**Listening Session Summary Report**

**Location:** St. Joseph, West Liberty

**Date of Session:** November 20, 2018 **Facilitator:** Rev. Joseph Sia

**Your Name:** Rosemary Gonzalez **Email:** angellymiahdamian1964@gmail.com

**Approximate number of participants:** 30

**Were small groups utilized? \_\_X\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no**

**If so, how many small groups did you have?** 3

**Briefly describe the composition of the group (age/race/gender/ethnicity).**

There were 10 adults. Six were in their 60’s-70’s/Anglo/one female and the rest male

Four were below 40 years old – 2 Anglo, the rest Hispanic/one female and the rest male

There were 20 youth (below 18 years old)/all Hispanic/half male and half female

**Were there any impeding factors that could have limited attendance? No**

**Chapter Large Group Responses.  List with bullet points.**

**Chapter 1:**

* Going outside of our comfort zone to reach those individuals who have “fallen away” from church
* We have re-energized our catechism program with introduction of new priests. Youth are more involved, but not showing up to Masses.
* Mission Outreach to community (Hispanic group)
* Youth Group
* Praying the Rosary at homes
* Prayer Group/Charismatic Group

**Chapter 2:**

* Youth being involved in so many programs; not enough time for church (adults, too)
* Embarrassment to talk about religion/Rejection of others/being made fun of for talking about religion
* Many excuses
* Being “forced” to participate
* Other priorities/prefer entertainment
* Laziness/being bored with religion

**Chapter 3:**

* Catechism classes, altar servers
* Christmas program
* Knights of Columbus, including the Fish Fries that gets people from outside the walls into church
* Bible study
* Youth Group
* Dance Group (for religious celebrations)
* Retreats
* Formation Classes
* Mission Outreach to community

**Chapter 4:**

* More active role in “staffing” the Food Pantry for the poor
* Toy Drive
* RSVP Program for elderly
* Taking communion to parishioners unable to attend Mass (eg. Elderly)
* Prayer chain for the sick
* Posadas
* K of C Relief Fund
* Second collection for the Poor (Activity Fund)
* Singing at the Nursing Home/Bingo/other activities at the Nursing Home

**Chapter 5:**

* Evangelization involves repetition
* Don’t just do it, Live it
* You have to “take up your own cross” and follow Jesus
* Spirit-filled Evangelization requires courage and generosity which God’s people have but “hide”
* Helping elderly when they’re sick/visiting grandparents
* Come to Mass
* Volunteer
* Do not be embarrassed about your faith/be brave
* Invite friends/be encouraging and welcoming
* Making God your top priority
* More guidance

**Participant Surveys**

**Question 1:**  Yes: 22 No: 5

**Question 2:**  Yes: 12 No: 13 No Answer: 2

**Question 3:**  Yes: 11 No: 14 No Answer: 2

**Question 4: List responses with bullet points**

* Our church is changing from a missionary church to a comfortable church. We are trying to reach people’s pockets before touching their hearts with the Gospel. We now have a watered down Gospel and for that there is a loss of interest and faith.
* We need our priests to work alongside us; help us; please teach us again.
* We need more conferences/teen encounters especially for the Hispanic youth
* Encourage teens to spread the word of God
* How is the Diocese addressing abuse? How is it being prevented, and what is done if it is found that it has occurred?