Congregational Profile Survey to go with 2024 Attender Survey

*****Note: This link is to the Congregational Profile Survey for only one leader of the congregation to complete. If you are an attender and not the leader, please exit this survey and contact your congregation's leader to receive the link to the attender survey *****

Dear Congregation Leader,

Thank you for completing this Congregational Profile Survey as a key leader or administrator whose congregation has agreed to participate in the 2024 Attender Survey portion of the "Exploring the Pandemic Impact on Congregations" national research project. This study explores the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on thousands of religious congregations in the United States. The involvement of congregations like yours help us explore how religious leaders and attenders are experiencing the challenges and opportunities in the post-Covid-19 context and how they continue to adapt and change.

This survey asks questions about your congregation's patterns of attendance, budget and giving, programs/ministries, and other topics. It will take approximately 12-15 minutes to complete. Your participation in the research is voluntary and there is no penalty if you choose not to participate. You are free to skip any question that you might not feel comfortable answering or may stop your participation at any time. If you do complete the survey, we would like to offer your congregation several expressions of our gratitude including a $200 gift card, a report of the attender response from your congregation (if 10 or more complete their survey), and a copy of the national report.

To review the Risks and Confidentiality Statement and Data Use Statement, please read them online at www.covidreligionresearch.org/get-involved/attender-survey/. If you have questions or concerns regarding your participation in this research study or if you have any questions about your rights as a research subject, you should speak with the project's lead researcher: Scott Thumma (sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu or 860-509-9543) at Hartford Institute for Religion Research.

Thank you very much for your time and willingness to participate. We greatly appreciate that you are participating in this phase of the research.

Consent: By completing the survey, you agree you are 18 years of age or older and are voluntarily agreeing to participate in the research.

Background

1. What is the name of your congregation? _____

2. Where is your congregation located (city & state)? _____

3. Is your congregation a part of a denomination or religious group?
   - Yes
   - No

4. [If Q3="yes"] What is the name of this denomination or religious group?
   - American Baptist Churches USA
   - Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
   - Church of the Nazarene
   - Churches of Christ
   - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
   - Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
   - Metropolitan Community Churches
   - Orthodox Christian Churches
   - Presbyterian Church (USA)
   - Roman Catholic
   - Seventh-day Adventist Church
   - The Episcopal Church
   - Unitarian Universalist Association
   - United Church of Christ
   - United Methodist Church
   - Other, please specify_____

5. In what ZIP code is this congregation's primary place of worship physically located? _____

In-Person Attendance

6. Please estimate the total average in-person attendance **currently** at all of your regular weekend (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) worship service(s): _____

7. Please estimate the total average in-person attendance **in 2019** at all of your regular weekend (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) worship service(s): _____

Online/Virtual Worship

8. Does your congregation hold online/virtual worship? (Includes in-person worship services being broadcast/live-streamed/recorded and available to watch later)
   - o Yes
   - o No

9. [if Q8="Yes"] Which of the following describes these online/virtual services? *(check all that apply)*
   - ☐ Livestream or broadcast at same time as in-person service
   - ☐ Zoom or video call service during in-person service
   - ☐ Zoom or video call with only online attenders
   - ☐ Recording of in-person service made available after the in-person service

10. [if Q8="Yes"] Do you track online attendance for these services?
    - o Yes
    - o No

11. [if Q10="Yes"] What is your estimated current total average online/virtual attendance? _____

12. Did you offer online/virtual worship in 2019 or before?
    - o Yes
    - o No

13. [if Q12="Yes"] In 2019, what was your estimated total average online/virtual attendance? _____

Leadership

14. Which statement best describes the (religious) leadership of this congregation?
    - o There is no clergy at present (we are between clergy leaders).
    - o There is one clergy leader (no assistant or associate clergy).
    - o There are co-leaders (two or more clergy sharing leadership equally).
    - o There is a senior clergy leader with one or more assistant or associate clergy.
    - o We are lay led and do not have formal clergy.
    - o None of the above descriptions apply to our situation. (Please describe.): _____

15. [if Q14 ≠ "There is no clergy at present"] Please describe the **senior** or **sole clergy leader** of this congregation (if co-leaders, answer only about the oldest co-leader).
    Age: _____ years old
    Gender: _____

16. [if Q14 ≠ "There is no clergy at present"] Leader's race/ethnicity:
    - o American Indian/Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)
    - o Asian (non-Hispanic)
    - o Black or African American (non-Hispanic)
    - o Hispanic or Latino(a)
    - o Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)
    - o White (non-Hispanic)
    - o Multiracial
    - o Other

17. [if Q14 ≠ “There is no clergy at present”] Which best describes the clergy leader’s employment status at your congregation?
    - Full-time
    - Part-time

18. [if Q14 ≠ “There is no clergy at present”] Which best describes the clergy leader’s compensation?
    - Paid
    - Unpaid

19. [if Q14 ≠ “There is no clergy at present”] In what year did the senior leader start serving this congregation? _____ (e.g., 2017)

20. [if Q14 ≠ “There is no clergy at present”] Do you disagree or agree with the following statement: In general, there is a good match between this congregation and the primary leader, minister, pastor, or priest.
    - Strongly disagree
    - Disagree
    - Neutral or unsure
    - Agree
    - Strongly agree

21. [if Q14 ≠ “There is no clergy at present”] Are you the senior, co-senior, or solo clergy leader of this congregation?
    - Yes
    - No

22. [if Q21= “Yes”] In general, how would you rate your…

	0 Poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Excellent
Physical health	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Mental health	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Spiritual health	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Relational health	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Financial health	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

23. [if Q21= “Yes”] Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, Democrat, Independent, or something else?
    - Strong Democrat
    - Not strong Democrat
    - Independent, near Democrat
    - Independent
    - Independent, near Republican
    - Not strong Republican
    - Strong Republican
    - Other party
    - None
    - Prefer not to answer

Participants

24. **How many** people (including children) **currently regularly participate** (once a month or more) in worship or other religious activities in your congregation? _____

25. Of the current regular participants, **what number** are in each of the following age groups?
    Children (ages 0-12): ..... _____
    Youth (ages 13-17): ..... _____
    Young adults (ages 18-34)..... _____
    Middle adults (ages 35-64) ..... _____
    Senior adults (ages 65 and older): ..... _____
    Total (this should add up to the ***regularly participate*** total)..... _____

26. Of the current regular participants, **what number** are in each of the following categories?

    American Indian/Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)..... _____
    Asian (non-Hispanic) ..... _____
    Black or African American (non-Hispanic) ..... _____
    Hispanic or Latino(a) ..... _____
    Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)..... _____
    White (non-Hispanic) ..... _____
    Multiracial ..... _____
    Total (this should add up to the ***regularly participate*** total) ..... _____

27. Of all ***current regularly participating <u>adults</u>*** (age 18 and over), what **percent** would you estimate:
    Are female? ..... _____%
    Are new to this congregation since 2020? ..... _____%
    Volunteer regularly at the congregation? ..... _____%

Mission and Identity

28. Do you disagree or agree with each of the following statements? *(Check one on each line.)*

Our Congregation…

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Has a clear mission and purpose	O	O	O	O	O
Is striving to be diverse (e.g. racially, ethnically, socio-economically)	O	O	O	O	O
Is good at incorporating new people into the congregation	O	O	O	O	O
Shares similar values, beliefs, and ideology	O	O	O	O	O
Is spiritually vital and alive	O	O	O	O	O
Is willing to change to meet new challenges	O	O	O	O	O
Is actively involved in our local community	O	O	O	O	O

Programs

29. Does your congregation have any of the following programs or activities? If "Yes," how much emphasis is given to the activity?

	Not offered	Yes, some emphasis	Yes, a lot of emphasis
Prayer or meditation groups	O	O	O
Religious education for children (e.g., Sunday School)	O	O	O
Religious education for adults (e.g., scripture studies)	O	O	O
Youth (13-17) activities or programs	O	O	O
Young adult (18-34) activities or programs	O	O	O
Senior (65+) activities or programs	O	O	O
Social justice/advocacy groups	O	O	O
Fellowship/community-building events	O	O	O
Community service activities (e.g. health clinic or food pantry)	O	O	O

Finances

30. What was the total amount of money your congregation received from all sources in your most recent fiscal year? $_____

31. What was the total amount of money your congregation spent in your most recent fiscal year? $_____

32. Does your congregation provide Electronic/ACH/online giving?
    - Do not use this at all
    - A little
    - Some
    - A lot

33. How would you describe your congregation's financial health today?
    - In serious difficulty
    - In some difficulty
    - Tight, but we manage
    - Good
    - Excellent

Final Items

34. All things considered, how would you compare the overall vitality and strength of this congregation before the pandemic and now?
    - o Much weaker now than before the pandemic
    - o Somewhat weaker now
    - o We are about the same
    - o Somewhat stronger now
    - o Much stronger now than before the pandemic

35. Since the start of 2020, has your congregation experienced any disagreements or conflicts? *(Check all that apply.)*
    - ☐ No
    - ☐ Yes, but it/they were not serious
    - ☐ Yes, and in at least one instance some people left
    - ☐ Yes, and in at least one instance some people withheld donations
    - ☐ Yes, and in at least one instance, a clergy leader or staff member left

36. Did this congregation stop meeting in person due to the pandemic?
    - o Yes
    - o No

37. [if Q36=Yes] Approximately, for how many months were the normal rhythms of this congregation disrupted until returning to normal or a settled "new normal" (i.e. remained closed for in-person gatherings, opened-closed-open-closed, opened but with limitations)?

    (Please enter only a numeric value to the nearest whole month) _____

Follow Up and Thank Yous

38. May we contact you if we have questions about your responses or if we would like to know more about your congregation and/or ministry?
    - o Yes
    - o No

39. As a thank you for participating in this survey effort, would you like to receive any of the following?

(These will be sent to the email address provided in the next question. Gift cards will be emailed out at the conclusion of data collection—anticipated to be December 2024—and reports will be generated a few months later.)

	Yes	No
Receive a personalized report of your congregation's attender survey responses (can only be offered if more than 10 congregants respond)	O	O
Receive the national summary report from this survey	O	O
$200 Amazon Gift card	O	O

40. Please enter your email address below (this information will not be used for any other purposes).

Email address: _____ *Required response if a yes to 38 and/or 39