

Revising the Parochial Report

Guiding principles, overall intent,
and key decisions

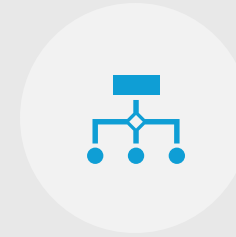
Necessary Background



RESPONSIBILITY FOR DESIGN OF THE PAROCHIAL REPORT RESTS WITH THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH



THE PR IS THEN AUTHORIZED FOR USE BY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



THIS ITERATION WAS PRIMARILY DESIGNED BY (1) THE DATA SUBCOMMITTEE OF HODSOC AND (2) THE TF TO REVISE THE FINANCE PAGE OF THE PR



BOTH GROUPS STARTED WITH UNDERSTANDING COMMON COMPLAINTS OF PAST ITERATIONS, COLLECTING FEEDBACK FROM PARISHES AND DIOCESES



THE TEAMS WORKED INDEPENDENTLY OF EACH OTHER AND HARMONIZED OUR SUGGESTIONS AT THE END OF OUR PROCESS

Additional Background

- Chair, Data Subcommittee
- Doctoral Candidate in Sociology at The Ohio State University studying race, discrimination, and social proximity to whiteness
- Advanced training in demographic theory, survey techniques, and longitudinal analysis
- Lifelong Episcopalian



Our Process



Collect feedback on past versions
of the PR



Identify canonically required
questions



Differentiate between questions
we'd *like* to ask and questions
appropriate to ask on the PR

Our Goal: To design a new PR that...

Lessens the
bureaucratic burden
for congregations

Expands our
understanding of the
work of the Church

Includes non-
traditional forms of
Episcopal
community

Allows for a
longitudinal
understanding of the
health of the Church

Provides us with
information
necessary for future
planning

To lessen bureaucratic load, we...



REMOVED REQUIRED OPEN-
ENDED QUESTIONS



INTEGRATED PR QUESTIONS
INTO THE ONLINE PARISH
REGISTER FOR EASIER
TRACKING



PARTNERED WITH CPG TO
SUPPLY CLERICAL STAFFING
INFORMATION



CONVERTED SERVICE
OFFERINGS FROM COUNTS
TO AFFIRMATIONS



INCLUDED INSTRUCTIONS
AND EXAMPLES DIRECTLY IN
THE FORM

To expand our understanding of the work of the Church, we...



OFFERED SPACE FOR PARISHES
TO SHARE THEIR SUCCESS
STORIES



BROADENED OUR DATA
COLLECTION AROUND
ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP



STRENGTHENED OUR FINANCIAL
REPORTING TO INCLUDE
INCREASINGLY COMMON
FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS



REDESIGNED OUR
CHARACTERIZATION OF PARISH
HEALTH

To include non-traditional forms of Episcopal community, we...



EXPANDED OUR UNDERSTANDING
OF SERVICE AND OUTREACH



REFINED OUR DATA COLLECTION
FOR VIRTUAL AND HYBRID
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



INCORPORATED THE ROLE OF LAY
LEADERSHIP INTO QUESTIONS
ABOUT STAFFING

To allow for a longitudinal understanding of the health of the Church, we...



PRESERVED KEY QUESTIONS ON THE PR THAT
HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT OVER TIME (E.G., ASA
AND COMMUNICANTS IN GOOD STANDING)

To provide the Church with information necessary for future planning, we...



REFINED OUR FINANCIAL
QUESTIONS TO BETTER
UNDERSTAND THE LONG-TERM
FINANCIAL HEALTH OF OUR
PARISHES



ASKED PARISHES TO SHARE
THEIR SUCCESS SO THAT WE
CAN LEARN FROM THEM



OFFERED CLEAR,
DIFFERENTIATED DEFINITIONS
OF MEMBERSHIP AND
ATTENDANCE CATEGORIES



INCLUDED BROAD QUESTIONS
ABOUT PAROCHIAL
DEMOGRAPHIC
CHARACTERISTICS

What should you expect?

01

A SIGNIFICANTLY
SHORTER PAROCHIAL
REPORT

02

THAT INTEGRATES
DIRECTLY WITH THE
ONLINE PARISH REGISTER

03

AND OFFERS YOUR
CONGREGATION A
CHANCE TO PRAYERFULLY
ENGAGE WITH YOUR
HOPES AND FEARS FOR
THE FUTURE OF YOUR
PARISH AND THE LARGER
CHURCH

Change is scary and we do not think we achieved perfection on our first try. The Parochial Report will continue to evolve as we further refine our data collection and analytic approach.