

After the Pentecost event and the first conversions, when Peter spoke and 3,000 were added to their number, the early Christian community is described as follows: ***“These remained faithful to the teachings of the apostles, the fellowship, to the breaking of the bread, and to prayers.”***
—Acts 2:42

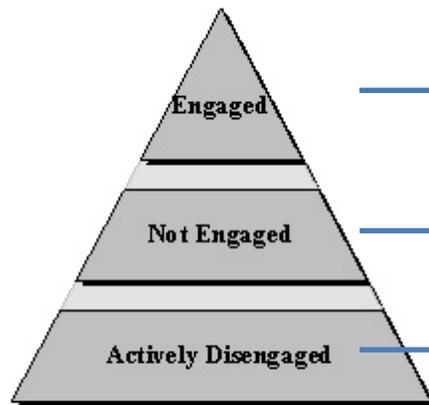
Early Outcomes

No waiting for a full report! Empowered St. Stephens parishioners, emboldened by data from the P3 Team’s research, moved forward on many fronts since the pastoral planning effort was begun. Much has been completed and other initiatives have begun. The following is a list of parish developments rooted in the pastoral planning effort. They are grouped by the core value areas:

- Family
 - Fostering a sense of unity to one another based on
 - greater accountability
 - collaboration (parish organizational structure policy and development of formal Legislative Process for decision making)
 - new focus on fellowship (formation of Parish Life Commission)
- Worship and spirituality
 - Holy Water fonts at side doors
 - Vietnamese-language Masses—four are planned for 2013
- Welcoming and Diversity
 - Vietnamese Community established
 - Welcoming and Greeters Committees formed under the new Evangelism—Communications Commission
- Lay Involvement
 - Living Your Strengths, a Gallup-based program, created to aid parishioners to better understand their God-given gifts and how they might best be expressed
 - Volunteer Coordinator added to staff to
 - facilitate placement of parishioners based upon strengths
 - assist parish ministries in finding individuals to fill needs
 - Defining parish organizations and groups: their relationships to one another and to parish as a whole
 - The Pastoral Council developed policies that were pastor approved
 - Policies include processes for starting new groups, maintaining affiliation with parish, financial accountability, fundraising authorization, publicity, and communications (Implementation is in progress)
 - Re-instituted Resource Directory: Published on the web in June 2012 and via print in September

Early Outcomes

- Evangelization
 - Evangelization-Communication Commission formed
- Stewardship
 - Gallup programs. We are committed to the following:
 - Strengths Finders (stewardship of talents)
 - For individuals: discovery and exploration of God-given talent themes
 - For groups: working together more effectively
 - Leadership Excellence (strengths-based development of leadership and management talents for pastors)
 - ME25 Surveys as measurement regiment, providing parishioner feedback and perceptions, thus giving leadership better focus for stewardship of parish resources
 - “Engagement” philosophy
 - Expectations—became more forthright in establishing clear mutual expectations
 - Inspired by Gallup Org, relative to “engagement”
 - Print— FAQ, Resource Directory
 - Outcomes—engagement score increase



St Stephens		Nation Catholic Sample
2012	2010	
33%	28%	16%
48%	49%	49%
19%	23%	35%
1,118	1,051	

- ME25—Outcomes changes (parishioner Life Satisfaction, sharing time and treasure, evangelizing)
 - Parent Parish Partnership—established clearer relationship and mutual expectations between parish families with children at St. Anthony School and the parish.
- Religious Education
 - Preschool—scheduled to open in the fall of 2013, after a two-year process of research, development and collaboration between young parents, seasoned catechists, pastoral staff members, lay leaders and our pastor
- Parish Life
 - Childcare during Masses and for parish events—coordinator hired, service re-established

Early Outcomes

- Kitchen management—system developed by volunteer lay leaders to better coordinate facility use and users. System was approved by pastor and Pastoral Council, and in process of implementation (as of the date of this edition)
- Parish Life Commission formed

