building, greying, social, welcoming (sometimes sporadically), loyalty, lay ownership, caring, reserved (not evangelical), resilient, educated, accepting, loving, diverse, stoic, community, inclusive, noisy, loving, comfortable, opportunities to serve, historic

## **Discussion Questions**

### **Question 4 Notes**

According to who St. James is today, what is our “business?” In other words, what is the “Why” of St. James? Why does St. James exist? What is our purpose?

to be the light in a dark world, here to serve, involve ourselves in the downtown community, outreach to young families especially through the day school, variety of ministries, unconditional love, diversity, love, evangelism (at least it is what we are meant to do), welcoming with love, accepting of other peoples’ opinions, bible study & Christian education, transforming lives through Christ’s love, enriching lives, Christian community where people can find and/or be found, Christian education that matches the needs of the community