

## Transition Report 006

By Bob Bourne and Gerald Penilla

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Transition is moving forward! To be effective, we must involve everyone we possibly can in the process. Your Survey Committee has embarked on a two pronged approach to achieve this, the **parish survey** and **in person discussion groups**. We had excellent participation in Story Day, an important milestone in our journey through transition and now want to build on that enthusiasm by finding out more about who we are and where we want to go as a parish. We hope you read Linda Apmadoc's excellent report in last month's *Messenger*. She, Jerry Mihld and their committee will be collating all the post-it notes for a more detailed report, and the key points will make their way into the Parish Profile, the instrument for finding a new Rector.

We hope to involve virtually every member of the Parish in both the survey **and** the discussion groups. This is not "either/or", as the type of information gained from these two different processes is complementary and co-equal.

### **Discussion Groups:**

We are working on the details, but our plan is to have different opportunities to accommodate every individual's preference and schedule if at all possible. We plan to have meetings in parishioners' homes, probably potluck suppers, but also meetings at church at a variety of times, or possibly other places – such as perhaps Plymouth Village. We are looking for volunteers to host a small group (up to 10 people) in their home or elsewhere, and for folks who would be willing to serve as discussion leaders or scribes for these groups. The survey committee is reviewing a series of questions to be the springboard for discussion at these groups. Please be ready to sign up as a host, leader, scribe or attendee over the next several weeks. Please contact Bob [drbobbourne@gmail.com](mailto:drbobbourne@gmail.com) or Gerald [geraldp1983@gmail.com](mailto:geraldp1983@gmail.com) to volunteer or if you have questions.

### **Survey:**

**Holy Cow!** We have selected a professional consulting group to perform and analyze our survey. Seriously, that is the name of the company. They are highly experienced at helping congregations and other groups undergoing transition. Check them out if you wish at <https://holycowconsulting.com/>. We chose this group because of their numerous satisfied clients. In fact, we are aware of at least one Episcopal diocese that requires all parishes undergoing transition to utilize their services.

The survey will be primarily electronic, but your survey committee will work with all parishioners either to do the survey on paper or to have laptops and technical assistance available at a convenient place and time for those who are a bit uneasy about interacting with electronic devices.

If you would like to track our progress through this Transition, please check out past issues of *The Messenger*, which I believe will soon be posted on our website, <https://www.redlandsepiscopal.org/> and also consult the Rector Search tab at the same address.