

Your Church Participation

1. How long have you been a member of this local church?

- Not a member 2 - 4 years 10 -19 years
 One year or less 5 - 9 years 20 or more years

2. How long does it usually take you to travel from home to church?

- 5 minutes or less 11 - 15 minutes 31 - 44 minutes
 6 - 10 minutes 16 - 30 minutes 45 or more minutes

3. On the average, about how many times have you attended church worship during the past year?

- None About once a month
 About once or twice a year About two or three times a month
 Once or twice every three months Four times a month or more

4. In how many church organizations, committees, and groups do you hold membership (not counting congregational membership itself)?

- None One Two Three Four or more

5. Has your involvement in the congregation increased, decreased, or remained about the same in the last few years?

- Increased Remained the same Decreased

If your participation has INCREASED, which of the following are reasons for that? (check all that apply):

- More time available Better health
 Because of children Stronger faith
 Accepted office or other new responsibility in the church More positive attitude toward the church

If your participation has DECREASED, which of the following are reasons for that? (check all that apply):

- Less time available Health problems
 Because of children Decreased faith
 Given up office or other new responsibility in the church More negative attitude toward our church

Tasks of the Church

Listed below are a number of tasks that a local church is likely to perform. Please respond to each item by indicating whether you feel your congregation needs to give it more emphasis; whether you are very or generally satisfied with your congregation's current performance of the task; or whether you feel the task currently receives too much emphasis.

	Needs More Emphasis	Very Satisfied	Generally Satisfied	Receives Too Much Emphasis
1. Offering worship that provides a meaningful experience of God and the Christian tradition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Providing worship that expresses the Gospel in contemporary language and forms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Providing Christian education for children and youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Providing Christian education programs for adults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Helping members deepen their personal, spiritual relationship with God	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Sharing the good news of the Gospel with the unchurched	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Engaging in acts of charity and service to persons in need	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Encouraging members to act on the relationship of the Christian faith to social, political, and economic issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Providing a caring ministry for the sick, shut-ins and the bereaved	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Providing pastoral counseling to help members deal with personal problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Providing fellowship opportunities for members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. Helping members understand their use of money, time and talents as expressions of Christian stewardship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. Supporting the global mission of the church/denomination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. Helping members discover their own gifts for ministry and service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. Participating in activities and programs with other local religious groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16. Expressing our denominational heritage/tradition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Overall, which ONE task does your congregation do best?

For the sake of your own personal involvement in your congregation, which ONE task would you most like to see strengthened?

Organizational Characteristics

In order to carry out its tasks, every church must deal with certain organizational issues, such as making decisions, sharing information, and developing resources. Listed below are a number of statements describing such issues. To what extent do you agree or disagree that each statement describes your congregation? A "Don't Know" response is provided, but please use it only when absolutely necessary.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1. Members are well informed about what the various committees and groups in the church are doing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. The activities taking place in the congregation are well publicized to the surrounding community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Study of the needs of the congregation and the community is regularly undertaken as the basis for church planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Members and groups get a lot of support and encouragement for trying something new in the congregation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Members are encouraged to discover their particular gifts for ministry and service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Lay leaders are provided the training they need for their committee and task assignments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Every member who is capable and interested has an equal opportunity to hold key leadership positions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. The theological and biblical implications of important decisions are regularly discussed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Important decisions about the life of the church are rarely made without open discussion by church leaders and members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Disagreements and conflicts are dealt with openly rather than hushed up or hidden behind closed doors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. It is easy to summarize for visitors and non-members how our congregation differs from other congregations in the area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. Members help each other out in times of trouble	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. Cooperative programs with churches of other denominations are highly valued in our church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. The current morale of our church membership is high	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. There is a sense of excitement among members about our church's future	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Congregational Identity

Listed below are several alternatives touching upon important dimensions of a church's identity. Using the seven point scale between each set of alternatives, please check the number which best describes where your congregation falls, "1" meaning most like the characteristic on the left, "7" meaning most like the characteristic on the right, "4" meaning an equal mix of both.

1.

	1 History and Tradition	2	3	4	5	6	7 Contemporary Ideas
Our church is more influenced by history and tradition OR by contemporary ideas and trends.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2.

	1 Similar To	2	3	4	5	6	7 Very Different From
Members are similar to OR very different from the people who live immediately around the church.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3.

	1 Very Involved	2	3	4	5	6	7 Not at all Involved
Our church is very involved OR not at all involved with the community around the church.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4.

	1 Serving our Members	2	3	4	5	6	7 Serving the World
Our church is primarily oriented to serving our members OR to serving the world beyond our membership.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5.

	1 One Large Family	2	3	4	5	6	7 Loose Knit Association
Our congregation feels like one large family OR like a loosely knit association of individuals and groups.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6.

	1 Known as Prestigious	2	3	4	5	6	7 Not "Status" Church
Our church is known as a prestigious one in the area OR is not considered one of the "status" churches in the area.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7.

1 Educational 2 3 4 5 6 7 Activist

Our church's approach to social issues is basically educational, leaving any action to individual conscience OR is decidedly "activist". We take stands on social issues as a congregation.

8.

1 Gradual Growth 2 3 4 5 6 7 Conversion

Our congregation's approach to individual salvation emphasizes education, nurture and gradual growth in faith OR stresses conversion and a born-again experience.

9.

1 Strong Denominational 2 3 4 5 6 7 Difficult to Know

Our congregation gives strong expression to our denominational identity and heritage OR it's difficult to know to which denomination our congregation belongs.

10.

1 Create Partnerships 2 3 4 5 6 7 Work by Ourselves

Our congregation strives to create partnerships with other local churches OR prefers to work by ourselves or through our denominational channels.

All congregations have an identity, or a sense of who they are, that all members share in and yet any individual member stands somewhat apart from. Please rate your agreement or disagreement with the following statements from your perspective as an individual looking at your congregation's overall identity and vision.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

1. Our church's identity, as it is, is one with which I feel comfortable.

2. It is easy for me to tell my friends what is unique about our church.

3. I have a clear understanding of what our church stands for.

4. An effective effort was made to instruct me in our church's mission.

5. I have a strong sense of belonging to this congregation.

6. Being at this church has made a difference in my spiritual life.

Worship

For you, personally, how important are each of the following in the mix of qualities that make a good worship service?

	Need to have more emphasis	Very satisfied	Generally satisfied	Receives too much attention
1. Providing time for members to greet one another	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Providing worship that is emotionally moving	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Providing worship that is intellectually challenging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Attention given to sacraments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Lay participation in leading worship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Use of inclusive, non-sexist language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Use of creeds or statements of faith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Silent prayer/meditation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Having parts of the worship especially for children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Use of new or unfamiliar hymns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Corporate prayer in which the entire congregation participates	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. Providing worship at times other than Sunday morning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. Use of contemporary worship styles, music and language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

For you, personally, how important are each of the following in the mix of qualities that make a good sermon?

	Essential	Important	Not very important	Downright distracting
1. Makes me reflect on issues and events that go beyond my personal life and local community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Contains scholarly or literary illustrations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Is biblically based and illustrated	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Is challenging and thought-provoking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Is comforting and reassuring	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Program Evaluation: Education

How satisfied are you with the following aspects of our Christian Education program:

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Children's program (0 - 5th grade)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth program (6th - 12th grade)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adult program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The total number of people in our education programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The times and days our programs are held	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The training provided our teachers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you were going to attend adult programs, which three of the following are the BEST times for you?

- Weekend retreat
- Weekday evening
- Saturday morning
- Sunday morning
- Weekday morning
- Sunday evening
- Weekday afternoon

If you have a child in PreK-12th grade, which two of the following is the best time for them to attend youth programs.

- Weekend retreat
- Sunday before worship
- Saturday morning
- Sunday post worship
- Wednesday Evening
- Sunday evening
- Wednesday after school

Program Evaluation: Community & Social Involvement

In your judgment how high or low a priority would you like each of the following to be for the way the congregation could be involved with community and social issues?

	High priority	Moderate priority	Low priority	No priority
1. Providing food based services (meals, food pantry items, holiday meal boxes, etc...)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Providing non-food items to those in need (clothing, bedding, personal care items, etc...)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Providing financial help to individuals in need.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Calling attention to social, community and world issues from the pulpit and in study groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Providing meeting space for community groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Giving money to faith based program aligned with our denominational traditions. (ELCA or ecumenical partner programs)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Giving money to community programs (not faithbased)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Size and Condition of Facilities

Please assess each of the following in terms of size.

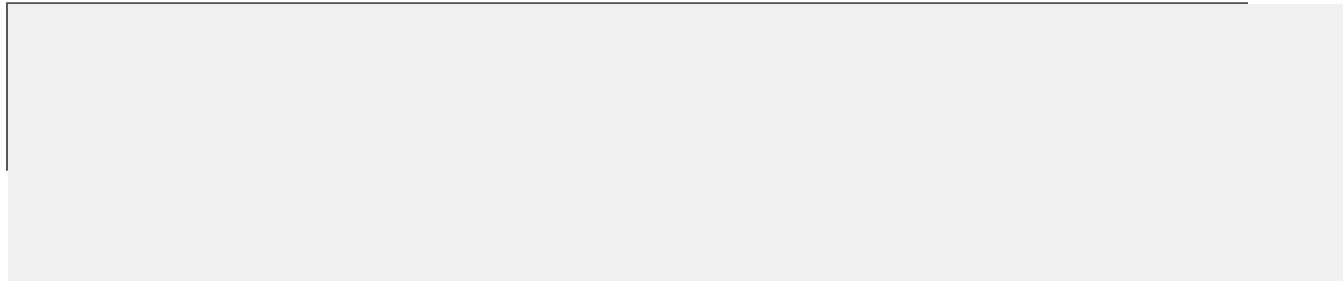
	Excellent	Adequate	Needs attention, but not immediately	Needs immediate attention
Worship space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fellowship space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Office space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please assess each of the following in terms of general condition and aesthetic appeal.

	Excellent	Adequate	Needs attention, but not immediately	Needs immediate attention
Worship space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fellowship space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Office space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exterior and grounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The Future Church

Now that you have spent this time reflecting on the congregation present situation, think for a bit about your vision for the future of this church. Please take a few final minutes and discuss your hope for the church's future. What are your dreams, desires, and wishes for the church over the next five years?



**Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.
We appreciate the time and thought you have given to it.**