



The Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan

Your Personal Views and Beliefs

In this section of the assessment, we are interested in your views and beliefs in a variety of areas.

You will find statements about how you see things in your church community and statements about your spiritual beliefs. Some items deal with the work of your Pastor and other items seek your views about education.

In each case, YOUR impressions, feelings, and opinions are important for church planning.

In some cases, you may feel that your opinions are not well informed. Please go ahead and give your impression as it is now, even though you realize it could change by talking with others.

Every question requires an answer before you can move forward.

YOU MUST COMPLETE THE ASSESSMENT IN ONE SITTING. The program will not allow you to stop and return to finish later. If you do not believe you can complete the survey in one sitting, please make arrangements to get a paper copy.

For each question below, click on the response that is most accurate. If you wish to return to a previous page, use the "previous" button. DO NOT USE YOUR BROWSER'S BACK BUTTON.

* 1. My spiritual experiences often impact the way I look at life.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 2. Our Pastor presides over worship with care, engaging the people in a meaningful way.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 3. There is a disturbing amount of conflict in our congregation.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 4. Our members understand that they have a spiritual responsibility for life-long learning and formation.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 5. My spirituality is really the basis of my whole approach to life.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 6. It seems to me that we are just going through the motions of church activity. There isn't much excitement about it among our members.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 7. Problems between groups in this church are usually resolved through mutual effort.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 8. Our members welcome changes in worship.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 9. I experience the presence of God in my life.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 10. The whole spirit in our congregation makes people want to get as involved as possible.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know



The Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan

Your Personal Views and Beliefs (Continued)

* 11. When conversing with a person, our Pastor listens for feelings, as well as words, and treats feelings as important.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 12. Our church welcomes and is enriched by persons from many different walks of life.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 13. The leaders of our church show a genuine concern to know what people are thinking when decisions need to be made.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 14. Among most of our members there is a healthy tolerance of differing opinions and beliefs.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 15. Our church provides opportunities for education and formation in a variety of ways so that I can find one that fits my complex lifestyle.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 16. Our church tends to stay very close to established ways of doing things.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 17. Our church does a good job helping each member understand that he or she is called to ministry.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 18. Our Pastor has ensured the development of a plan to care for members in times of need (emotional, mental, physical, spiritual, etc.).

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 19. Being part of this church community has given new meaning to my life.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 20. Our Pastor articulates a clear vision for our church and keeps it before the people in a compelling way.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know



The Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan

Your Personal Views and Beliefs (Continued)

* 21. Our church provides high quality education that is appropriate to every age and stage of life.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 22. Our church prepares our members for ministry by helping them discern their gifts.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 23. The same small group of people seem to make most of the important decisions in our church.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 24. Converting persons to Christ must be the first step in creating a better society.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 25. Our Pastor makes things happen.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 26. A friendly atmosphere prevails among the members of our church.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 27. Our Pastor helps us accomplish our mission by bringing out the best in everyone.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 28. We are willing to adapt our worship to the needs and circumstances of the people we want to reach in our local community.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 29. In preaching, our Pastor engages people with a message that enriches their lives in the world.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 30. Our congregation is committed to abide by the unchanging, historic faith as handed down through the centuries.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know



The Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan

Your Personal Views and Beliefs (Continued)

* 31. Scripture is the literal Word of God without error, not only in matters of faith, but also in historical, geographical, and other secular matters.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 32. Our church changes its program from time to time to meet the changing needs of its members.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 33. I sense an atmosphere of genuine care and concern among our members in time of personal need.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 34. In important decisions in our church, adequate opportunity for consideration of different approaches is usually provided.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 35. In our congregation lay people work with the Pastor in leading and planning worship services.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 36. There is frequently a small group of members that opposes what the majority want to do.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 37. I work to connect my faith to all the other aspects of my life.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 38. Members in our church have been prepared to personally welcome guests in worship services.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 39. Our Pastor preaches with integrity.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 40. The music at our church is outstanding in quality and appropriate in style to our congregation.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know



The Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan

Your Personal Views and Beliefs (Continued)

* 41. On the whole, I am satisfied with how things are in our church.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 42. Persons who serve as leaders in our church are representative of the membership.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 43. Our church provides opportunities for members to engage in active ministry within the church and to the world.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 44. Although my faith is important to me, I feel there are other things more pressing in my life right now.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 45. The main purpose of Christian education is to help people know what is in the Bible.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 46. The worship services at our church are exceptional in both quality and spiritual content.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 47. Our Pastor communicates with people in a way that keeps us informed and connected.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 48. Our church does a good job supporting persons in ministry by reminding them that they are making a difference.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 49. Our Pastor is present in times of crisis.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know



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Priorities Among Goals

In this section of the assessment possible goals are listed for your church in the coming year. The leaders of the church are interested in knowing where you believe additional energy needs to be applied to expand or improve our ministries. If you believe that some ministries require additional energy because they are important and need to be expanded or improved, then you would give these a higher score. If you believe that other ministries require little or no additional energy because they are already being performed at an appropriate level of quality, then you would give these a lower score.

REMEMBER: IT IS IMPORTANT TO RESPOND TO EVERY QUESTION. For each goal below, please check on the response that best represents your view:

* 50. Deepen our sense of connection to God and one another through stronger worship services.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 51. Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships (for example, small groups, nurtured friendships, shared meals, etc).

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 52. Develop the spiritual generosity of the people to financially support the ministry of the church.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 53. Enlarge or improve the physical facilities of the church to expand or enhance our ministries.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 54. Strengthen the process by which members are called and equipped for ministry and leadership.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 55. Strengthen the pastoral response of the church in serving people in times of need (emotional, mental, physical, spiritual, etc.).

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 56. Change or improve the music of the church to deepen our worship experience.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 57. Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 58. Provide more opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation at every age and stage of life.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 59. Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 60. Expand the international mission of the church with both financial resources and personal involvement.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 61. Adapt the opportunities provided by the church making them more accessible given the pace and schedule of my life. (i.e. online education, early morning classes, lunch discussions)

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 62. Work as an advocate for social and institutional change so that society might better reflect the values of the kingdom of God.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 63. Strengthen the management and support of persons in various ministries so that they are able to do what they do best in work that is meaningful and celebrated.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 64. Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 65. Develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know

* 66. Expand outreach ministries that provide direct services to those living on the margins of society. (i.e. homeless, immigrant, transient persons)

- No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy
 Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't know



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Participation in Church Life

The following section of the assessment will give a picture of your participation in the church. For each question, click on the response that is most accurate:

* 67. On the average, about how many times did you attend regularly scheduled church worship during the past 12 months?

- None
- About 1 to 4 times
- About once a month
- About twice a month
- About 3 times a month
- All but 4 weeks a year
- Every week
- Don't know

* 68. Whether in this church or a former one, how does your present attendance in the preceding item compare with three years ago?

- About a third as much
- About half as much
- Somewhat less
- About the same
- Somewhat more
- About twice as often now
- Three times as often now or more
- Don't know

* 69. Please indicate the degree of your participation during the past year in church activities other than worship such as choir, education, study group, committee or Board, service or recreation group, etc. Count the total of all such activities.

- I do not attend any of these activities
- I attended about one time every other month
- I attended about once a month
- I attended about 2 or 3 times a month
- I attended about once a week
- I attended about twice a week
- I attended more than 2 times a week
- Don't know

* 70. In relation to the activities of the preceding question, please indicate your agreement/disagreement with the statement, "On the whole, participation in church activities is very meaningful to me."

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Tend to agree
- Agree
- Strongly agree
- Don't know

* 71. How often do you find time for your own individual spiritual growth?

- Almost never
- About every other month
- About once a month
- About twice a month
- About once a week
- About every other day
- Regularly each day
- Don't know

* 72. How long have you been attending this church?

- Less than one year
- 1 to 2 years
- 3 to 4 years
- 5 to 10 years
- 11 to 15 years
- 16 to 20 years
- Over 20 years
- Don't know

* 73. Approximately how much do you contribute INDIVIDUALLY to your church per year? If you are married and you and your spouse contribute jointly, use the number beside one-half of that annual contribution.

- Under \$104 (less than \$2 per week)
- \$104 to \$208 (\$2 to \$4 per week)
- \$209 to \$520 (\$4 to \$10 per week)
- \$521 to \$1040 (\$10 to \$20 per week)
- \$1041 to \$2600 (\$20 to \$50 per week)
- \$2601 to \$3900 (\$50 to \$75 per week)
- \$3901 to \$10400 (\$75 to \$200 per week)
- \$10401 + (more than \$200 per week)
- No response

74. Which generation are you a part of:

- The Greatest Generation: Born 1901-1927
- The Silent Generation: Born 1928-1945
- Baby Boom Generation: Born 1946-1964
- Generation X: Born 1965-1980
- Millennial Generation or Generation Y: Born 1981-1996
- Generation Z or iGen: Born 1997-2012

* 75. My ethnic background is:

- Black or African-American
- White
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Multi-ethnic
- No response

* 76. What is your age range?

- Below 19
- 19 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 or older
- No response

* 77. What is your highest level of education?

- Less than high school
- Some high school
- High school graduate
- Some college or vocational training
- College graduate
- Some post graduate work
- Graduate degree
- No response

* 78. About how far is your residence from the church building?

- 4 blocks or less
- 5 to 8 blocks
- 1 to 2 miles
- 3 to 4 miles
- 5 to 9 miles
- 10 to 15 miles
- Over 15 miles
- Don't know



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Household Data

If you live alone, or if you are the only member of your household completing the assessment, please respond to the following items, Questions 79 to 85. If two or more members of the household complete the assessment, only ONE of you should respond with your household information. Other people within the household should choose "another person from my household is providing this information" for their responses.

Remember that responses are confidential. In each case "household" means persons living at your address who you consider to be in a family relationship. Include college students if their legal residence continues to be at your household.

REMEMBER: ONLY ONE PERSON PER HOUSEHOLD SHOULD ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS.

* 79. How many persons are in your household? Please include yourself in the count.

- One
- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five
- Six or more
- I prefer not to provide this information
- Another person from my household is providing this information

* 80. How many children age 0 - 5 are in your household?

- None
- One
- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five
- Six or more
- I prefer not to provide this information
- Another person from my household is providing this information

* 81. How many children age 6 - 12 are in your household?

- None
- One
- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five
- Six or more
- I prefer not to provide this information
- Another person from my household is providing this information

* 82. How many youth age 13 - 18 are in your household? Include yourself if you are in this age group.

- None
- One
- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five
- Six or more
- I prefer not to provide this information
- Another person from my household is providing this information

* 83. How many young adults age 19 - 24 are in your household? Include yourself if you are in this age group.

- None
- One
- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five
- Six or more
- I prefer not to provide this information
- Another person from my household is providing this information

* 84. How many adults age 25 or older are in your household? Again, include yourself, if you are in this group.

- None
- One
- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five
- Six or more
- I prefer not to provide this information
- Another person from my household is providing this information

* 85. What is your household annual income range? If there is more than one wage earner or income from other sources, add all such sources for an approximate total. If you do not know the income range, enter your best estimate.

- Below \$20,000
- \$20,000 to \$34,999
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$69,999
- \$70,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 to \$299,999
- \$300,000 or more
- I prefer not to provide this information
- Another person from my household is providing this information



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Transition Module

In this section we would like to know how you anticipate your involvement in the church may change during the transition to our next Pastor. We would also like to know how you feel about the transition and your thoughts about the future direction of the church.

* 86. It could take a number of months to complete a pastoral transition. During that time I intend to be

- Much less involved
- Less involved
- About the same
- More involved
- Much more involved
- Don't know

* 87. There are a number of additional responsibilities that may arise during the pastoral transition (for example, prayer, focus groups, committee work). Please indicate your level of availability to help with additional responsibilities as they arise:

- Much less available Less available About the same More available
 Much more available Don't know

* 88. There are a number of additional financial costs during a pastoral transition (for example, search costs, relocation costs, etc). Please indicate below your anticipated level of giving during the transition.

- Much lower giving Lower giving About the same Higher giving
 Much higher giving Don't know

* 89. During the pastoral transition, I am thinking about exploring other churches.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 90. I believe that the leadership at our church needs to be more representative of the congregation as a whole (gender, age, length of membership, points of view).

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 91. I am comfortable with the timing of a pastoral transition. I feel it is time for this change.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 92. In the future, I believe the church should continue in the same overall direction that it has taken in the recent past.

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

* 93. I believe the next Pastor we call should have approximately the same skills and responsibilities as our current Pastor (for example, balance between preaching, administration, pastoral care, and leadership).

- Strongly disagree Disagree Tend to disagree Tend to agree Agree
 Strongly agree Don't know

Critical Ability Module

In this section we would like to know what you believe are the most important abilities for our next Pastor to possess.

* 94. Please rank the following critical abilities for our next Pastor by order of importance. (Note: You can only use each ranking option once.)

| | Least important | 7th | 6th | 5th | 4th | 3rd | 2nd | Most important |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Preaching - Capacity to inspire and connect people to God's word | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Strategic leadership - Capacity to cast a vision and lead the church toward realization of the vision | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Change management - Capacity to lead a church through a significant and necessary period of change | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Teaching/Training - Capacity to deepen understanding, form character, and equip members with new skills | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Pastoral care - Capacity to engage people empathetically and care for persons in times of need | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Negotiate/resolve conflict - Capacity to help a church deal with conflict through training, negotiation, and mediation | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Administration - Capacity to manage a church operationally including facilities, finances and staff | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Community catalyst - Capacity to function on a larger stage beyond the church and to rally a variety of individuals and groups to address critical issues | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |



THANK YOU!

Thank you for taking the time to complete this assessment. Your responses will help us as leaders do a better job guiding the church.

