

## Round 1 Question 2: What puts you on FIRE?

### Outreach 30/156=19%

1. We go to St. Paul's, Newport News, once a month. My husband and I cook for the homeless there. I hope that we of Hickory Neck can be who we are—I have a passion for us to be known, not just as Episcopalians. I want people to look at us and say “look at the people at Hickory Neck doing those crazy things”...plant a vegetable garden to feed people, do action in the community. The sermons shouldn't stop at just hearing—we need to discern needs and act on the sermons.
2. I was an Air Force engineer. I worked the Gulf War [and other conflicts]. I loaded bombs. But the missions that I loved were the humanitarian missions when we were taking care of people's needs. I retired to use my talents for the Lord. The sermons and gatherings like this enhance and enrich my life. I'm passionate about giving back to the community. We do that as parishioners of HN every day.
3. A couple of years ago, I had surgery. I had not been in a hospital since my children were born. I was in the hospital two and a half days and the bill was \$16,000!! The biggest thing in this country is our expensive health care—people have to decide between health care and food. That is why I am glad that HN supports Angels of Mercy.
4. Anything this church can do, I will help do it.
5. I think we can become a beacon for this county.
6. I liked the idea that we are in Toano and that we should be looking at what to do in our own surrounding community
7. Toano Middle School is the only middle school in the county that is not accredited. We have low cost public housing down the street.
8. “Bloom where you're planted”
9. When I went to college there were student centers on campus—does HN have a mission to the W & M students? I have a passion for campus ministry
10. ..Social injustice really burns my cookies! We take that injustice to heart and act upon it. We give thanks for Angels of Mercy and Vibrant Life Ministries;
11. ..Outreach as a discipline. That's my passion. I am excited about our future outreach;
12. ..it is very cool to get messages out to the non-profits to help the underprivileged and to change that paradigm of Mother Teresa's that "America lacks love and humanity";
13. ..I love being able to help others.
14. ..food is my passion. Teaching, feeding, extending outward. I dream that HNC will sit down and supper together and share our abundance with others;

15. ...you can do whatever you want to help out here;
16. The only reason we should do works like work with Angels of Mercy is so we can live the life that brings the message to other people
17. Effectiveness of Joint Williamsburg EYC events – need to have projects rather than social events, stay in own groups at socials, projects would get them to mix.
18. HNC's concern for community welfare
19. Outreach to Vibrant Life has grown
20. Need to help our elders in the congregation
21. Likes participation in Faith in Action
22. Canvass new people for gifts & needs
23. Volunteer to collect items for Vibrant Life
24. Would like to work with food bank/FISH
25. HNC folks are willing to do for other
26. At first thought visioning was about more money now is grateful and see the importance
27. Maybe we should bottle water from HN spring and sell it at the Fall Festival. Make it a fund raiser.
28. Need to get retirement home going- can't wait much longer.
29. Disappointed we could not afford basement when building. Want to see campus busy-put buildings to good use.
30. Outreach-give back to community To set us on fire we need to learn about stewardship. We have to be frank about financial responsibilities.

**Sacred Place 13/156=8%**

1. We dreamed of new space—and suddenly there was this space. We were advised that if we couldn't raise \$400,000 for the new chapel, we shouldn't attempt it...we raised \$800,000—and here it is!
2. The experience of this place is too good to miss...we hung a cross in the sanctuary Saturday...it will be here for 300 years...that sets me on fire.
3. Create a space to learn to cultivate silence, spirit, to let something penetrate, centering
4. There has to be a balance between stillness/quiet and doing

5. Communicate the joy
6. The presence of the Holy Spirit is everywhere
7. The Holy Spirit is infectious
8. The HNC family keeps the Spirit alive
9. Holy Spirit is alive & well at HNC
10. Thinking back about HN history. Spring was drawing point for watering of horses and gathering of people. Came to church and spent day. It was an important part of community
11. .
12. Years ago, had a vision of big church on the hill. Hill is 130 feet above sea level. Highest point in area.
13. Discussed property boundaries and attendance.

#### **Christian Formation – Adult 20/156=13%**

1. ..exploration (i.e., Bible study) and this is a good place to grow. There is inspiration, and I was inspired to become a lay reader;
2. ..I can help somebody else and inspire them. That's way cool;
3. ..EFM is exactly what I needed when I needed it. I looked forward to it so much and it's such an eye-opener. It has helped me understand myself and my own spiritual path;
4. ..the Cursillo retreat. It gave me such self-awareness and I grew to love my Sisters in Christ looking forward to our meetings and sharing whether we had lived our week well. I looked so forward to seeing what I would share;
5. I came out of curiosity to see this new priest and his message is always focused in such a way that it means something to me...and, yes, sometimes it makes me uncomfortable..but I hear it.
6. When I teach my training courses, I talk about listening without “going to the grocery”...thinking about other things when someone is speaking. Michael preaches in such a way that it keeps my attention and I don’t “go to the grocery store”.
7. I almost always feel that the sermon is directed at me. And I almost always come away feeling positive, even though I have some negative things in my life.
8. I, too, am engaged by the sermons. My husband and I go home and talk about them after the service and ask ourselves, “What does it mean”. My passion is that we will hear those sermons and we will change.
9. It's about evangelism...seeking people out and bringing them here.

10. Religious Education
11. Opportunity to examine my faith
12. Spiritual nourishment
13. Good, wide variety of classes
14. Working together to search for individual faith
15. Seeking knowledge and inspiration.
16. Looking for answers
17. Spiritual growth
18. Like opportunities for community with Shrinemont and Cursillo and Bible School.
19. Would like to see 2 day retreat for area churches.
20. "If you are not struggling you are not doing it right"

**Christian Formation – Children & Youth 10/156=6%**

1. My passion is for the youth of this church. We need to get those sheep into the fold. We need to mentor, guide, do outreach with youth. Relay for Life this year has hardly any HN youth participating.
2. I agree that we should support youth. As a child I had adults who were important to me and I will never forget them. We don't know how important we are to young people or whose lives we touch.
3. ..my true passion lies with the children. I feel open enough to follow my work with the children and be enthralled as they are learning the Presence.
4. Perfect place for children (said by someone whose children are grown and did not grow up in HNC)
5. Youth Group - offering supper is helpful
6. Godly Play
7. Religious Education
8. Growth of children's programs
9. Enjoyed making wreaths with the children- love nature like to inspire children with nature.
10. An emphasis to include/guide the children such as Children's chapel

### **Love & Support / Fellowship 48/156=31%**

1. What sets me on fire is the number of people at HN who are pitching in and doing things...not like before when there was only a handful of people doing things here...I am excited about that. We can do anything now. Just look at the building and how it came about...and what's down the road. We will become so much bigger and the possibilities and potential will get bigger.
2. The church is also searching to discern what it is ... the first time we did this small group discussion, when people were going to people's homes and doing groups, we said, "we're going to do this and a new building"... and here we are-we did it. As one other person said, we can plant a vegetable garden or a school or anything!
3. ..If I can put a smile on someone's face, then I have made a difference. I love collaboration;
4. ..I love to coordinate, making connections among those with a common interest. I love getting to know people and all that energy!;
5. ..It's all about connection in a disconnected world. This surely must be a heavenly family.
6. I hope that I can do something about those sermons, and when I feel weak I know the community will help me
7. For once, I feel that people will accept me for me and I don't have to do everything perfectly. I don't know what the Lord wants of me, but I think that those sermons counteract the negative feelings I have.
8. Came to Williamsburg with fiancé just out of college. Looked for a church for a long time. Were not welcomed at other churches. Didn't seem to fit in anywhere. Visited HN. Jim Kellett loved and accepted us immediately. Said he would marry us. Members of Hickory Neck for 18 years. Especially appreciates loving environment at HN.
9. No feeling of a dress code
10. Good mix of ages – 0 to 90s
11. No egos, no politics
12. 1st Sunday recognition of birthdays and anniversaries
13. Applause
14. Ministering to each other outside the church
15. Caring community
16. Visitor introductions

17. Feel welcomed
18. Is there a place on the visitor card to indicate how the visitor found/heard of HNC?
19. Foyer groups-Family Foyer – small groups - fosters feeling of intimacy as HNC grows
20. Physical plant is nice, but the people matter the most
21. Family Foyer
22. Peace, love and joy
23. Open communion & inclusiveness
24. Good healthful community
25. Good memories to pass on to children
26. We are indebted to the people who came before us
27. Not competitive - people work together
28. Feeling of trust among the groups
29. People want to give
30. Found a real home here
31. One on one relationships are strong at HNC
32. HNC encourages introverts to join and do
33. True Christian spirit at HNC
34. The people
35. Liked to be slowly drawn into activities - not overwhelmed
36. Seeking community and social life with likeminded people.
37. HN is open to new ideas and programs - not bogged down in rules and regulations.
38. Like the term HN campus- sounds welcoming and warm.
39. Like Michael and Ann's work ethic. They really work hard.
40. Church home
41. Community

- 42. Bonded through circumstances whether good or tragic
- 43. We live what we say we are
- 44. Creativity of people not stifled
- 45. Grow in discipleship
- 46. It is okay to question
- 47. New faces-exciting and refreshing
- 48. Do we really want to get bigger?

**Worship / Music 35/156=22%**

- 1. What sets me on fire is the Liturgy...the act of bringing people to altar with all their cares and concerns to receive the body and blood of Christ. The liturgy is central to our faith and we must be mindful of facilitating the people's worship.
- 2. My passion is worship through music..."when the people sing, they pray"...we are blessed with a fabulous organist whose patience and creativity is a blessing to HN.
- 3. ..I love making a difference. Now I have even started to sing in the choir!;
- 4. Children's' spontaneous declarations throughout church services provides us with gentle humor. It is all good;
- 5. The healing services are so very special to me. The laying of hands is truly present here;
- 6. Worship is a way of relaxing, reflecting to get through the week – recharge for next week
- 7. Variety of worship services
- 8. Great sermons – including the delivery
- 9. Flexibility – rolls with the flow, not routine – change of service/liturgy/arrangement
- 10. Spontaneity in worship, etc.– for example, singing "Happy Anniversary" to Michael today
- 11. Lots of singing
- 12. Activity of 9:00 service vs. need for silence prior to worship
- 13. Good Friday services offer the long periods of silence
- 14. There has to be a balance between stillness/quiet and doing

15. Music for children's choirs needed
16. Religion is everyday discipleship
17. Sunday morning worship
18. Serving as Chalice Bearer and in the choir
19. The liturgy and how it is done
20. Like slight liturgical modifications by clergy
21. Like 3 different services – DITTO
22. Variety of liturgy - clowns, animals, dance art and changing church configuration
23. Make service simple/hospitable as possible
24. Need more youth - participate in service
25. Incorporate art in services
26. Powerful sermons by all clergy – DITTO
27. Sermon context as important as content
28. We need to speak up for Christianity
29. Nursery is important for our young families
30. Beautiful flowers and altar decorations following the theme of the lessons
31. The elements of the prayerful community
32. Through prayer we gain strength to do God's work
33. Have an agape meal - feeding ourselves is important – DITTO
34. Michael's sermons.
35. We are unique and lucky to have 2 young priests.