

**St. Stephen's Congregational Consultation on the church's Mission Statement  
Monday September 8, 2014**

**Those present were divided into groups of 6 to discuss and report back on the following questions.**

**1. Why does the Church exist?**

- The Church is the people
- To encourage each other in our relationship with God which is our goal. We can't survive on our own
- Community helps us to understand God's love
- Sense of family
- Spread God's love
- Teach His word
- God said so
- People of Faith want community
- Christian church is based on Christ
- Answer to God's law
- To discuss why you believe
- Grow disciples
- Praise and worship
- Mission
- Helping "the least of these"
- Learn to live in harmony
- Build God's Kingdom God's way
- Serve our own needs – encourage each other
- Welcome strangers  
(Phil noted that the five principles of the church (fellowship, worship, service, education and evangelism) had been addressed in these comments)

**2. What do you think God wants done in the world?**

- Peace
- Restore health to St. Stephen's
- Personal relationships
- Embrace the weak
- Have Compassion
- Treat each other equally
- Love God and love others
- Walk with Him and be close to Him
- Be like Jesus
- Comfort and healing
- Communication and respect between faiths
- Let His Will be done
- Love God first

- Know love and happiness
- Hope for the future
- Intimate relationship with Him
- Good stewards of this earth
- Micah 6 v8: "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

### **3. How do we help God do this?**

- Ask Him
- Listen for His response/Waiting on God
- Understand His word through Scripture and His will
- Acting in Faith
- 3-legged stool: Bible, Community, Holy Spirit
- Prayer, mediation, song
- Allow God in daily
- Open and non-judgmental
- Practical
- Not just Sunday Christians
- Seek and Ye shall find
- Trust that you have heard
- Confirmation
- Obedience to His word and will
- Living like Jesus
- Respectful of others
- Put on the whole armor of God
- 100% commitment to God
- Do unto others ....

### **4. When you look at Qualicum Beach, what breaks your heart?**

- 68+ homeless people
- The attitude of "I'm Ok, I'm fulfilled, you can go to ----"
- People pretending they can live forever
- Broken families
- Lonely old people
- Mexico – people have nothing but are happy....
- Worshipping false idols
- Apathy
- Wasted wealth
- Arguing about differences rather than finding ways to work together
- Verbal lines in the sand

The meeting concluded with three volunteers (Fiona Wratlavlav, Colin Hearn and Leo Rengers) agreeing to meet during the week to discuss and discern whether the

current mission statement of St. Stephen's (To follow Jesus Christ) addresses all that has been discussed tonight.

The next gathering will be on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.