

## **SUPPLEMENT XII**

### **CONGREGATIONAL SELF ANALYSIS**

The following are sample questions that may be used in a congregational self-analysis. They may be used to survey the entire congregation. Please be aware also of the Congregational Profile Form (Supplement I, p. 37).

If you need more room to answer any questions please use a separate sheet of paper.

#### **I QUESTIONS ABOUT OURSELVES AND OUR CONGREGATION**

##### **My Commitment and Involvement**

Why are you a member or adherent of this congregation?

In what ways are you involved in the work of the church?  
If you are not involved, why not?

##### **Assessing our Congregation**

Describe the year you remember as being the congregation's best and what was good about it.

What is the most significant thing that has happened here in the past year?

What is the most important strength of this congregation?

**Assessing Our Congregation** (Continued)

What is the congregation's greatest need?

If you could change one thing in the congregation, what would it be?

What is the aspect that you most enjoy and appreciate about our church building?

What is the aspect about our church building which is the most limiting and frustrating?

Evaluate your church in the following areas by circling an appropriate number and if you wish, add your comments:

(a) <b>Worship Life</b>	Not at all					Very Much So				
I find the sermons meaningful and inspiring in my daily life.	1	2	3	4	5					
Our music program enriches worship.	2	3	4	5						
I like the style of prayers and what the prayers are about.	1	2	3	4	5					
Our worship meets the needs of:										
children	1	2	3	4	5					
teens	1	2	3	4	5					
couples	1	2	3	4	5					
singles	1	2	3	4	5					
the elderly	1	2	3	4	5					
I like the order of worship changed occasionally.	1	2	3	4	5					
(b) <b>Pastoral Care</b> (Visiting, Listening, Giving Support, etc.)										
Does the congregation minister to each other?	1	2	3	4	5					
How could its ministry be improved?										

**Assessing Our Congregation (Continued)**

**(c) Christian Education and Youth Ministries**

Our Christian Education Program (Sunday School, Bible Study, other programs) is adequate for:

	Not at all			Very Much So	
children	1	2	3	4	5
teens	1	2	3	4	5
young adults	1	2	3	4	5
adults	1	2	3	4	5
senior citizens	1	2	3	4	5

What are the most alive and exciting programs within this church?

What new programs would benefit the congregation in terms of meeting the needs of the congregation and/or community?

**(d) Mission** (evangelism, community action and world concerns)

Our church attracts new members.	1	2	3	4	5
We try to make new people part of the church family.	1	2	3	4	5

Where do new members come from and why do they stay?

Is there any age group that is missing from our congregation or not as involved as they could be?

If you are a recent adherent or member of this congregation, how were you made to feel welcome (or unwelcome) here?

Does our church minister to the community?	1	2	3	4	5
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How?

How does the congregation minister to people throughout the world?

Does our church ever get involved in issues like poverty, Third World problems, the refugee situation, peacemaking, nuclear disarmament?

Should the church be involved in these issues?

## II THE KIND OF MINISTER WE NEED

**Pastoral Skills And Interest Inventory:** What are the pastoral skills especially needed in the ministry and program of your church? Rank in order of priority from 1 to 18 -- **1 to 6 being the areas you most wish a minister to exercise.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Administration** (Managing the affairs of the congregation and other organizations)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Christian Education** (Writing or selecting appropriate curricula for the educational ministry, and planning activities for groups of all ages)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Community Leadership** (In areas like drug problems, schools, community organizations)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Counselling** (On a regular basis)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Crisis Visiting** (Serving people at times of illness, death, trauma, family crisis, job loss)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Denominational Service** (Sharing in the work of all the courts of the church)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Equipping Church Members** (For integrating Christian faith with life)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Evangelism** (Relating the gospel to people outside the church and helping the congregation to do the same)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Home Visiting** (On a regular basis)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Inter-Church Co-operation** (Working in inter-denominational programs and activities)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Leadership Development** (Planning for and sharing in the training of leaders for the church' s program)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Leading Worship and Preaching** (Planning and conducting worship services)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Mission Outreach** (Evangelism and social justice in the community, the country, and the world)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Personal and Spiritual Development** (Providing resources and guidance for people' s devotional life, and for prayer groups, retreats and other small group experiences)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Program Development** (Establishing goals, and organizing programs in church and community)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Stewardship** (Faithful use of our time, gifts and money in response to the generosity of God in Christ)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Work with Seniors**
- \_\_\_\_\_ Work with Youth

## **Women Ministers**

The interim moderator shall ensure equal and full consideration for all candidates whether male or female (A&P 1980, Recommendation 3, p. 398). Given that there are approximately 200 women ministers (16% of our clergy) it is quite likely that we will have women candidates to consider. [Figures used here are from 1998.]

What are your thoughts and feelings about calling a woman minister?

Do you have any closing comments you wish to make about the kind of minister you want?