

Congregational Survey

Congregation _____ Date _____

City/State _____

Introduction

Our congregation has committed to a new initiative of Luther Seminary called Centered Life®. Centered Life helps congregations discover and encourage their members' vocational calls. Centered Life is based in the belief that **all** people are called to carry out God's mission and ministry in the world—in their homes, in their workplaces, and in their communities.

An important first step is to survey members with this congregational assessment tool. This survey is designed to do two things—to determine whether members of our congregation are living centered lives and to determine ways in which this congregation is preparing members to live lives of daily faithfulness.

Mission is often considered the work of a chosen few who represent the church to the world. It is often associated with crossing oceans, exotic adventures, and foreign lands—for some, this is true. And yet for most of us, God has not called us to cross oceans; God calls us to cross our street and make the gospel relevant in our everyday lives. Most of us are not called to professional ministry. Instead, we struggle to be faithful in the world where God has placed us. Our world of ministry is defined by our homes, work, community, and recreation, as well as our church. These are the “domains” of daily life and the mission field to which we have been called.

It is important to note that this survey is not designed to get you more involved in the activities and programs of the church. Rather, it is designed to help congregational leaders equip you for your daily life. Your candid responses will be most helpful in providing our leaders with valuable information.

The results of this survey will be used by our congregation's Centered Life Vision Team to identify and develop resources that will help awaken the possibilities for your callings in all aspects of your life. The survey is only the beginning of our adventure.

Thank you for your thoughtful response.

Please read each statement carefully and circle the number that best describes your church.

Disagree completely



Agree completely

About Me

- | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. I have a strong awareness of my own strengths and skills. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 2. I see my daily work as a calling. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 3. I feel strongly connected to people in my church. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 4. I genuinely feel guided by God each day in the decisions I make. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 5. God's presence is real to me when I am at work. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 6. I feel called to serve God in all aspects of my life. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 7. I get encouragement from other church members when things are tough for me. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8. I have close relationships with members of my church. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 9. I have a regular prayer life that strengthens me. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 10. God created me with a unique pattern of strengths and talents. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 11. Knowing my own strengths helps me to see how God has called me to serve others. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 12. I can easily see how the work I do everyday contributes to God's work in the world. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 13. I have found at least one network or small group in my church where I can get support and encouragement for my service to God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 14. I see how the tasks of my every day work connect with God's work. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 15. I feel that it is safe to share my struggles and challenges with some members of my church. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 16. Overall, I am satisfied that I am connecting my daily life with my faith. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

Please read each question carefully and circle the number that best describes your church.

Disagree completely



Agree completely

About My Church

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17. Our church services help me apply my faith to the challenges of everyday life. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 18. My church helps people make the connection between being a Christian in Sunday worship and being a Christian throughout the week. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 19. The daily work of church members is regularly celebrated and valued in my church. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 20. My church teaches me that God's work in the world happens through the everyday actions of God's people. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 21. My church helps me identify my strengths and abilities for serving God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 22. My church offers many ways for members to get connected with others. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 23. My spirit is renewed by the music in my church. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 24. The organizational structure of my church is designed to support ministries outside as well as inside the church. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 25. The preaching in my church reflects a clear understanding of the challenges I face every day in living my faith. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 26. My church has helped me to see there are different ways I can pray. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 27. My church has helped me find a way to read scripture that fits my life and works for me. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 28. My church does an outstanding job bringing out the special gifts and abilities that each person has. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 29. My church is organized in a way that helps build support and encouragement among church members. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 30. My church has helped me gain greater understanding of my reading of the Bible. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 31. My church uses its staff and budget in ways that help members serve God in their everyday lives. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 32. Overall, I am satisfied with the way my church helps me connect my faith and daily life. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

