

APPRECIATIVE INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR CONGREGATIONS

Instructions: You may answer these questions on your own or pair up with another person and interview each other. If you choose the interview option: be a generous listener. Do not dialogue; rather take turns to actually conduct an interview. If you need more information or clarification, ask additional follow-up questions. Use this sheet to record the results of your interview.

Before you conduct the interview take a few minutes to read the questions and decide how you will personally answer each question and make a mental note of your response. Now proceed with the interview, paying full attention to the interviewee rather than to your story. You will have a chance to share your story when your partner interviews you.

FOUR QUESTIONS:

1...Best Experience: Reflect on your entire experience with Spirit of Grace Church. Recall a time when you felt most alive, most involved, spiritually touched, or most excited about your involvement. Tell about this memorable experience that you have had with this congregation. Describe the event in detail. What made it an exciting experience? Who was involved? Describe how you felt. Describe what you did as a result of the experience.

2...Values: What are the things you value deeply? Specifically, what do you value about yourself, being a parishioner or friend of this congregation, and about Spirit of Grace?

a. Self-reflection: Without being humble, what do you value most about yourself?

b. Your faith heritage/journey: What is the single most important thing that Spirit of Grace contributes to your journey of faith?

c. Your community: How do you experience being part of your community? *(Please feel free to define community as you see it.)* How does your relationship with Spirit of Grace make you more aware &/or involved?

d. This congregation: What is it about Spirit of Grace Church that you value? What is the single most important thing that being involved with Spirit of Grace has contributed to your life?

3...Core Value: What do you think is the core value of Spirit of Grace? What is the heart that gives life to this congregation?

4...Wishes: If you had three wishes for Spirit of Grace, what would they be?

1.

2.

3.