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# *FAITH COMMUNITIES TODAY*

*A Congregational Survey Of  
Megachurches and Large Churches*

*In Association With The  
Cooperative Congregational Studies Project*

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February, 2000

# I. Your Congregation's Location and Building

1. In what year was your congregation officially founded? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In what ZIP code area is the church's **primary worship building** located? Zip \_\_\_\_\_
3. In approximately what year did the congregation begin worshipping at its current location? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How would you describe the area where the **primary worship building** is located? (✓ one)

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

**A. If in or around a city, is your building located:**

- Downtown or in the inner city . . . . . <sub>1</sub>
- In another part of the city (e.g. older residential area) . . <sub>2</sub>
- In an older *suburb* around the city . . . . . <sub>3</sub>
- In a newer *suburb* around the city . . . . . <sub>4</sub>

**B. If in or around a city, is your building located:**

- In a residential area . . . . . <sub>1</sub>
- In a mixed residential and commercial/industrial area . . <sub>2</sub>
- In a commercial or industrial area . . . . . <sub>3</sub>

5. 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"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
B. Your educational space	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
C. Your fellowship space	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
D. Space for parking	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>

6. What is the total seating capacity of your sanctuary? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How would you describe the overall physical condition of your congregation's building(s)? (✓ one)
  - <sub>1</sub> Excellent   <sub>2</sub> Good   <sub>3</sub> Needs improvement   <sub>4</sub> In serious need of improvement & repair
8. Do any other congregations use your building space for worship?   <sub>1</sub> Yes   <sub>2</sub> No
9. Has your church planted any other congregations?   <sub>1</sub> Yes   <sub>2</sub> No   IF YES: How many? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Do you have any satellite churches in other locations that are part of your congregation?   <sub>1</sub> Yes   <sub>2</sub> No
  - IF YES: How many? \_\_\_\_\_   Do they have distinctive styles/missions?   <sub>1</sub> Yes   <sub>2</sub> No

## II. Congregational Worship

1. **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]

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

2. How often does the sermon in your worship service **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"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
B. Practical advice for daily living	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
C. Personal spiritual growth	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
D. Social justice or social action	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
E. The Gifts/Power of the Holy Spirit	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
F. Personal Salvation	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
G. Struggling with faith and belief	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
H. Living a moral life	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
I. Stewardship of time and money	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
J. End Times/ Second Coming	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>

3. 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"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
B. Literary or scholarly references	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
C. Illustrations from contemporary media (e.g., magazines, newspapers, television, movies, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
D. Detailed explanations of scripture or doctrine	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>

4. During your congregation's weekly worship service, how often are the following included as part of the service? (✓ 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"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
B. A time for members to testify about their faith	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
C. A time during worship for people to greet each other	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
D. The use of visual projection equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
E. Altar Call for salvation	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
F. Dance or drama	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
G. Speaking in tongues	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
H. Prayers for healing	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>
I. Prophecy, words of knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub>

5. In comparison to the style of your congregation's 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**]

<sub>1</sub> Is basically the same <sub>2</sub> Changed a little <sub>3</sub> Changed somewhat <sub>4</sub> Changed a great deal

6. How important are the following sources of authority in the worship and teaching of your congregation?

(✓ one on each line)

Absolutely Foundational    Very Important    Somewhat Important    Little Or No Importance

- A. The Bible <sub>1</sub> <sub>2</sub> <sub>3</sub> <sub>4</sub>
- B. Historic creeds, doctrines & tradition <sub>1</sub> <sub>2</sub> <sub>3</sub> <sub>4</sub>
- C. The leading of the Holy Spirit <sub>1</sub> <sub>2</sub> <sub>3</sub> <sub>4</sub>
- D. The authority of denominational leaders or *IF nondenominational*,  
your spiritual head, network overseer, or elder <sub>1</sub> <sub>2</sub> <sub>3</sub> <sub>4</sub>
- E. Human reason and understanding <sub>1</sub> <sub>2</sub> <sub>3</sub> <sub>4</sub>
- F. Personal experience <sub>1</sub> <sub>2</sub> <sub>3</sub> <sub>4</sub>
- G. Congregational vision & purpose <sub>1</sub> <sub>2</sub> <sub>3</sub> <sub>4</sub>

H. 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 →



7. Do your congregation's worship services include music? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

**IF YES:** How often are the following used in the service? (✓ one on each line)

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

8. How well does each of the following statements describe your congregation? (✓ 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. Our congregation is like a close-knit family  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| B. Our congregation is spiritually vital and alive   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| C. Our congregation is working for social <b>justice</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| D. Our congregation helps members deepen their relationship with God   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| E. We are trying to increase our racial/ethnic diversity   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| F. Our congregation gives strong expression to its denominational heritage or <i>IF nondenominational</i> , its independent stance | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| F. We are a moral beacon in our community  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| G. We welcome innovation in our ministries & programs  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| I. Disagreements and conflicts are dealt with openly here  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| J. Our congregation encourages the public expression of speaking in tongues  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| K. Our congregation has a strong racial/ethnic or national heritage it is trying to preserve                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| L. Members are excited about the future of our church  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| M. New members are easily incorporated into the life of our congregation   | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |
| N. We have a clear sense of mission and purpose  | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub> | <input type="checkbox"/> <sub>5</sub> |

### III. Your Congregational 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.

→ → Number \_\_\_\_\_

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. What was (or is) the average weekly attendance (including adults and children) for the following years?

1980 \_\_\_\_\_ 1985 \_\_\_\_\_ 1990 \_\_\_\_\_ 1995 \_\_\_\_\_ Presently \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

- American Indian/Alaska Native \_\_\_\_\_%
- Asian \_\_\_\_\_%
- Native Hawaiian or  
Other Pacific Islander \_\_\_\_\_%
- White \_\_\_\_\_%
- Black or African American \_\_\_\_\_%
- Hispanic or Latino \_\_\_\_\_%
- Biracial/multiracial \_\_\_\_\_%

Within these racial/ethnic groups, are there any significant national sub-groups (e.g. German , Korean, Irish, Mexican, Carribean, etc)? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

**IF YES**, please list them: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Which label below comes closest to describing the theological position of the majority of your regularly participating adults?

- <sub>1</sub> Fundamentalist
- <sub>2</sub> Evangelical
- <sub>3</sub> Pentecostal
- <sub>4</sub> Charismatic
- <sub>5</sub> Moderate
- <sub>6</sub> Liberal
- <sub>7</sub> New Age
- <sub>8</sub> Seeker
- <sub>9</sub> Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## IV. Congregational Programs

1. Does your congregation have a Sunday school program that meets regularly? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

**IF YES:**

- A. What is the typical, total, weekly attendance of **adults (18 and over)**? → → → → → \_\_\_\_\_  
 B. What is the typical, total, weekly attendance of **children and teens (17 and under)**? → \_\_\_\_\_

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

- 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

	----- Yes -----			
	<i>One-Time, Short- Term, Occasional</i>	<i>On-going During A Season</i>	<i>On-going Thru The Year</i>	
	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</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 or 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. Promisekeepers, AGLOW.)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Q. National programs (e.g. AWANA, Bible Study Fellowship)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

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

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

4. Does your congregation have a radio ministry <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

5. Does your congregation have a television ministry <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

6. 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)? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

7. Many churches make use of small groups for fellowship, spiritual nurture, etc. (In addition to church school or mission groups, etc.). Which statement best describes the situation in your congregation?

- <sub>1</sub> Such groups do not exist within our congregation
- <sub>2</sub> A few such groups meet, but they are not central to our congregation's program
- <sub>3</sub> Small groups are central to our strategy for Christian nurture and spiritual formation

8. Are new members:

- Required to take informational class prior to or after becoming a member? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No
- Assigned a "mentor" (a pastor or lay leader) to incorporate them into the church? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No
- Strongly encouraged to volunteer in the church's ministries? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

9. Overall, to what extent are your church members involved in recruiting new members?

- <sub>1</sub> Extensively
- <sub>2</sub> Moderately
- <sub>3</sub> Minimally
- <sub>4</sub> Not at all

10. Are efforts made to provide special parking or seating for visitors to your church? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

11. Are visitors acknowledged in a demonstrative way (made to stand, raise hand, put on label)? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

12. 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)

	<u>Yes Done in last 12 Months</u>	<u>No, but church members . . . Would Support This Activity</u>	<u>Would Not Support This Activity</u>
A. Newspaper advertisements	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
B. Radio or television advertisements	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
C. Direct mail promotions to area residents	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
D. A programmed growth or evangelistic campaign	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
E. Efforts to identify and contact people who have recently moved into your congregation's area	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
F. Stressing the importance of witnessing to others	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
G. Special worship services intended to attract the unchurched, ("Bring a friend" or seeker services, revivals)	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
H. Special programs (parenting classes, singles night, festivals) especially intended to attract the unchurched in your community	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
I. Phone calls or personal visits by the pastoral staff	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>
J. Phone calls or personal visits by lay members	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>

12. In the past 12 months, did your congregation provide, or work with another program 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, space in your building]

**No**

----- **Yes, circle all that apply** -----  
*Provided Directly*      *Cooperated With Another*  
*By Your*                      *Church, Agency, or*  
Congregation              Organization's Program

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 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. Programs for youth & teens	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. Hospitals & Nursing home	No	Yes	Yes
N. Prison ministry	No	Yes	Yes
O. Senior citizen programs (other than housing)	No	Yes	Yes
P. Program for migrants or immigrants	No	Yes	Yes
Q. Community organizing or Neighborhood assoc.	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. Affiliations, Networks and Partnerships

1. Is your congregation :

<sub>1</sub> associated with a Denomination? **If Yes**, What Denomination? \_\_\_\_\_

<sub>2</sub> Independent or Nondenominational? **If Yes**, Has it always been independent? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

<sub>3</sub> part of a Network, Fellowship, or Association but is nondenominational?

**If Yes**, What is the name of the Network, Fellowship, or Association ? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the approximate number of churches in the network? \_\_\_\_\_

When was the Network, Fellowship, or Association founded? \_\_\_\_\_

In what City & State is the headquarters or current central leader located? \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like, describe your church's relationship with this Network: (Does it ordain, provide resources, offer insurance & annuity? Do you pay dues or tithe? Are there overseers, advisors? Are there local or national meetings?)

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

(Circle all the "yesses" that apply)

		<u>With other congregations or persons:</u>		
		<i>From our Denom or other nondenom groups</i>	<i>From other Christian Denominations</i>	<i>From other Faith Traditions</i>
A. Joint worship services	<u>No</u> No	Yes	Yes	Yes
B. Joint celebrations or programs other than worship	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
C. Joint social outreach or service projects	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
D. Councils of Churches or ministerial associations	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

3. When your congregation purchases worship, educational, evangelism, etc. material, does it purchase them: **Skip If Nondenominational**

- <sub>1</sub> Exclusively from sources in our denomination
- <sub>2</sub> Primarily from sources in our denomination
- <sub>3</sub> Pretty much an even balance in and outside our denomination.

- <sub>4</sub> Primarily from outside our denomination
- <sub>5</sub> Exclusively from outside our denomination
- <sub>6</sub> We create all our own material.

4. Does your congregation operate a Christian elementary or secondary school? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No
5. Does it have a Bible School or Institute? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No
6. Does your church sponsor Pastor's or ministerial conferences? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No
7. Does your church have regular access to a computer?

- <sub>0</sub> No    <sub>1</sub> Yes, we use a member's personal computer    <sub>2</sub> Yes, the church owns a computer

**IF YES, what is the computer used for? [Mark all that apply]**

- <sub>1</sub> Word Processing (letters, bulletins, newsletters)
- <sub>2</sub> Membership records and data reports
- <sub>3</sub> Financial records and budget reports
- <sub>4</sub> Demographic group mailings
- <sub>5</sub> E-mail, listserv communications
- <sub>6</sub> Web information or church page

Does your church have an email address? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

What is this address? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your church have a web site? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

What is the web address? http://\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* If you include your email address, we will send you an electronic copy of our summary report from this national survey.**

## VI. Leadership And Organizational Dynamics

1. Please describe the current (or 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 [clergy person], please check here  and skip to question 3.

A. Age? \_\_\_\_\_ Years old

B. <sub>1</sub> Paid <sub>2</sub> Volunteer

C. <sub>1</sub> Full time <sub>2</sub> Full time, supplemented by outside employment

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

D. <sub>1</sub> Male <sub>2</sub> Female

E. <sub>1</sub> [Regular call] <sub>2</sub> [Temporary/interim]

F. Highest level of education (✓ one):

- <sub>1</sub> High school diploma or less
- <sub>2</sub> Some college or technical
- <sub>3</sub> College bachelors degree
- <sub>4</sub> Masters Degree
- <sub>5</sub> Doctoral Degree

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

- <sub>1</sub> None
- <sub>2</sub> Certificate or correspondence program
- <sub>3</sub> Bible college or some seminary
- <sub>4</sub> Seminary degree (e.g., M. Div)
- <sub>5</sub> Post-M.Div work or degree (e.g. D.Min)

H. Race/ethnicity (✓ one):

- <sub>1</sub> American Indian/Alaska Native
- <sub>2</sub> Asian
- <sub>3</sub> Black or African American
- <sub>4</sub> Hispanic or Latino
- <sub>5</sub> Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- <sub>6</sub> White
- <sub>7</sub> Other \_\_\_\_\_

I. This person became your senior/sole pastor in what year? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How many senior/sole pastors, include the current one, served this church in the past 10 years? \_\_\_\_\_

3. How many years did the previous senior/sole pastor serve this congregation? \_\_\_\_\_ years

4. How many paid, ministerial staff does this congregation have?

A. Number Full time, paid \_\_\_\_\_

B. Number Part time, paid \_\_\_\_\_

5. How many paid, program staff does this congregation have?

A. Number Full time, paid \_\_\_\_\_

B. Number Part time, paid \_\_\_\_\_

6. Approximately how many volunteer workers (giving 5 or more hours a week) does the church have?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

10. Does your congregation have a mission or vision statement? <sub>1</sub> Yes <sub>2</sub> No

IF YES, Which of the following are true?

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

## VI. Finances [Feel free to skip this section if you do not wish to disclose such information]

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

**A. Currently:** <sub>1</sub> Excellent <sub>2</sub> Good <sub>3</sub> Tight, but we manage <sub>4</sub> In some difficulty <sub>5</sub> In serious difficulty

**B. In 1995:** <sub>1</sub> Excellent <sub>2</sub> Good <sub>3</sub> Tight, but we managed <sub>4</sub> In some difficulty <sub>5</sub> In serious difficulty  
<sub>6</sub> Our congregation did not exist in 1995

2. Approximately how much income did your congregation receive last year from **all** sources (e.g., tithes, pledges, dues, offerings, bequests, endowment, TV, school tuition, etc)? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Approximately what percent of your congregation's *total expenditures* were for the following areas last year?

- A. Congregation operations (building, grounds, utilities, mortgage, insurance, supplies) \_\_\_\_\_%
- B. All staff salaries and benefits \_\_\_\_\_%

- C. Program support and materials (including curriculum, supplies, printing, mailing, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_%
- D. Mission work channeled through a denominationally sponsored program \_\_\_\_\_%
- E. Local/Home mission work (other than through your denomination) \_\_\_\_\_%
- F. International/Foreign mission work (other than through your denomination) \_\_\_\_\_%
- G. Capital improvements \_\_\_\_\_%
- H. Subsidies to school, day care or before/after school program \_\_\_\_\_%
- I. Money put into reserve/endowments/investments \_\_\_\_\_%
- J. Other \_\_\_\_\_%

4. What was the approximate total dollar amount of all the above expenditures \$ \_\_\_\_\_

5. During the past 12 months, what methods did your congregation use to encourage financial giving among members? (✓ all that apply)

- <sub>1</sub> Sermons on stewardship
- <sub>2</sub> Appeals or testimonies from lay participants during worship services
- <sub>3</sub> Special fund raisers (fairs, bingo, bake sales, etc)
- <sub>4</sub> Appeals based on specific, concrete and special needs
- <sub>5</sub> Distribution of promotional material
- <sub>6</sub> Canvassing members by phone or in person (e.g., member visitation)
- <sub>7</sub> Pledge or commitment cards
- <sub>8</sub> Member dues
- <sub>9</sub> Tithing: We believe a tithe belongs to God, is due God and should be given to God
- <sub>10</sub> Giving a *proportion* of one's income, not tithing per se, is emphasized

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

**Thank you for participating! We greatly appreciate your effort! God Bless!**

Please return the survey in the enclosed envelope to:

The Hartford Institute for Religion Research  
Hartford Seminary  
77 Sherman Street  
Hartford, CT 06105

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