

Congregational Survey

This is an example of a survey that you can use for your church to help you gauge how your congregation is doing and how well they understand the church.

You can take the statements and questions below to make your own survey free on google forms. All you need is a google account (Gmail) to make it. You can even share the google with everyone in your church. You can even share the results with specific people even if they don't have a google account.

To make a google form all you have to do is go to your Gmail account and in the top right corner a dot grid of 9 dots, click on grid, then scroll down to forms and click on forms. From there click on Blank Form. Now you are ready to get started making your survey. All you have to do is give the form a title in the top left and also a title and description at the top of the form. Below we have we have a sample title and description/statement for you to use.

When making a question use the drop down option on the right to select your style of question. For each sample question below at the top of it, there is a suggestion of what type of question to select. Once you have chosen your question type, put the question in the Untitled Question section to left at the top. Then fill in any other requirements if needed for multiple-choice questions and others like it.

Take some time to familiarize yourself with google forms, it is simple to use but they do have some good options like adding a video or images in certain spots. You can even make sections to help break-up the questions to where the person taking the survey has to click next in order to go on. You can also select Required in the bottom right of each question, this means that they cannot finish the survey without answering the question.

This survey could also be made in surveymonkey. Here is a link to a sample to see what it could look like: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/riseupsample>

(Opening statement of Survey)

2025 Church Congregational Survey

Thank you in advance for participating!

As a part of our work in finding a new pastor, the Pastoral Search Committee would like your input in describing our church as you presently experience it. We would like your thoughts about its strengths, its weaknesses, the needs you foresee for our church in the next five to ten years, the priorities you think our next pastor should have, and the qualities you believe he/she should possess.

It will probably take between 20-30 minutes to thoughtfully answer the questions on this questionnaire. Please consider this an investment in helping find the person who can effectively lead our church in the next phase of its growth. Try to be as honest as you can. Your questionnaire will remain anonymous unless you choose to sign it.

This survey was created exclusively for current attendees and members. Please do not ask friends or family members outside our church family to participate or share this link.

Thank you for your thoughtful input. It will be carefully reviewed by the committee.

The Board of Deacons

(ENTER YOUR CHURCH NAME HERE)

(Checkbox Question)

What is your gender?

Male or Female

(Checkbox Question)

Into which age group do you fall?

15-19, 20-34, 35-49, 50-64, 65 or over

(Checkbox Question)

For approximately how many years have you been a Christian?

Less than a year, 1-5 years, 6-10 years, 11-15 years, 16-20 years, more than 20 years

(Checkbox Question)

For about how many years have you been a (ENTER YOUR CHURCH NAME HERE) attendee?

Less than a year, 1-2 years, 3-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-11 years, 12-14 years, 15-17 years, 18-20 years, more than 20 years

(Checkbox Question)

For how many years have you been an official voting member of (ENTER YOUR CHURCH NAME HERE)?

Less than a year, 1-2 years, 3-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-11 years, 12-14 years, 15-17 years, 18-20 years, more than 20 years, not an official member

(Paragraph Question)

Please identify three (3) or more areas where this church does well meeting your needs or the needs of others.

(Paragraph Question)

Please identify one (1) or more areas where this church does NOT do well meeting your needs or the needs of others.

(Paragraph Question)

Are there any problems or challenges within the congregation that the board or the next pastor should attempt to address? If so, please specifically describe the problem. If not, please leave blank.

(Paragraph Question)

What ministries will the church need in the next five to ten years that it does not currently have?

(Paragraph Question)

In which areas of Christian living do you hope the next pastor's ministry will challenge you to grow most?

(Statement for next section)

Church Health

We would like your feedback on the current health of our church. Your responses will help us determine what kind of interim leadership will be needed during our

pastoral search. Please review each of the categories below and select the option that you feel best describes our church.

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the relationship between the Pastor and the Board?

Harmony and mutual support - Normal give-and-take - Characterized by tension attempts at reconciliation - Tension without reconciliation - Open criticism and accusation

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the pastor's departure?

Pastor retired out of this ministry - Pastor was called to another ministry - Pastor left without having another ministry - Pastor was asked to leave - Pastor was dismissed for cause

(Dropdown Question)

What best describes the Pastor's tenure at the church?

6-12 years, well regarded by most - 4-8 years, well regarded by most - 4-8 years, mixed reviews - More than 8 years and well regarded --OR-- Less than 4 years and not well regarded - More than 12 years and highly esteemed --OR-- less than 2 years and not well regarded

(Dropdown Question)

What is the location of the former Pastor?

More than 100 miles away - More than 25 miles away - Still in community looking to move - Still in community not looking to move - Still in the church or planting another church in the same community

(Dropdown Question)

What is the current state of unity within the church?

No families expected to leave - Less than 10% of the families likely to leave - 10% of families likely to leave - 25% of families likely to leave - More than 50% of families likely to leave

(Dropdown Question)

How would you rate the maturity of leadership in the church?

Leaders mature, trained, rotational turnover - some maturity, no training, some planned turn over - No training, some unplanned turn over - No training, high unplanned turn over - Elected leaders have resigned due to conflict

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the nature of the leadership in the church?

Healthy turnover of leadership; former board members and leaders become good followers - Elected and non-elected leaders are aligned - Same people always elected - Elected leaders are cautious and afraid to lead - Non-elected leadership in charge

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the leadership meetings in the church?

Prayer and vision dominate agenda - Short-range goals dominate the agenda - Business dominates agenda - Problems dominate agenda - Survival dominates agenda

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the clarity of vision at the church?

The church has formal vision documents that are clear and agreed upon - The church has vision documents, but people can't articulate the vision - The vision documents exist, but little agreement - The vision documents are outdated and not agreed upon - No vision documents and competing values and goals

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the annual business meetings?

Business meetings are helpful, prayerful, and worshipful - Business meetings are mostly business - Business meetings are generally considered irrelevant - Business meetings show tension that nobody addresses - Business meetings are divisive and open hostility

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the growth history of the church?

Growing annually by 15% or more over the past 5 years - Growing annually by 10-15% or more over the past 5 years - Growing annually by 1-5% or more over the past 5 years - Stagnant growth over the past 5 years - Declining over the past 5 years

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the effectiveness of evangelism in the church?

Church growth represents at least 10% conversion/salvation for past 5 years - Church growth represents at least 5% conversion/salvation for past 5 years - Church growth represents less than 5% conversion/salvation for past 5 years - Occasional stories of conversion/salvation in the past 5 years - No evangelistic growth over the past 5 years

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the priority of vision at the church?

Vision dominates relationships and healthy programs - Programs and relationships **dominate with health vision** - Programs dominate and the church has little vision - Management dominates, relationships are strained and there is no vision - Vision, relationships, programs and management are all weak

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the willingness to change at the church?

Leadership discusses and implements needed changes in a timely fashion - Leadership discusses and implements needed change in a reactive manner - Leadership reluctantly discusses and implements needed changes slowly - Leadership agonizes over any potential change, process often delayed - Leadership avoids any discussion of change

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the multi-generational engagement at the church?

Mission, vision and programming engages all 5 generations - Mission, vision and programming engages 4 generations - Mission, vision and programming engages 3 generations - Mission, vision and programming engages 2 generations - Mission, vision and programming focuses mainly on 1 generation

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the Intentional Discipleship at the church?

Attendees understand, can articulate, are involved in a process for growing spiritually - Attendees are involved but can only vaguely articulate the steps or process for spiritual growth - Attendees assume there is a process for growth, but can't articulate or are sporadic in discipleship - Attendees can't articulate how the church can help them grow spiritually, simply attend service - Attendees have no idea how the church can help them grow as followers of Jesus, don't see importance

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the History and vision relationship at the church?

The majority of attendees think the best years of the church are still ahead - Some in the church frequently mention looking forward to what Jesus has yet to do in the church - The church is evenly split with those looking back and those looking ahead - Some in the church frequently mention looking back to the "good ole days" in the church - The majority of the church thinks the best years of the ministry were in the past

(Dropdown Question)

How would you describe the inward and outward focus of the church?

The majority of the budget and programming is focuses on those who don't know Jesus - The budget and programming focus is weighted toward those who don't know Jesus - The budget and programming focus is evenly split between those who don't know Jesus and those who do - The budget and programming focus leans towards those who already know Jesus - The budget and programming focus is focused on those who already know Jesus

(Statement for next section)

Pastoral Priorities

Pastoring has never been more difficult, and ministers are often expected to do much more than their time will permit. Consequently, they often must choose between competing priorities. In this process, it is helpful for them to know what their congregation views as the most important priorities. For each of the pastoral duties listed below, please carefully consider the priority YOU would place on each as an individual.

(Dropdown Question)

Preaching and teaching (study, preparation, and sermons)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Pastoral care (hospital, emergency, and in-home visitation)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Officiating (weddings, baptisms, baby dedications, and funerals)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Counseling (One-on-one pastoral care)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Volunteer development (recruiting, motivating, and training volunteers)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

World missions (missions awareness, speakers and fundraising)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Outreach (community outreach and evangelism efforts)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Discipleship (classes, curriculum, and small groups)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Leading (staff, board, committees, and ministry leaders)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Church administration (finances, facilities, policies, and structures)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

AG networking (participation in denominational meetings, events, and gatherings)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Conflict resolution (intervention, confrontation, and resolution)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Fundraising (developing tithes, offerings and missions giving)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Pastoral development (training, seminars, books, and conferences)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Crisis management (unexpected emergencies and developments)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Service planning (planning all-church worship and social meetings)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Dropdown Question)

Exterior meetings (outside requests for donations, support, partnerships, or volunteer sharing)

Lowest Priority Moderate Priority Highest Priority

(Next Section Title)

Female Leadership

(Short Question)

Would you be willing to consider a woman as your lead pastor, or not? Please explain your answer.

(Next Section Title)

Rehabilitated Leadership

(Short Question)

Would you be willing to consider someone as your lead pastor who has been successfully rehabilitated and restored to ministry after a moral failure, or not? Please explain your answer.

(Next Section Title)

Divorce

(Short Question)

Would you be willing to consider a lead pastor who has been divorced, or not? Please explain your answer.

(Next Section Title)

Desired Qualities

(Paragraph Question)

Based on your knowledge of our church, its present strengths and weaknesses, and needs we have in the next five to ten years, please describe the qualities that are most important for our next pastor to have.

(Next Section Title)

Additional Comments

(Paragraph Question)

If you have any additional comments, you would like the Search Committee to consider, please indicate those below.

(Short Question)

Please leave your name below if you feel comfortable doing so. Your name would only be used in the event we needed to get clarification regarding any of your responses.

Your name will only be known to the Search Committee, and your answers will be kept strictly confidential. We very much value your candor and input.

(End of Survey Statement)

Thank you so much for taking the time to share your thoughts and opinions with the Search Committee. We will consider your answers when making decisions about the future of our church.

The Church Board