

Please return by August 10, 2020
First Christian Church, New Castle, IN

Congregational Survey

Instructions: Each person (adult AND youth old enough to understand and answer questions) should complete this survey; please do not share a survey with someone else.

PLEASE BE CANDID, AND DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ON THIS SURVEY.

- 1) **Zip Code:** _____
- 2) **Marital status:** Single Youth Single Adult Single w/children at home Married
 Married w/children at home Blended/Step family Widowed
- 3) **Age Group:** 1-11 12-17 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-79 80+
- 4) **Gender:** Male Female
- 5) **Highest level of completed education:** High School College Graduate School
 Specialty School Other _____
- 6) **Occupation:**
 Business/Retail Service Agriculture Homemaker Construction
 Education Professional Student Military Technical
 Manufacturing Retired Other _____
- 7) **Employment:** Full-time Part-time Retired Other _____
- 8) **Do you consider this congregation to be your church home?** Yes No
Are you a member of this congregation? Yes No
If yes, for how many years? _____ years
- 9) **On average, how many times have you attended worship during the past year?(Pre Covid-19 Pandemic)**
 Weekly Once or twice a month Once or twice every three months Once or twice a year
- 10) **Has your overall involvement in this congregation increased, decreased, or remained the same during the last two (2) years?** Increased Decreased Remained the same
Please indicate all reasons for your answer: Time availability Children Attitude towards church
 Church leadership Health Faith
 Other _____
- 11) **In how many church committees, groups, and/or leadership positions do you presently participate?**
 Four (4) or more Three (3) Two (2) One (1) None
- 12) **Do you have regular access to a computer?** Yes No **If yes, do you have an email address?** Yes No
- 13) **How long does it take for you to get to church?** _____ minutes **How does this affect your participation at church activities? Please explain:**

What do you look for most from your Pastor?

As you review your spiritual life and consider your answers to the questions of this survey, what are the characteristics and qualities that come to mind for our future Pastor?

The following are some of the qualities, abilities, and interests the Pulpit Search Team will consider in seeking a new Pastor. Indicate by **CIRCLING the EIGHT (8)** from the list below which are **most important to you?**

1) Has a deep devotional/prayer life	11) Is actively involved in Disciples of Christ, both regionally and generally
2) Takes a stand on social issues	12) Emphasizes outreach beyond our local community
3) Is approachable	13) Delivers effective, meaningful sermons
4) Actively supports children/youth programs	14) Self-care (maintaining health and wellness)
5) Motivates church staff and lay leaders	15) Theology rooted in Biblical Truths
6) Emphasizes local missions	16) Has a vision for the future of the church
7) Is a good steward of time, talent & treasures	17) Is involved in the local community
8) Is creative in planning and leading worship services	18) Is a good administrator
9) Builds a strong sense of fellowship	19) Is computer literate
10) Has strong pastoral care qualities and commitment	20) Is capable and eager to bring new members to FCC
21) Other (please explain)	
Comments:	

Where are you and First Christian Church today?

Indicate by **CIRCLING the FIVE (5)** areas of church life from the list below which are most important to **YOU**:

1) Individual Spiritual Growth	9) Stewardship
2) Outreach / Mission Work (serving others)	10) Home / Personal Visits
3) Evangelism	11) Christian Education
4) Church Family / Fellowship	12) Pastoral Care
5) Youth	13) Worship
6) Women's / Men's Group	14) Music
7) Lay Leadership (Elders, Deacons, etc.)	15) Congregational Communication
8) Prayer	16) Discipleship
17) Other (please explain)	
Comments:	

Where do you want First Christian Church to be in the future?

If you were looking for church programs and services that would appeal to you or your family, which FIVE (5) from the list below would be the most important to you? Please CIRCLE your top FIVE (5) choices.

1) Adult theological discussions	11) Marriage enrichment opportunities
2) Bible Study discussion and prayer groups	12) Parent training programs
3) Care for terminally ill	13) Parents' day out
4) Cultural programs (music/drama/art)	14) Personal or family counseling
5) Divorce recovery	15) Peace and Justice concerns
6) Family activities and outings	16) Spiritual retreats
7) Food pantry and/or clothing resources	17) Sports or camping
8) Grief ministry	18) Vacation Bible School
9) Youth social programs	19) Twelve step recovery programs
10) Church-sponsored day school	20) Active retirement programs
21) Other areas of interest (please explain)	
Comments:	

Please Note the following table is the same as above, but answer for what church programs you would like to see FCC offer to members and our community. These may not apply to you, but you see as a need in our church family and community as an outreach program.

Please CIRCLE your top FIVE (5) choices.

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21) Other areas of interest (please explain)	
Comments	

Discerning Areas of Greatest Need for Ministerial Leadership

The list below is based on the requirements found in Theological Foundations and Policies and Criteria for the Ordering of Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It is used for describing a minister's areas of skill and expertise (which you will observe on the Ministerial Profiles you receive). It is expected that all ministers will demonstrate competency in each of these areas, but will excel in some more than others. Part of the Search & Call process is discerning a good match between the skills of the pastor and the needs of the congregation. In light of where growth is desired and God is calling you please **circle the top FOUR 4** skills needed in your next pastor.

1. Biblical Knowledge	Rooted and grounded in scripture and able to interpret and apply the scriptures in ways that are appropriate to original and contemporary contexts.
2. Church Administration and Planning	Able to practice the principles of good administration, planning and implementing short- and long-range goals to enhance Congregational life in collaboration with teams and committees.
3. Communication	Be an effective communicator and able to facilitate effective communication within and on behalf of the church.
4. Cross Cultural and Anti-Racism Experience	Sensitive to the different manifestations of racism and prejudice in the culture and committed to confronting and overcoming them
5. Ecumenism	Exhibit a commitment to working with other Christians and denominations, and with other faiths, in programs of common witness and service – articulating the vision of the ecumenical and global church as a starting place for mission.
6. Education and Leader Development	Knows the foundations of Christian education and principles of leader development, and can demonstrate competency in teaching children, youth, and adults, including lay leaders and staff.
7. Ethics	Able to help parishioners think critically about the relationship of their faith to issues of justice, ethics and morality.
8. Evangelism	Able to motivate congregational members to share their faith through word and action.
9. Mission of the Church in the World	Understand and articulate the centrality of the call to mission given by Jesus Christ and the prophets, and can empower congregations to engage in mission from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.
10. Pastoral Care	Able to engage other persons with empathy and assess situations and relationships with the compassion of Christ, with sensitivity to culture and context, and to convey the healing power of God to those who suffer.
11. Proclamation of the Word	Know the practice and theory of Christian preaching, and can proclaim the Word of God, share the Good News of Jesus Christ, and help congregational members apply their faith to daily life.
12. Spiritual Development	Establish and maintain spiritual disciplines that lead to personal growth and help others develop a rich spiritual life.
13. Stewardship	Able to develop and encourage healthy stewards who recognize and share generously God's abundant gifts for all creation.
14. Theology	Able to articulate a coherent view of God's nature and activity in relation to the Christian tradition, critically engage human situations from a perspective of faith, and help persons recognize theological issues in their daily lives.
15. Understanding of Heritage	Know and appreciate the history and thought of Christianity and the history, structure, practices, and ethos of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
16. Worship	Know the purpose and elements of Christian worship, and can plan and lead meaningful worship by working with the worship team, musicians, and congregational members.