

Portal 1.0 PP

1. Introduction

As we enter a planning process for our Presbytery, we want to know your thoughts and perspectives.

If you are a clergy person, a Session member, a staff member of the Presbytery, or serve on a Presbytery committee we want to know what you think about our work together. We also want to know your perspectives on where we need to invest our energy in the future.

Please do not discuss the questions with one another prior to completing the questionnaire.

In each case, YOUR impressions, feelings, and opinions are important for our search process. 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. Use the "Don't Know" response only in those rare cases where you have no impression at all.

2. Role

* 1. Which statement below best describes your role within the Presbytery?

- Session member but not any of the following:
- Clergy
- Lay person serving on Presbytery Board or Committee
- Presbytery Staff Member
- None of these

3. Your Perspectives

2. The Presbytery makes available policies and procedures that are helpful in the day to day operation of a church.

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

3. I experience a high level of collegiality as members work together in various Presbytery functions including Presbytery meetings, on boards and committees, in collaborative ministries, and in partnership with the Presbytery staff.

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

4. The clergy and lay leaders of our Presbytery 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 Know

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5. The Presbytery leadership has done a good job of developing a shared vision that unites us.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

6. Persons serving in various Presbytery endeavors exhibit a genuine hospitality toward one another and new persons entering into our Presbytery (new clergy, staff, boards, committees, conventions, collaborative ministries, etc).

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

7. There is frequently a small group of members in the Presbytery that opposes what the majority want to do.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

8. Members have discovered that involvement in the work of the Presbytery can be a source of energy and spiritual renewal.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

9. Problems between groups in this Presbytery are usually resolved through mutual effort.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

10. The Presbytery is effective in recognizing trends in the larger society and in helping us adapt in order to deal with those changes.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

11. Most important decisions about what the Presbytery should do as a whole are really made by the same, small group of people.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

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12. In important decisions in our Presbytery, 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

13. As a Presbytery we do a good job communicating with one another in a way that keeps us aware and engaged.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

14. Our Presbytery does a good job helping each member understand that he or she has an important role to play.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

15. Our Presbytery does a good job supporting persons who are serving in various Presbytery ministries.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

16. A positive spirit exists between the leaders of my congregation and the leaders of the Presbytery.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

17. In this Presbytery it seems to me that we are just going through the motions. 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

18. The Presbytery has been successful in helping congregations like mine become more vital and effective.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

19. Some leaders in my congregation have unresolved issues with the leadership of the Presbytery that get in the way of our working together.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

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20. I find Presbytery meetings to be a good use of my time and energy.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

21. On the whole, I am satisfied with how things are in our Presbytery.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

22. Among most of the members of our Presbytery 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

23. I trust the Presbytery leadership to provide strong and competent support to my congregation during challenging times such as changes in clergy or other transitions.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

24. The Presbytery leadership has been a valuable resource in helping my congregation cultivate the financial giving of our people.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

25. Because of my involvement in the Presbytery, I feel clearer about God's purpose for my life than I did three years ago.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

26. Our Presbytery helps members become engaged by finding roles for people that fit their gifts.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

27. Our Presbytery 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

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28. There is a disturbing amount of conflict in our Presbytery.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

29. Our Presbytery provides adequate opportunities for members to engage in work that is meaningful.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

30. Persons who serve as leaders in our Presbytery are generally representative of the members.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

31. The whole spirit in our Presbytery makes people want to get as involved as possible.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Tend to Disagree Tend to Agree Agree Strongly Agree Don't Know

32. LOCAL QUESTION

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

4. About The Future

In this section of the assessment possible goals are listed for our Presbytery in the next three to five years. The Planning Committee is interested in knowing where you believe additional energy needs to be applied to expand or improve our work. 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. Using the scale below respond to the questions that follow:

33. Equip congregations to be more effective in addressing problems affecting their surrounding communities.

No additional Energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

34. Take a leadership role in new church development in promising regions of the Presbytery.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

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35. Work with local congregations to increase the awareness of the Presbytery's mission and its unique impact upon the region that it serves.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

36. Provide on-site stewardship consultants and programs to local churches in order to substantially increase the financial resources of congregations.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

37. Improve the programmatic resources that the Presbytery makes available to congregations to insure that they are the most effective ways to do ministry in the church today.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

38. Streamline the Presbytery organizationally and administratively so that it makes better use of financial resources.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

39. Cultivate a higher level of trust within the Presbytery.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

40. Take a leadership role in working with churches that are struggling.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

41. Equip Pastors and other leaders in congregations with strategies that enable them to reach new members.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

42. Provide church leaders with the interpretive resources that will build more support for the work of Presbytery among members of the congregation.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

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43. Make the Presbytery more responsive to requests for assistance in dealing with particular needs including pastoral transitions, financial issues, or other pressing concerns.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

44. Develop a discernment process to rethink how to be vital Presbyterian churches in our specific region.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

45. Deepen our spiritual capacity as congregations to respond to life with serenity, confidence, and hope.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

46. Equip Pastors and other leaders in congregations to help members become growing, vital disciples.

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

47. LOCAL QUESTION

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

48. LOCAL QUESTION

No additional energy Little additional energy Moderate additional energy Substantial additional energy High additional energy Don't Know

5. Your Involvement

49. Beyond sending representatives to annual Presbytery meetings, how engaged would you say that your congregation has been with any phase of the Presbytery's life and work in the last 12 months?

Not engaged Little engagement Moderate engagement Highly engaged Don't Know

50. Over the last three years how has your congregation's engagement with the Presbytery changed?

Less engaged About the same More engaged Don't Know

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51. If you have served in leadership positions of other Presbyterian churches, how would you compare your level of satisfaction with our Presbytery to other Presbyteries you have worked with?

Less satisfied here

About the same

More Satisfied here

Not Applicable

6. Information about You

52. My gender is...

Male

Female

53. My age is...

Below 19

19 – 24

25 – 34

35 – 44

45 – 54

55 – 64

65+

54. I have been involved in my congregation...

Less than 1
year

1-2 years

3-5 years

6-10 years

11-20 years

20+ years

* 55. In which region of the Presbytery is your church located?

Area 1

Area 2

Area 3

Area 4

56. What would you say is your level of awareness regarding the work of the Presbytery?

Unaware

Somewhat Aware

Moderately Aware

Very Aware

57. When I think about my gifts, interests, and time, I often feel that I have something to give the Presbytery but don't know how to give it.

Strongly
disagree

Disagree

Tend to
disagree

Tend to
agree

Agree

Strongly
agree

Don't
know

7. Amount of Change Required

In our planning process, it is important to have an idea of how much change we believe is required in our Presbytery.

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58. In order to make significant progress toward your vision for our Presbytery, how much change will be required?

- Almost no change
- Small amount of change
- Moderate amount of change
- Large amount of change
- Changes in nearly every area
- Don't know

8. Final Question

59. What additional information would you like the Planning Committee to know?