

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PALO ALTO
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR “COMING TOGETHER” WORKSHOP 2022**

To help prepare for our all-church workshop on May 22nd on the subject of future priorities for our church, please answer as many of these questions as you can and return the form by mail or email per instructions at the end of the questionnaire. **If this particular format doesn't work for you, feel free to pass along your thoughts in the body of an email.**

For each of the following questions, please rank each possible answer to reflect your personal preferences (1 being the most important to you, 2 second in importance, etc.). You may include as many factors as you wish; leave blank those answers that are not important to you.

1. What motivates you to participate in the life of this church?

- To hear inspiring words in the sermon and scripture readings
- To be part of a committed community of friends
- To make the world a better place by helping the needy and supporting just causes
- To calm my anxieties and strengthen my resolve
- To deepen my spiritual life in a beautiful place with beautiful music
- To learn more about our system of beliefs and the model set by Jesus
- To fulfill the promise I made when I joined the church
- To teach my children values that will make them better people
- Other reasons:

2. What is the most important thing First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto can do to strengthen the commitment of its congregation, serve its members, serve the community, ensure its financial future, and do good in the world?

- Bring more people into active participation in the church
- Improve our skills in making other members of our community feel cared for and respected
- Engage more people in social justice and other causes consistent with our faith
- Plan interesting and fun social events to draw in new people
- Modernize our worship practices to better speak to the world today

- Figure out what the community needs from us to make their lives fuller and more meaningful
- Tap into our natural advantages of location, accustics, and sanctuary design to draw in more community events.
- Plan worship and other events to appeal to children and youth
- Focus on small groups
- Develop and expand sources of income to add to congregational giving, such as renting space to outside organizations
- Other suggestions:

3. Additional input: Please add any further thoughts about our church and our future planning which you wish to share:

Feel free to submit your questionnaire anonymously, but it's also helpful to know where ideas come from, so you may also want to include your name below:

Name (optional)

The ideas derived from this questionnaire will help Church Council think about future directions for us as a church, as well as planning for a workshop to involve all members of our church community. Please return your questionnaire to Church Council by mail to Marcia Sterling, 4180 Oak Hill Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306 or by email to mks@sonic.net or to the church office at 625 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR "COMING TOGETHER" WORKSHOP ON SUNDAY MAY 22, 2022 AFTER CHURCH FOR LUNCH AND DISCUSSION.