
FAITH COMMUNITIES TODAY

*A Congregational Survey Of
American Baptist Churches*

*In Association With The
Cooperative Congregational Studies Project*

I. Your Congregation's Location and Building

- In what ZIP code area is this congregation's primary place of worship **physically located**? _____ (If you use a P.O. Box or forward your mail your zip code **location** may not be the same as your **mailing** zip code)
- In what year did your congregation begin worshiping in its current sanctuary? _____
- How would you describe the place where your congregation's primary worship building is located?

- Rural or open country ₁
- Town or village of less than 10,000 . . . ₂
- In or around a **city** of:
 - 10,000 - 49,999 ₃
 - 50,000-249,999 ₄
 - 250,000+ ₅

[Note: If you check 3, 4 or 5, please answer **A & B** below]

- A. If in or around a city, is your building located:**
- Downtown or in the inner city ₁
 - In another part of the city (e.g. older residential area) . . ₂
 - In an older *suburb* around the city ₃
 - In a newer *suburb* around the city ₄
- B. If in or around a city, is your building located:**
- In a residential area ₁
 - In a mixed residential and commercial/industrial area . . ₂
 - In a commercial or industrial area ₃

- How adequate are the following for the **current needs** of your congregation?:

(✓ one each line)	<u>Much More Than We Need</u>	<u>Slightly More Than We Need</u>	<u>Just About Right</u>	<u>Slightly Less Than We Need</u>	<u>Much Less Than We Need</u>
A. Your worship space	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. Your educational space	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. Your fellowship space	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. Space for parking	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

- What is the total seating capacity of your sanctuary? _____
- How would you describe the overall physical condition of your congregation's building(s)? (✓ one)
 - ₁ Excellent ₂ Good ₃ Needs improvement ₄ In serious need of improvement & repair
- How many congregations use your building space for worship? (Including your congregation) _____

II. Congregational Worship

- Worship Services.** [Note: if your congregation holds worship less than once a week, check here and answer for a typical weekend you do hold services]

	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday AM</i>	<i>Sunday PM</i>
A. How many worship services does your congregation have on each of the following days/times on a typical weekend?				
B. What is the total attendance for all services held on this day/time on a typical weekend?				
C. If you typically hold more than one service on the weekend, are these services: (✓ one)				
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Very similar in style (other than the language used) <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ One or more is <i>somewhat different</i> in style from the rest <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ One or more is <i>very different</i> in style from the rest				

2. Please list all the languages in which your congregation conducts worship services on a typical weekend:

3. About how full is your place of worship at the service with the largest attendance?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Less than 20% | <input type="checkbox"/> ₄ 61 to 80% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ 21 to 40% | <input type="checkbox"/> ₅ More than 80% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ 41 to 60% | <input type="checkbox"/> ₆ Completely full, with some people standing |

4. How well do the following describe your worship service with the largest attendance? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Very Well</u>	<u>Quite Well</u>	<u>Some-What</u>	<u>Slightly</u>	<u>Not At All</u>
A. It is reverent	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. It is joyful	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. It is friendly	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. It is informal	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
E. It is exciting	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
F. It includes formal liturgy	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
G. It is innovative	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
H. It is predictable	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
I. It has a sense of expectancy	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
J. It has a sense of God's presence	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
K. It uses gender neutral or inclusive language	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

5. How often does the sermon in your worship service(s) **focus** on: (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>
A. God's love and care	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. Practical advice for daily living	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. Personal spiritual growth	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. Social justice or social action	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
E. The mystery of God	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
F. Personal Salvation	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
G. Struggling with faith and belief	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
H. Living a moral life	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
I. Stewardship of time and money	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

6. How often does the sermon include **a lot of**: (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>
A. Personal stories or first-hand experiences	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. Literary or scholarly references	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. Illustrations from contemporary media (e.g., magazines, newspapers, television, movies, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. Detailed explanations of scripture or doctrine	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

7. How often are the following included as part of your congregation's worship service(s)? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>
A. Reading/recitation of creeds or statements of faith	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. A time for members to testify about their faith	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. A time during worship for people to greet each other	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. The use of visual projection equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
E. The use of incense or candles	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
F. Dance or drama	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
G. Kneeling by the congregation	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

8. How often are the following used in your congregation's worship service(s)? (✓ one on each line)

	<i>Always</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Seldom</i>	<i>Never</i>
A. Organ and/or piano	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. Electronic keyboard or synthesizer	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. Electric guitar or bass	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. Non-electronic string or wind instruments	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
E. Drums or other percussion instruments	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
F. Recorded music (tapes, cd's, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

9. When visitors attend worship services at your church, *about* how many members usually welcome them?
₁ More than five ₂ Three to five ₃ One or two ₄ None

10. In comparison to the style of your congregation's primary worship service 5 years ago, would you say the style of your current primary worship service: [Skip if your church is less than 5 years old]
₁ Is basically the same ₂ Changed a little ₃ Changed more than a little ₄ Changed a lot

11. How well does each of the following statements describe your congregation? (✓ one on each line)

	<i>Very Well</i>	<i>Quite Well</i>	<i>Some-What</i>	<i>Slightly</i>	<i>Not At All</i>
A. Our congregation is like a close-knit family	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. Our congregation is spiritually vital and alive	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. Our congregation is working for social justice	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. Our congregation helps members deepen their relationship with God	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
E. We are trying to increase our racial/ethnic diversity	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
F. Our congregation celebrates its ABC heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
G. We are a moral beacon in our community	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
H. We welcome new ways of doing worship and ministry	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
I. Disagreements and conflicts are dealt with openly here	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
J. Our worship services are inspirational and uplifting	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
K. Our congregation has a strong racial/ethnic or national identity it is trying to preserve	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
L. Members are excited about the future of our church	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
M. New members are easily incorporated into the life of our congregation	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
N. We have a clear sense of mission and purpose	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
O. Our congregation provides many opportunities for members to learn about their faith	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
P. Our programs and activities are well-organized	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
Q. The community around the church is well informed about the activities taking place in our congregation	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

12. How important are the following sources of authority in the worship and teaching of your congregation?
 (✓ one on each line)

	<i>Absolutely Foundational</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Little Or No Importance</i>
A. The Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
B. Historic creeds, doctrines & tradition	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
C. Revelation of the Holy Spirit	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
D. Human reason	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
E. Personal intuition or enlightenment	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

F. Now please write the letter of the **one** source of authority that is **most important** in your congregation's worship and teaching (as difficult a choice as this may be) in this box →

III. Your Congregation's Participants

1. Approximately how many persons would you say are associated **in any way** with the religious life of this congregation — counting both adults and children, counting both regular and irregular participants, counting both official or registered members and also participating nonmembers? → → _____

2. Approximately how many persons — both adults and children — would you say **regularly participate** in the religious life of your congregation — *whether or not* they are officially members of your congregation?

A. Number of **regularly participating** adults (18 and over) → → → → → → → _____

B. Number of **regularly participating** children and teens (17 and under) → → _____

3. Since 1995, has the above number of **regularly participating adults**: (✓ one)

- ₁ Increased 10% or more ₃ Stayed about the same (+/- 4%) ₄ Decreased 5% to 9%
₂ Increased 5% to 9% ₅ Decreased 10% or more

4. Of your total number of **regularly participating adults**, what percent would you estimate are:

	None	Hardly Any 1-10%	Few 11-20%	Some 21-40%	Many 41-60%	Most 61-80%	All or Nearly All 81-100%
A. Female	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
B. Not high school graduates	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
C. College graduates	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
D. Age 35 or younger	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
E. Over 60 years old	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
F. Married	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
G. Life-long ABC members	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
H. New to our congregation in the last five years	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
I. Living in the immediate area around our church building	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
J. Commuting more than 15 minutes to get to our worship services	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
K. Currently holding volunteer leadership roles in our church (serve on committees; teach Sunday school)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
L. In households with incomes below \$20,000	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
M. In households with incomes above \$75,000	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇
N. In households with children under 18 present	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇

5. Of your total number of **regularly participating adults**, how many would you estimate are:

- American Indian/Alaska Native _____
- Asian _____
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander _____
- Black or African American _____
- Hispanic or Latino/a _____
- White _____
- Biracial/multiracial _____

Within these racial/ethnic groups, are there any significant national sub-groups (e.g. German, Korean, Irish, Mexican, Caribbean, etc)? ₁ Yes ₂ No **IF YES**, please list them _____

6. How would you describe the basic *theological* outlook of the majority of your regularly participating adults? (✓ one)

- ₁ Very conservative ₃ Moderate ₄ Somewhat progressive or liberal
₂ Somewhat Conservative ₅ Very progressive or liberal

7. Would you describe the regularly participating adults in your congregation as basically similar or dissimilar to nearby residents in terms of race, ethnicity, income, age and lifestyle? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>Similar</u>	<u>Dissimilar</u>
A. Race	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
B. Ethnicity (culture or language)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
C. Income	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
D. Age	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
E. Lifestyle	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂

IV. Congregational Programs

1. During the past 12 months, did your congregation have any of the following programs or activities in addition to Sunday school or church school?

- IF YES:**
- A one-time, short-term or occasional event?
 - On-going during a particular season?
 - On-going throughout the year?

Circle all "Yeses" that apply

	No	----- Yes -----		
		<i>One-Time, Short-Term, Occasional</i>	<i>On-going During A Season</i>	<i>On-going Thru The Year</i>
A. Bible study (other than Sunday school)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
B. Theological or doctrinal study	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
C. Prayer or meditation groups	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
D. Spiritual retreats	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
E. Community service	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
F. Parenting or marriage enrichment	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
G. Choir(s)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
H. Other performing arts (e.g., music, dance, drama)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
I. Groups that discuss books or contemporary issues	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
J. Self-help or personal growth groups	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
K. Exercise, fitness or weight loss groups/classes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
L. Sports teams	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
M. Youth/Teen activities	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
N. Young Adult activities	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
O. Senior Adult activities	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
P. Mens/Womens ministries (e.g., AB Men, AB Women)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

2. To what extent does your congregation emphasize in its worship and education the following **home or personal practices**? (✓ one on each line)

	<u>A Great Deal</u>	<u>Quite A Bit</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>A Little</u>	<u>Not At All</u>
A. Personal prayer, meditation or devotions	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. Studying the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. Family devotions	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. Fasting	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
E. Observing dietary restrictions	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
F. Abstinence from alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
G. Keeping the Sabbath day Holy	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
H. Abstaining from premarital sex	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

3. Does your church have an organized program for keeping up with members' needs and providing ministry at the neighborhood level (e.g., shepherding, deacon/elder, care group, area pastor)? ₁ Yes ₂ No

4. Many churches make use of small groups for fellowship, spiritual nurture, etc. (in addition to Sunday school). Which statement best describes your congregation?
- ₁ Such groups do not exist within our congregation
₂ A few such groups meet, but they are not central to our congregation's program
₃ Small groups are central to our strategy for Christian nurture and spiritual formation
5. To what extent are the teenage children of church members involved in the religious life of your congregation?
- ₁ Very great extent ₂ Large extent ₃ Some extent ₄ Slight extent ₅ Not at all
6. If someone visited your church and indicated that they were a visitor in the friendship book, registration book, or on a visitor's card, how long would it take on average before they received a *visit* or *phone call* from the church?
- ₁ We have no visitor's cards or friendship/registration books for visitors to identify themselves
₂ Within a few days ₃ Within a week ₄ Within a few weeks ₅ More than a few weeks (or never)
₆ No visits or phone calls, but we do send a letter
7. About how many *visits* or *phone calls* to prospective members, worship visitors, or newcomers in the community does the ministerial staff of your church make in an average month? _____
8. To what extent are your church members involved in recruiting new members?
- ₁ Very great extent ₂ Large extent ₃ Some extent ₄ Slight extent ₅ Not at all
9. Are efforts made to provide special parking or seating for visitors to your church? ₁ Yes ₂ No
10. During the past 12 months, did your congregation do any of the following to reach out to nonmembers or less active members, or to make your church better known in your community?

(✓ One on each line)

	Yes <i>Done in last 12 Months</i>	No, but church members . . . <i>Would Support This Activity</i>	<i>Would Not Support This Activity</i>
A. Advertisements or stories in local newspapers	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
B. Radio or television advertisements	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
C. Direct mail or distribution of announcements to area residents	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
D. A programmed growth or evangelistic campaign	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
E. Efforts to identify and contact people who recently moved into our congregation's area	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
F. Stressing the importance of sharing one's faith	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
G. Special worship services intended to attract the unchurched ("bring a friend" or seeker services, revivals, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
H. Special programs (parenting classes, concerts, festivals) intended to attract the unchurched in our community	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
I. Phone calls or personal visits by the ministerial staff	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
J. Phone calls or personal visits by lay members	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃

11. During the last 12 months, was your congregation involved in any of the following types of inter-congregational, ecumenical or interfaith activities?

(Circle all the "Yeses" that apply)

	<i>With other congregations or persons:</i>			
	<i>No</i>	<i>From the ABC</i>	<i>From other Christian Denominations</i>	<i>From other Faith Traditions</i>
A. Joint worship services	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
B. Joint celebrations or programs other than worship	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
C. Joint service projects	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
D. Councils of churches or ministerial associations	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

12. In the past 12 months, did your congregation provide, or cooperate in providing, any of the following services for your

own congregation's members or for people in the community?

[including material or financial contributions, volunteer time by church members, or space in your building]

No

----- Yes, circle all that apply -----
 Provided Directly By Your Congregation Cooperated With Another Congregation, Agency, Or Organization

	<u>No</u>	Yes	Yes
A. Food pantry, soup kitchen or food donations	No	Yes	Yes
B. Cash or vouchers given to families or individuals	No	Yes	Yes
C. Thrift store or thrift store donations	No	Yes	Yes
D. Temporary or permanent shelter/housing	No	Yes	Yes
E. Counseling services or support groups	No	Yes	Yes
F. Substance abuse & 12-step recovery programs	No	Yes	Yes
G. Day care, pre-school, before/after-school programs	No	Yes	Yes
H. Tutoring or literacy programs	No	Yes	Yes
I. Voter registration or voter education	No	Yes	Yes
J. Organized social issue advocacy	No	Yes	Yes
K. Employment counseling, placement or training	No	Yes	Yes
L. Health programs, clinics, health education	No	Yes	Yes
M. Hospital, nursing home or assisted care facilities	No	Yes	Yes
N. Prison or jail ministry	No	Yes	Yes
O. Community organizing	No	Yes	Yes
P. Program for migrants or immigrants	No	Yes	Yes
Q. Senior citizen programs (other than housing)	No	Yes	Yes

13. In a typical month, about how many people *do you estimate* are served through the services your congregation directly provides? Estimated number of people served _____

V. Leadership And Organizational Dynamics

1. Please describe the current (senior) pastor by checking all of the boxes that apply or filling in the requested information. If you have **co-pastors**, please check here and answer the following for the *older* of your co-pastors. If you do not currently have a pastor, please check here and skip to question 3.

A. Age? ____ Years old

B. ₁ Paid ₂ Volunteer

C. ₁ Full time ₂ Full time, supplemented by outside employment

₃ Part time → IF PART TIME does s/he also: 1) Serve another congregation? ₁ Yes ₂ No
 2) Work a secular job? ₁ Yes ₂ No

D. ₁ Male ₂ Female

E. ₁ Regular call ₂ Temporary/interim

F. Highest level of education (✓ one):

- ₁ High school diploma or less
- ₂ Some college or technical
- ₃ College Bachelor's Degree
- ₄ Masters Degree
- ₅ Doctoral Degree

G. Highest level of *ministerial* education (✓ one):

- ₁ None
- ₂ Certificate or correspondence program
- ₃ Bible college or some seminary
- ₄ Seminary Masters Degree (e.g., M.Div., M.R.E.)
- ₅ Post-Masters, seminary degree (e.g., D.Min., Ph.D.)

H. Race/ethnicity (✓ one):

- ₁ American Indian/Alaska Native
- ₂ Asian
- ₃ Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- ₄ Black or African American
- ₅ Hispanic or Latino/a
- ₆ White
- ₇ Other _____

I. This person became your (senior) pastor in what year? 19_____

2. How well would most of your members say the following statements describe your (senior) pastor?

(✓ one on each line)

	<u>Very Well</u>	<u>Quite Well</u>	<u>Some-What</u>	<u>Slightly</u>	<u>Not At All</u>
A. Good preacher	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
B. Knows how to get people to work together	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
C. Charismatic leader	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
D. Cares about people	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
E. Effective administrator	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
F. Has a close relationship with God	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
G. Generates enthusiasm	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
H. Has a clear vision for the congregation	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
I. Knows how to get things done	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
J. Knows the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
K. Mediates conflict	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
L. Hard worker	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
M. Evangelistic	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
N. Effective teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

3. How many (senior) pastors, including the current one, have served this congregation during the past 10 years?

4. How many years did the previous (senior) pastor serve this congregation? _____ years

5. How many paid, ministerial staff and program staff does this congregation have (including the current pastor)?

A. Number full time, paid _____ B. Number part time, paid _____

6. How easy or difficult is it for your church to recruit people for volunteer leadership roles? (✓ one)

- ₁ We have no problem recruiting volunteer leaders
- ₂ Recruiting volunteer leaders is a continual challenge, but we eventually find enough willing people
- ₃ We can't find enough people who are willing to serve

7. During the last **five years** has your congregation experienced any disagreements or conflicts in the following areas?
(✓ one on each line)

	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes, and it was:</u>		
		<u>Very Serious</u>	<u>Moderately Serious</u>	<u>Not Very Serious</u>
A. Theology	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
B. Money/Finances/Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
C. How worship is conducted	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
D. Program/mission priorities or emphases	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
E. Who should make a decision	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
F. Pastor's leadership style	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
G. Pastor's personal behavior	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
H. Member's personal behavior	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
I. Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

8. If your congregation experienced serious conflict in any of the above areas in the past five years, was the conflict resolved or does it still affect the life of your congregation? (✓ one)

- ₁ All conflicts were resolved with no negative consequences
- ₂ All conflicts were resolved, but resulted in some negative consequences (people left the church, etc.)
- ₃ Some conflict still exists, but it is no longer serious
- ₄ We still have serious conflict in this congregation

9. When your congregation purchases worship, educational, stewardship, evangelism, etc. materials or

supplies, does it purchase them: (✓ one)

- ₁ Exclusively from within the ABC
- ₂ Primarily from within the ABC
- ₃ From a pretty even balance between ABC and non-ABC sources
- ₄ Primarily from outside the ABC
- ₅ Exclusively from outside the ABC

10. Which **one** of the following three statements best describes your congregation? (✓ one)

- ₁ Our congregation has definite expectations for members that are strictly enforced
- ₂ Our congregation has fairly clear expectations for members, but the enforcement of these expectations is not very strict
- ₃ Our congregation has only implicit expectations for members that are seldom, if ever, enforced

11. Does your congregation have a mission or vision statement? ₁ Yes ₂ No

IF YES, Which of the following are true? (if you have both types of statements, answer A-D for the *vision* statement)

	<u>True</u>	<u>False</u>
A. Most members know the statement	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
B. The statement is displayed publicly in our church	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
C. The statement has been used to determine spending priorities	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
D. The statement has been used to resolve disputes	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂

VI. Finances

1. How would you describe your congregation's financial health currently and 5 years ago (1995)?

- A. Currently:** ₁ Excellent ₂ Good ₃ Tight, but we manage ₄ In some difficulty ₅ In serious difficulty
- B. In 1995:** ₁ Excellent ₂ Good ₃ Tight, but we managed ₄ In some difficulty ₅ In serious difficulty

2. Approximately how much income did your congregation receive last year from **all** sources? \$ _____

3. Approximately what percentage of your congregation's total *income* last year was received from endowments or investments? _____% or None

4. Approximately what percentage of your congregation's *total expenditures* were for the following last year?

A. All staff salaries and benefits	_____%
B. Congregation operations (including building and grounds, utilities, mortgage, insurance, equipment, etc.)	_____%
C. Capital improvements (new buildings, renovations, etc.)	_____%
D. Program support and materials (for Sunday school, evangelism, fellowship, etc.)	_____%
E. ABC mission work (World Mission Support, dues, America for Christ offering, etc.)	_____%
F. Other local mission work (not through your Association or Regional Organization)	_____%
G. Other national and international mission work and programs (not through the ABC)	_____%
H. Subsidies to school, day care or before/after school program	_____%
I. Money put into reserve/endowments/investments	_____%
J. Other expenditures _____	_____%

5. What is the approximate total dollar amount of all expenditures? \$ _____

6. Does your congregation have a formal, written annual budget? ₁ Yes ₂ No

Thank you for participating!

Please return to: Light Consultants, Inc., 1203 Denise Circle, Phoenixville, PA. 19460