Congregational Vitality Questionnaire: Sample Survey

This PDF shows the questions of the paper form provided for the in-depth survey. The real form appears as a 2 sided bubble-sheet.
DO NOT USE THIS FORM. **To take this survey please contact your synod's Director for Evangelical Mission**.

1. Please tell us how well each of these phrases describes your congregation.

	Hardly at all		Some-what		Very Well	Don't Know
a. This place is spiritually vital	`	`	`	`	`	`
b. There is excitement about the future here	`	`	`	`	`	`
c. There is a clear sense of mission here	`	`	`	`	`	`
d. This place helps people deepen their relationship with God	`	`	`	`	`	`
e. This congregation works for social justice/advocacy	`	`	`	`	`	`
f. This congregation is a close-knit family	`	`	`	`	`	`
g. This congregation is a positive force in the community	`	`	`	`	`	`
h. This congregation is focused on doing God's work	`	`	`	`	`	`
i. This place has lots of meaningful activities	`	`	`	`	`	`
j. This congregation is always ready to try something new	`	`	`	`	`	`

2. How well do the following phrases describe the worship service you attend most often?

	Hardly at all		Some -what		Very well	Don't know
a. Welcoming to visitors	`	`	`	`	`	`
b. Filled with a sense of God's presence	`	`	`	`	`	`
c. Joyful	`	`	`	`	`	`
d. Nurturing of people's faith	`	`	`	`	`	`

3. Describe the social climate of this congregation. (Choose one.)

` This congregation's social groups live together in harmony.
` There is tension among different groups. It feels like there are sides being taken on issues.
` The sides in this congregation result in open but respectful disagreements.
` The sides in this congregation are in conflict that is harmful to the congregation at large.

4. Which one category best describes you:

` Visitor
` Rostered leader called to this congregation
` Congregational Council member
` Active participant/member
` Rostered leader, not serving this congregation

5. Please tell us how well your congregation does at the following:

	Poorly		Moderately Well		Great	Don't know
a. Accepting newcomers	`	`	`	`	`	`
b. Incorporating newcomers into the congregation's life	`	`	`	`	`	`
c. Seeking out and using the gifts of members of all ages	`	`	`	`	`	`
d. Building strong, healthy relationships among members	`	`	`	`	`	`
e. Managing disagreements in a healthy respectful manner	`	`	`	`	`	`
f. Involving youth or young adults in decision-making	`	`	`	`	`	`
g. Helping children and youth grow in their faith	`	`	`	`	`	`
h. Helping adults grow in their faith	`	`	`	`	`	`
i. Praying (during and outside worship services)	`	`	`	`	`	`
j. Addressing social concerns (helping those in need)	`	`	`	`	`	`
k. Equipping members to share their faith with others	`	`	`	`	`	`
l. Interacting with the local community	`	`	`	`	`	`
m. Partnering with other congregations in the area	`	`	`	`	`	`
n. Sharing information about the ELCA or synod with congregational members	`	`	`	`	`	`
o. Helping members live out their faith in their daily lives	`	`	`	`	`	`

6. How would you best describe the current pace of your spiritual growth? (Choose one.)

` Not growing but content where I am
` Stalled and want to move
` Slow but steady
` Moderate
` Rapid

7. Which of the following is the best description of the style of leadership of your congregation? (Choose one.)

` Leadership that tends to take charge
` Leadership that inspires people to take action
` Leadership that acts on goals that people here have been involved in setting
` Leadership where people start most things
` Not sure

(over)

8. Indicate your level of agreement with the following:

	Strongly Disagree	Dis-Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. My spiritual needs are being met in this congregation	`	`	`	`
b. I have a sense of excitement about this congregation's future	`	`	`	`
c. I feel supported in using my gifts in this congregation	`	`	`	`
d. I am encouraged to use my gifts in the world	`	`	`	`
e. I feel equipped to share my faith with others	`	`	`	`
f. I am comfortable inviting others to church	`	`	`	`
g. I have a strong sense of belonging to this congregation	`	`	`	`
h. I have a strong sense of commitment to this congregation	`	`	`	`
i. I feel connected to the wider Christian church	`	`	`	`
j. I feel connected to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (e.g. other local ELCA congregs, synod, the ELCA in USA and worldwide)	`	`	`	`

9. Please describe the impact the following areas are having on your congregation. Are they helping or hurting overall vitality?

	Hurting	Neutral	Helping	Don't Know
a. Administration (managing finances, personnel, property)	`	`	`	`
b. Facility conditions	`	`	`	`
c. Public technology (Website and/or social media)	`	`	`	`
d. Equipment/tech in the office	`	`	`	`
e. Equipment/tech in worship	`	`	`	`
f. Income: Regular giving	`	`	`	`
g. Endowment or other financial resources	`	`	`	`
h. Expenses: how the congregation spends money	`	`	`	`
i. Decision making	`	`	`	`
j. Leadership structure	`	`	`	`
k. Communication among leadership	`	`	`	`
l. Communication between leadership and congregation	`	`	`	`
m. Unofficial leaders' impact on congregation	`	`	`	`
n. Energy level to participate beyond worship	`	`	`	`
o. Willingness to serve in leadership roles	`	`	`	`

10. During the past 12 months, how often have you done the following?

	Never	Once	At least 2-3x a year	Regularly (most months)	Once a month or more
a. Attend worship	`	`	`	`	`
b. Participate in regular devotionals, prayer or study	`	`	`	`	`
c. Volunteer in the community (not organized by congreg)	`	`	`	`	`
d. Volunteer at or with the congregation	`	`	`	`	`
e. Advocate for social justice	`	`	`	`	`
f. Donate money to congregation	`	`	`	`	`
g. Donate money beyond my pledge (in congreg or community)	`	`	`	`	`
h. Have meaningful spiritual conversations with congreg members	`	`	`	`	`
i. Have meaningful spiritual conversations with others	`	`	`	`	`
j. Invite others to church	`	`	`	`	`

11. Describe the overall vitality of this congregation. (Choose one.)

` I am not sure this congregation will survive much longer
` We are struggling but still viable
` We are stable
` We are strong and steady
` We are thriving

12. Are you:

` Male
` Female

13. How old are you?

` Under 18
` 18 to 24
` 25 to 34
` 35 to 44
` 45 to 54
` 55 to 64
` 65 to 74
` 75 or older

14. Are you:

` African American/Black
` African National/African-Caribbean
` American Indian/Alaska Native
` Asian/Pacific Islander
` Latino/Hispanic
` Arab/Middle Eastern
` Multiracial
` White/Caucasian
` Other

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