

Challenges in the Diocese

5) List three challenges you believe the Diocese of Oregon is currently facing?
Declining membership, lack of money, disenfranchisement of small churches
Aging congregations,
Lack of vision; Lack of strong identity; Lack of strong congregational support
Age, infrastructure, timidity.
Maintaining relevance in today's world, declining/aging membership, being able to reach people where they are not just in the church building
New Bishop, declining parish participation
Although there are those who would say getting bodies in the pews, Methinks ironically the same as our strengths
Lack of strong vision, intolerance for hard conversations, siloed parishes/clergy
Less spirituality in the state-aging congregations-
1. Shrinking membership, 2. Lack of support to younger families(preference for the old guard way), 3. Being a thought leader in our communities
homelessness, Food,
#1 Maintaining relevance in a changing world. #2 Knowledge and understanding of how the world is changing. #3 Taking appropriate steps to respond to that
Shrinking congregations, new clergy, polarization
Responding to diversity
Changing society, aging congregations, declining membership
Not being supportive of clergy, not dealing well with controversy, conflict avoidance
Where are the youth?
Decentralization, money crunches, and fewer ft clergy
Uniting people. Not following the idealogues off a cliff.
Lack of interest in distinctly Anglican identity and generally poor formation; lack of clarity about mission and purpose; a general settling for "good enough" rather than striving for excellence
1) financial sustainability (like all institutions with much of a history), 2) changing demographics--aging populations, growing number of smaller parishes (often geographically dispersed), 3) the issue of relevance/mission for all organized religious bodies
The increasing disinterest and even disaffection from religion in general, especially including the disinterest in joining a worshipping community. Changing demographics--how do we best serve aging congregations while attracting new, younger members to our congregations? I think many of our congregations feel isolated from or not properly served by traditional church structures (the diocese, Provinces, The Presiding Bishop's office and TEC's governing structures as a whole). Finding the right balance of connection, practical support to congregations (financial and other resources to equip congregations for ministry), and local
Remaining centered, concerned, and "balanced"
Funding, bi-lingual, education
Latino Ministry-South, Shrinking Small Congregations, Church Planting
Very different populations at member parishes
Upcoming move, Bishop search
Emerging diversity, social presence, urban-rural divide
The need for contemporary liturgy. Homelessness. Climate crisis.
Closures, funding, relevance
Rising white nationalism and racist division, millennial disengagemng, facing Christianity's often harmful legacy
Many parishes are stuck/reluctant to change, leadership cares more about protecting themselves than living the values of the Episcopal Church, the voices of a few wealthy members matter far more than the voices of the majority (i.e.- leadership will do anything to appease the wealthy)
Superstructures, adaptability, transitioning
Broader cultural movement away from church attendance, history of dysfunctional leadership, lack of vision for how to maintain/evangelize/worship as a smaller/less culturally dominant institution
budget
Limited opportunity for listening about challenging issues;feels like limited fiscal support for struggling parishes; not enough activism in Latino ministry for our undocumented brothers & sisters.
Financial, high turnover in diocesan staff
Declining Attendance; Relevancy; & Declining Revenue
Supporting the diversity of cultural norms & political/liturgical opinions and traditions; transparency of diocesan activities for those who aren't clergy & vestry;
Homelessness, Visibility to community, Budget
Declining enrollment, attendance, and giving; resistance to authority of the office of bishop; resistance to diversity
the metro/rural divide, many small congregations, difficulty for much of the diocese to participate in leadership due to geography and conflicts between committee time vs work time - feel like you have to be retired to participate
Lost their identity, Out of touch with parish needs, Dioces is not an active presence
Relocation of Bishop's close, finances, empty pulpits
Membership growth, recruitment of clergy, social ills created by income inequality
To continue to be LGBTQ Welcoming with pressure from conservative parishes to not be so; Supporting all of it's churches financially and not just Trinity Cathedral; Calling out the racism that has reared its ugly head around the country and here in Oregon more than before.
Too many old people, not enough young people. Lack of diversity.

disconnectedness
(1) Habits of comfort and privilege, (2) Dilution of focus (energy put into maintaining habits and systems which are the trappings of privilege rather than effective spiritual practice), (3) Episcopalians are not offering something that is obviously useful to the community.
Lack of cultural understanding, no desire to sustain struggling parishes or struggling clergy, lack of listening
Financial, Disengaged, lack of knowledge for lay persons about role of diocese
The church in general needs to focus more on the well being of our non-human kinfolk, and stop simply giving lip service to "the rest of creation."
aging population
Decline, social irrelevance, liturgical and doctrinal laxity
Declining attendance x 3
Attracting young people, keeping our immigrant community safe and helping those in need (homeless, etc)
cultural hate, reaching more people, clear direction
An aging clergy and leadership without clear goals to be a community that appeals to young people; a lack of call to community and commitment among our parishes, resulting in a dearth of good parish lay leaders;
Finances, locating the new Bishop's close, decrease in parish attendance
leadership vocations loss of parishioners
institutional structure from prior generation, too cumbersome for current size and culture; overly financially dependent on a few large congregations; dying
Stagnant with the changing landscape of culture, needs diverse leadership, failure to think outside of the box.
low level of Christian Formation/Discipleship, supporting small and isolated congregations, developing lay leadership
learning to be church in a generally unchurched place, making smaller parishes sustainable, overcoming white privilege
1. Smaller parishes are shrinking. 2. Congregations are getting older. 3. Not a lot of support from the Bishop and his staff.
Inadequate communication methods, north end heavy
Lack of jobs, lack of connection to one another, unhealthy parishes
Next bishop may not have a beard
Membership. Need to recruit younger members
Sexism, discrimination, patriarchy
Priest shortage, failing churches, money
Diversity, focus, relevance
small parishes that can't support full time clergy, how to learn and grow from each other, we are too nice to confront racism, sexism and our complicity in what is happening in the world.
finances, clergy without vision, etc.
metro/rural divide, leaving the Close & finding a new diocesan home, supporting struggling congregations
Shrinking congregations (tho not ours); future of Elk Rock property; finding our voice in the larger community;
communication (to non-Episcopalians), life style, life styles by geographic areas, mileage to important meetings
Absence of vision; absence of support for parishes in crisis; overbuilt governance and staffing
new models of ministry, facing a world that wants simple answers, perception as elitist
small congregations; a few people doing the most ministry; knowing people in other parts of the diocese
Lack of diversity and difficult political climate
political climate, aging memberships
Declining - Portland Centered - Out of Touch
its size; changing attitudes; evangelism
Embracing the nonsecular, supporting education for ministries and seminarians, parish attendance
Attracting youth and young families, bringing the gospel to immigrants, supplying love and support to immigrants
declining participation in faith communities
Finding new leadership, trusting God's lead, honestly sharing our beliefs.
Too many parishes in metro area,
Financial locally, greater understanding and action around ministry of all the baptized, developing stronger connections between the churches in the diocese
Declining interest, ever increasing homelessness, discord in our communities
lack of diversity, need to relocate see, aging population
Financial, the Close, supporting female clergy
Just the need to re-invent Christendom entirely for another era of humanity; how to inspire a sense of unity across geographical, urban/small town, political/economic, and other divisions; how to gracefully adjust ministries whose sustainability will decrease over the next decade
Financial organization, transparency,
Change, outreach, technology
Changing culture and demographics
Financially stable in some congregations, rural and economically depressed areas struggle. It needs to become attractive to young growing families on whom to decreasing members to the church as a whole, political strife, smaller churches in need of repair? financial?
Serving, welcoming, and remaining relevant to increasingly diverse and secular communities; working to counteract worsening socioeconomic inequities; maintaining a posture of hope and confidence in divisive times
Informational of issues with concrete needs of many, expression of contentious beliefs, coordination with other similar aiming churches and religious groups

Get out of Portland; inspire greater participation; fund ministries.
self limiting, regional separation, distance
Political focus, ambivalence, agnostic
Money, staffing, depth
Changing demographic, declining membership, aging infrastructure
Changing world, insularity, fear
lack of common sense, politics in Pulpit
Finding a new Bishop, Finding a new home, Adjusting the DPA
ASA declining, Enough Clergy leaders, Parish funding
Outreach, fairness, oversight
Closures secularism financial
Urban/rural divide, Youth involvement, compassion burn out
office location, faithful witness, finances
direction, misdirected resources, distances
Programs for middle and high schoolers. Programs for the 20 and 30 somethings
Building membership, political activism, better contact with parishes
Lack of bishop, lack of bishop, lack of bishop
Too much politics, rural vs. urban split, challenge to our rich liturgy challenge to our rich li
raceism finances decentralization
keeping the youth interested, having folks participate in something, finances
a changing world (not always for the better), distance between parishes, overcoming the status of "organized" religion
Attracting youth, resisting hate, getting our message out
1 Political correctness fears 2 Low faith in Christ 3 need to close some parishes/camps
Financial income, aging laity, selection and movement of Diocese Offices
Aging congregations, rural outreach, Portland bias
1 Congregation shrinkage 2. Communication between congregations 3. Regional racism, sexism and LGBTQI bias
Distracted by cultural concerns and need to focus on core mission of God's word; shrinking churches; aging congregations
Poverty, misinformation about christianity, dissolution of community
Budget, recruitment of new priests, outreach
Money, membership, being stuck
dealing with the fallout of the present US government
Congruent vision; distance; high expectations with low commitment
geography, diversity, lack of strong leadership
political polarization, regional boundaries, identity crisis
secularization, shrinking size, fractured
Responding to the diverse needs of rural/urban parishes, attracting clergy to low-salary positions, attracting new members
OR = less churched,
(Too old & white)3
financial stability, growing the church, convincing all parishes that we are one family
Finances; dwindling membership; staying vibrant
financial challenges in parishes force pastors to be administrators and property managers rather than spiritual leaders, inability to let go of the status quo, risk adverse (for good reason, in non-churched Oregon, people will walk)
Declining member numbers; recruiting new members; enticing young families to join
Financial, relevance, communications
Not addressing what would bring in younger folks, financial support of small parishes, relevancy
Organization, collaboration and focus
Falling member numbers, the ability to attract more members, lack of communication with members
relevance, aging laity, too many parishes close to each other
poor staff, financial problems, misconduct
geographic size; small church/large church-rural/metropolitan differences; finances
Lessening of interest in organized religion in general. Less young people. Too many changes of priests in some congregations- not enough continuity
it's very geographically spread out between long drives and highly concentrated population & traffic
financial, membership, DPI
Needs to be more conservative,
Funding, growth, efficient time management
Budget, Strength fo parishes/congregations. Selecting a wonderful, effective Bishop
Distance. Shrinking congregations. Attracting youth. We need to stop thinking program will attract youth. Commitment and community is what people are looking
Finances; decreasing church attendance; challenging social climate

1) not actively appealing/welcoming to younger people, especially those without childhood ties to the Episcopal Church, 2) culturally awkward and white as hell, 3) failure to address income inequality and poverty in a meaningful way

Distance—Southern Oregon seems left out a lot of time; attracting new congregants, communication

Increase attendance of younger adults with families. Increase membership for pledging support. Hold on to senior congregation with transportation assistance

Deviating from traditional Episcopal values

Identity; diminishing number of church members; changes in church culture

Small church finances, aging clergy, evangelizing 20 and 30 yo

Trying to be all things to all people. More interested in being woke than being right; not being willing to step back and realize that being the cool church loses more people than are gained by being the "church of what's happening now."

Financial stability, convincing laity contributions to diocese meaningful

Choice of new bishop; confronting increasing violence (guns, especially); being a positive force for immigrants

Young people leaving Churches and then coming back in older years when they need help

Attendance, Membership, aging membership

1) Declining membership 2) Failure to re-imagine itself to deal with changing circumstances, and 3) failure to apply a new model and vision for the future

Admit we are not perfect and be willing to go deeper into our faith. Get to know each other in other parishes, Be more than Sunday Christians.

Aging, relevance, brunch

The aging church population, the loss of Bishop xxx

recruiting younger parishioners

Secularization of society, lack of parking at the Cathedral, aging population

A Bishop who has not done a great job, the size of our half of the state of Oregon, working parents who on Sundays are often too tired to get the children to future leadership love

Wants to be political, losing parishioners, wants parishioners to march and rebel

Divesting of close, contacting membership, geographic dispersion

To grow congregations for the correct reasons, not to just put butts in the seats. More resources for funding ministries, and more training opportunities for people to train for those in Southern Oregon

Bringing in young people, balancing political issues with building community, loss of parishes

Transition, Inclusivity of parishes geographically distant from Diocesan center, many part-time clergy positions

Sustaining small congregations, clergy deployment, diocesan staffing

appealing to young people falling attendance

Lack of clergy Lack of youth

Proclaiming our message, weak parishes, claiming our ministry to the world

lack of marketing the faith, training parish members to be evangelists, relevancy

Somehow getting feelings repaired and paying more attention to problems of the individual churches

Relocation of close, clergy for smaller parishes and rural parishes, responding to dwindling numbers

Bridging perceived (though not necessarily real) divisions; people acting with ownership and responsibility for their churches (and not blaming problems on "the diocese"); being more public about who we are Episcopalians in Oregon

General lack of interest in church, people who equate Christianity with evangelicals, how to get the word out about the Episcopal Church

Leadership, commitment to genuine justice, resistance to change

Reaching unchurched

Bringing in the younger generations, staying true to the Gospel, stopping the take over of progressives

Money, limited diversity in age, aging property

1. Climate change is demanding attention (fires, sea level rise, etc.). 2. Increased ethnic variety. 3. Economic disparity

Being better at social justice work, aging, reaching out to communities of Nader or in served

skepticism, suspicion, misconception of organized religion

Declining membership, declining revenue, culturally marginalized

Finances, far-right pushback, connection to rural parishes

Growing the churches, welcoming families, opening to people of color

Struggling parishes, lack of visionary leadership, lack of cultural/ethnic diversity

Diminished growth, aging population, money

Not taking God and His Scripture as Truth

Geographic challenges, withdrawal from ecumenical partnerships, little to no vision of future.

Evangelism; new types of ministry; hide-bound

fully integrating Latinx congregations into life of diocese; no systematic diocesan vision for dealing with small churches, especially outside major population centers; how to speak to the "nones" in this most unchurched state

Geographical size, Redeployment of clergy perhaps to multiple missions or struggling parishes, Facing up to new forms of ministry to a secular society.

death of main stream churches lack of evangelism in main stream churches bad rap for main stream churches

Strong liberal and conservative factions.

having trouble being comprehensive: small church, large church; theologically liberal, theologically traditional. We have trouble balancing prayer and program- both are important. The diocese needs to communicate more clearly with us on some issues- one is salaries of officials at the Close. Lump sum listings lack

Losing members, staying relevant, need leadership
Financial, Bishop's Close, laity support
Engagement with children and youth. Passion for excellence in liturgy and worship. Evangelism.
Not willing to step in when parishioners ask for help,
attendance, age, education
involving new generation
no children/aging congregations/the economy
financial, declining church membership, geographic size of the diocese
diversity, finance, communication
Distances, old hurts gone unhealed, diversity
Aging church members, weak replacement of youth and young people.
FAITH
making the church relevant to the 40 , interpreting the bible in the context of modern science, being a known help to the Community
new bishop, better connection with and between churches, reaching out to new members
1) The Church being taken seriously; 2) The Church speaking as witnesses of Christ our Lord; 3) The Church speaking truth.
Membership diversity inclusiveness
selecting a new bishop, integrating that person into the community, helping the membership grow
Not enough people of color, hierarchy not always very visible
Doing more with less \$, coping with a changing church & changing culture
Resources, declining membership, geographical separation
poverty/homelessness, shrinking congregations
1. Revitalizing aging parishes 2. Helping individuals and parishes to truly live into their baptismal vows. 3. Helping us to understand the enormous cultural and social changes that are occurring, how to welcome them, support them or be at peace with them.
Urban/Rural Divide. Scarcity Thinking. Discouragement.
Dwindling membership, dwindling budget, lack of excitement
aging, public messaging, lack of ethnic diversity,
Lack of young people. Music needs updating. How to attract families! That the Episcopal church is all inclusive! We have seasons in our church year that makes it beautiful. Third how to attract younger people, so they will want to become apart of the Episcopal church.
current politics, steady, strict
Communication, Inclusion, Diversity
Diverse attitudes and cultures, losing youth
Diverse, communication, declining
Financial.
Finances-organization, clear reporting, Listening to the congregations needs, responding nimbly to how church functions in the lives of Oregonians.
Funding ! Support to clergy (financial; time off; pastoral support); relevance (not being seen as involved in social issues)
attracting youth, keeping youth, attracting young families
Funding. Aging Congregations. Politics in the Church.
Leadership lacking, low giving, managerial
financial, communication, inclusiveness
Financial, Membership, Property
Financial strain, old buildings, mobilizing around a rapidly pacing church/world
building our congregations but most importantly, our children and latin communities
lack of permanent office space, many small congregations, wide range of liberal and conservative congregations
how to reach youth who are searching but not doing it within the parish family; how to make good use of our properties especially figuring out how to help those who have no homes or are struggling to keep from being on the street; listening to each other and hearing one another especially when we have different
Diverse attitudes and cultures, losing youth
change in leadership, political division,
Youth involvement, church attendance, need for increased evangelism
Leadership, aging population, economy
healing divisiveness; addressing climate change; re-building communities
Aging membership. Making the church more relevant to youth and young families. Making the liturgy more relevant to Spanish speakers.
organization (financial & otherwise), keeping parishes involved with each other when they are so far apart (and even when they aren't), lack of diversity
Perception of stuffiness, Money, Being approachable.
Dwindling numbers, dwindling resources, getting too "gray".
Keeping cool in the midst of chaos. Avoiding stridency.
Mainstream church's malaise
Shortage of clergy for all parishes. Maintaining small congregations, political challenges/pressure
Attract youth, increase participation from members.
Fewer people seeking churches, increasing scope of ministry...

1) The common practice of non-attendance for most Oregonians, 2) Aging congregations, and 3) the divide between Portland and the rest of the diocese--the urban / rural disconnect.
Communication, inclusive and prejudice
Expanding from Portland-centric to promoting the faith in other parts of the Diocese.
aging members, tradition/change; financial
financial, urban-rural divide, lack of adequate clergy formation
retaining/attracting young people, losing members owing to age (death), increasing visibility and appeal to the unchurched
engaging young people and people who aren't already Episcopalians, remaining fiscally sound, shedding our stodgy image
No new members, some what behind the times, afraid to do new things.
we need a moral center, PDX - Rest of the diocese divide, engaging beyond our liberal bubble
Many parishes with dwindling membership
growth, visibility, outreach
Lack of racial diversity, need more peace & environmental action
shrinking membership, inability to attract young members, fewer dollars to cover the expenses.
I imagine them to be: declining enrollment, urban vs rural perspectives, competition for time and resources
Nazis, Fascists, Proud Boys
Secularism, shrinkage, finances
Growth, Youth, Priest
We don't have a vibrant vision of the future, we fall prey to believing everything happens in Portland which is not true but convenient to whine about, financial
Engaging young families, meeting the needs of rural and urban communities, communicating with nonmembers about the church as a progressive faith option
Revenue and congregational growth, lack of funds means less full-time clergy positions so our seminarians and curates go elsewhere across the country while our parishes languish for lack of clergy, large Latin population which we could serve if we had Spanish speaking and aculturated clergy, most parishioners are
Serving the diverse population of the Diocese. Serving the needs of the individual parishes in the Diocese. Resisting the temptation to become involved in politics rather than spiritual matters.
Attendance drops, racism battles, homelessness
relevance, fiscal clarity, transparency
Need a new bishop, need more money, be impartial
come into the 21 century. Grow with the need of community. Spread the GOOD NEWS
Cultural relevance, an inclusive moral compass, credible pastoral leadership
Attracting young people, people being too busy for church activities, relating to people in a large geographic area
Finding a new Bishop - Not alienating communities - Enticing new members
direction of growth, qualified support staff in some areas, and funding
Making the Episcopal church relevant to younger generations, creating alternative worship experiences while honoring tradition as well, shifting the racial diversity within our diocese
inclusion, financial sustainability, positive outreach in the name of Christ
They seem a long way off. Better communication?
Serving as a leader in respectful conversations about the problems facing our nation and state.
Declining church membership; Getting really involved/actually helping with struggling parishes; Navigating how to be involved in parishes but not overreaching so much that there's no autonomy
Diversity (but so is Oregon), Parish budgets, and in some places being open to change.
I don't know enough about the diocese to answer this.
number of full time positions vrs part time.
It is becoming more outspoken on political issues; tends to veer to the political Left
Growth, Aging Congregations, Spread-out
addressing crimes against humanity committed by our own government; addressing poverty in our own community, addressing poverty and danger around the
Diverse parishes, Limited Academy Education, the physical distance between Episcopal Churches
active members; increasing costs; limited funds
lack of clarity, lack of center, lack of faith in the words of CHRIST, no add ons, no subtractions.
Dying small churches. Lack of Leadership. Not leaving out the Gospel.
Loss of youth and young adults, lack of ministry for young people, an aging and dying demographic

New bishop, declining membership, money
Difficulty backing creative mission, scarcity mind-set, white-Anglo dominant cultural assumptions
Struggling Parishes, Personnel Turnover, Finances
Saving the small aging congregations--Financial challenges--Communication with congregations directly
1. Some of our smallest congregations are disappearing as their members die. 2. We need a better, more accessible and appropriate, location for our diocesan office. 3. Our younger/newer members don't necessarily understand the value of being part of a diocesan church. Consequently they are reluctant to support financial, aging buildings, attracting young families
State population divided between very liberal and very conservative; a general skepticism of the Church among the larger liberal populatio
I would guess an aging membership and finances in small towns and rural areas.
Attendance. Relevance. Financial.
Funding-stream, focus, outreach
1/Rejection of organized religion; 2/Need to proclaim the truth and speak against oppression; 3/Need to provide more services to poor and near-poor
Rectors must function as CEO's. Liturgy is out-dated. The time and energy of parishioners is not directed where it would do the most good to effect meaningful
1. Support future ministers financially.
membership; children; money
An aging Diocesan office, geographic and socio-economic diversity
underserving latinos, LGBT outreach, serving the elder community
Membership growth, maintaining traditional in a modern world, archives and church history
Size, acceptance because of stands on LGBTQ community,
declining church membership; connection to other states; bearing brunt of homelessness in urban areas that lack/don't support infrastructure for sheltering
Older parishioners, lack of young people joining, lack of diversity.
relevancy (community, world, Oregon and parishes); overcoming stigma of Christianity; engagement with community
I honestly have no idea
1) Building interconnectedness among parish families 2) Developing a meaningful religious education for adults and the young 3) Reaching out to the
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Equity, Morality, the abatement of White supremacy
Aging Parishes, Financial, Welcoming non Episcopalians
Age. Economy. Growth
open-mindedness, zealotry, bias
sharing power and leadership (across ethnic groups, other groups, and between laity and clergy, although we are pretty good at the last, I think); age structure
needs more younger people; how to be bolder and more effective in bringing our faith to bear on social issues
attracting young families, energy to support needs of the communities, financial generosity
as I am not canonically resident here, I shouldn't care to respond here.
1. Sustainability 2. Upholding and witnessing our faith in a very secular world 3. Moving the Diocesan offices
increasing membership, increasing diversity, increasing youth
maintaining parish membership; awareness of challenges other parishes face; intercommunication among parishes
Changing demographics, Reduced population, Financial
Diversifying leadership (more women, POC, LGBTQ friendly), Managing Finances, I tracked doing new parishioners and younger families
loss of congregants, lack of visibility and ?
Viability of some communities, interconnectedness among congregations, shared outreach to the wider community
Multicultural parishes, communication of ministries available within churches, continued economic solvency
The Diocese does not pull the Parishes together in a meaningful way. It did not help us when we were in trouble (The Lawsuit). It seems more concerned with it's own internal processes than with the Parishes.
declining numbers and budgets, outreach
LGBTQ issues, dwindling attendance, Preach prophecy more often!
Loss of communians, loss of funds, diocesan center too far north
Declining church attendance, imbalance between larger and smaller congregations, shrinking budgets
Falling church attendance, fears for the future, a country in conflict
Funds to do outreach, perhaps an inability to veer from what has always been done
bringing in younger families, diversity offerings, reaching all corners of diocese
Funding
aging congregations, mixed priorities

High assessments for individual churches; churches closing; lack of administrative transparency
Not sure
Declined church attendance, social justice, change
1) Lack of a shared vision of what God is calling us to be. 2) How to turn our diversity into multi-talented ministry, and 3) Defining then living (together) our mission, vision and values
Church attendance. Aging infrastructure. Financial support.
leadership, warmth, communication
class blindness among each other (can't see our various class backgrounds. This pertains to those with privilege. Those without know they don't have it. Lack of youth and young adult involvement. ECM isn't as vibrant as it could be. That's only two. It's all I've got right now
Finances, support, Bishop
I don't feel a connection to the diocese
1) immigration issues 2) economic slide 3) self-importance
Communication, Money, Lack of growth
Diversity, Growth, Lack of Attendance
Not enough money; Population shifts; Not the right resources for small church vitality
I've been an active member of Trinity for 2 years and I have no idea what the diocese is doing
Finance, "inclusiveness", purpose
bishop search, sale (?) of the close, declining membership
Decline attendance, staid liturgy options, stewardship.
lack of united messaging campaign, diminishing attendance, limited services and space for worship for ages 10 to 25
Low Sunday attendance, individual parish budgets
Only fully time clergy and retired leity can participate at the organizational level; disorganized in its efforts toward inclusivity; conflict avoidant
Financial, shrinkage, disconnected
strong leadership, remoteness of congregations, lack of unity
maintaining cohesion in fractious times; attracting young people and disaffected persons to the Church; what to do about congregations struggling with declining attendance and income
Addressing the decline in attendance in certain parishes; continue expanding our Hispanic ministries; Selling the Close and establishing a new Diocesan Center.
Losing members, not much youth, a little "stale" sometimes
Diversity of constituents is intense, financial constraints, a perceived lack of enthusiasm probably due to finances and dierstity
Needs better leadership; needs to face diversity well; needs to help struggling parishes
1)evangelism; 2)appeal to young adults;3)programs for families
Inability to "listen or hear" other voices; lack of diversity amongst stakeholders; and 'fear' of discussions about RACE (which is the elephant in the room).
Basically, there's a lack of transparency, which inhibits growth.
Thick community (social fabric, knowing what one another value), 2) involvement from all over (which meeting rooms one could 'skype' or 'zoom' into could continuing to find relevance in our complicated world, increasing attendance and tithing, increasing inter-parish activities
1. making the church meaningful and relevant to younger people. 2. supporting clergy in difficult times 3. financial stability
Deaconate is not strong in numbers, money (always, everywhere of course)
Past and continuing racism, immigration indifference or ignorance (Sheridan), need for greater connection w/Presiding Bishop Curry's vision of Beloved
The current bishop was hired to be a nice guy, the diocese is not very diverse
Monetary support at the parish level
Portland "vs" the rest of the diocese, financial,
Ambivalence in the face of obvious parish failings 2.) poor oversight of poor clergy 3.) mixed messaging related to what's it's offered and what it actually delivers
Financial strength, aging population and attrition, increasing number of congregations who cannot support clergy at a level clergy can make work vision for the future, shrinking and aging parishes, financially challenged parishes
Coordination,
money, getting youth into the church
Numbers, finances, youth ministry
Creating and open, welcoming, and accessible Diocesan House
ability to address needs of small congregations
Probably doesn't seem as known as an entity to rural Oregon , Oregon is a diverse state in some ways so different areas need different things , and how to grow the younger age group in our parishes
Aging populations, excitement for outreach, retaining young families
how to present Christianity that's relevant, formation of people for the journey, discernment processes for lay and ordained folks
membership, focus and goals
shrinking parishes, lgbtq issues, pushback to government policies
not much common life, no/very few diocesan resources for families with children and youth, crisis in one of the (until recently) largest parishes

Diversity unchurched political
aging parishes, homogeneous parishes, tradition is sacrosanct
Youth involvement
Finding another GREAT bishop, more present in the parishes, being REALLY inclusive
loss of spiritual focus individualism incohesiveness
Focus , communication of direction, enabling all
Churches losing membership and funds, racial prejudice keeps us from living our Baptismal covenant, the same gap that exists between urban and rural Oregon.
Mental illness, homelessness, poverty
1. The divide between North and South; 2. Where to locate the diocesan headquarters; 3. Declining membership
1) The insidious atmosphere of cultural and political divisions which can and does divert us from our true identity as children of God 2) We are losing the ability to listen openly, with love and compassion, to those whose opinions and/or backgrounds are different from us 3) We can be diverted into thinking our mission is primarily finding solutions to the problems we see around us rather than calling all people to union with God and one another in Christ
Serving the rural parishes
Limited financial resources, shrinking congregations, lack of membership diversity
youth involvement, closure of small parishes, money insecurity
White privilege, untrusting, anxious
in some part more people on fixed income, more homeless people
population decline
Lack of clergy
Division between Portland and areas outside of Portland; shrinking number of Christian followers in Oregon; excessive focus on tribes and identity groups.
Outreach, , membership, Vision
decreasing interest in mainline Christianity; need for diverse communities to appreciate and support one another; need to integrate scripture, beliefs, and values
Lack of diversity despite lip service, many small struggling parishes, Oregon's unchurched demographics
Unacknowledged racism in the diocese. No interest in the mission of the church. Greed as in hoarding wealth and unwillingness to spend for mission and
Succession planning for older people
unknown
LBGT, ministry out reach, service
Community growth change
Aging Agenda Shrinking
1. Membership 2. Diversity 3. Geographical divide
1. Trust, perhaps commitment to live and work together - regionalist, urban, rural, bir, small congregations. 2. Small dead or dying congregations with lack of funds and funding for leadership to grow and change.3 lack of ecumenical commitment to work together with other Christians , especially our closest neighbors.
Increase diversity, attract young people, funding
fiscal, leadership, increasing growth
(1) Increasing secularism (re: the format of this questionnaire). (2) Ignorance of and diffidence toward our Anglican heritage of spirituality (as represented, say, by Thornton's English Spirituality). (3) Discernment of the call of the Holy Spirit to be the Church of Jesus Christ in this time and this place. I.e., really to listen to and for what the Holy Spirit is saying to us and then courageously being obedient to it.
support of small community parishes; attracting and keeping youth in the church; and well-trained dedicated people to clergy.
Small financially struggling parishes, Declining attendance, Large geographic area
dwindling membership-both laity and clergy, urban vs rural stress, too centralized
Financial, need for attracting, addressing and maintaining young adults needs and engagement in the church, addressing the gap between youth and adults, the 19-25 year old group, decreasing numbers in churches
Avoid politics/focus on people not issues/recruitment
Aging & shrinking parishes, lack of diversity, financial
Large area to cover. Dwindling congregations.
Membership, youth, progressive
Lack of involvement at the diocesan level, a sense of congregational silos, lack of transparency
Growth, outreach,
Ministering to our incredible diversity,
Financial crises. Ministering to both liberals and conservatives. Hiring good people. Ministering to very different groups of people.
overall declining church membership, finances, keeping current with technology people are used to living with in other areas of life
individualism,

