

Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Clerk Survey

Thank you for responding to our request. Please answer each of the following questions to the best of your ability, avoiding extraneous marks. There is ample space for comments at the end of the survey.

All responses are guaranteed confidential by CSR; call 616 526-7799 or email csr@calvin.edu with questions.

To enable us to mark your response complete, please write in:

**your Authentication Key or
CRC church Yearbook ID:** _____

1. How would you describe your congregation?

Use percentages, which should total 100.

	Percent
North American Indian/Aboriginal	_____
Asian/Asian American	_____
Black/African American	_____
Hispanic/Latino	_____
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	_____
White/Caucasian/Anglo	_____
Other (<i>specify</i>)	_____

Total: 100%

2. Is your **ministry** located in an area that is

Please mark only the best choice.

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural

3. In what year was your congregation established?

_____ (year)

4. How many pastors has your congregation had during this time?

_____ *Please write in one number, not a range.*

5. Has your pastor gone on a spiritual retreat in the last twelve months? *If you currently have more than one pastor, please evaluate the pastor (usually senior) who will complete the companion pastor's survey.*

- Yes
- No

6. Does the council encourage your pastor to meet regularly with one or more other Christians for the purpose of deepening his/her relationship with God?

- Yes
- No

7. Does the council (or its representatives) reflect with the pastor on the pastor's own goals for spiritual formation and growth and how to sustain these goals?

- Yes
- No

8. Does your congregation have vision and mission statements?

- Yes → *Please answer Q8a, Q8b and Q8c as well*
- No → *Please skip to Q9*

8a. If yes, how well does your pastor embrace and advance your congregation's mission and vision through his/her preaching, other ministry roles, and personal life?

very well poorly

8b. How well do you as council members live out the congregation's mission and vision through your ministry roles and personal lives?

very well poorly

8c. How frequently do you, the council, review your church's vision and mission statements?

- ₁ bi-annually
- ₂ annually
- ₃ every 5 years or more

9. Does the council systematically offer feedback on your pastor's preaching?

- ₁ Yes
- ₂ No

10. Has the council encouraged your pastor to participate in a workshop/seminar on pastoral preaching/teaching in the last 12 months?

- ₁ Yes, and s/he attended.
- ₂ Yes, but s/he did not attend
- ₃ No

11. How well do you as council assist and encourage your pastor by reflecting together on his/her assigned role and personal sense of calling and vision?

very well ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄ ₅ poorly

11a. Does your church have a pastor/church committee through which support of the pastor is demonstrated?

- ₁ Yes
- ₂ No

12. How satisfied are you with the pastor's life balance in the following areas?

Please rate each item from 1 = very satisfied to 5 = very dissatisfied.

- Vocational ministry _____
- Personal devotional time _____
- Time with spouse _____ *Write N/A if not applicable.*
- Time with children/family _____ *Write N/A if not applicable.*
- Physical/emotional self-care _____

13. Is your council supportive of your pastor receiving continuing education and training?

very ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄ ₅ not at all

13a. Does your church have a budget line for the pastor's continuing education?

- ₁ Yes → Please answer Q13b and Q13c as well
- ₂ No → Please skip to Q14

13b. If yes, how much is it?

\$ _____ dollars
Canadian churches, please use Canadian dollars.

13c. Does the pastor use all of the funds available each year?

- ₁ Yes
- ₂ No

14. How many continuing education events (conferences, lectures, workshops etc) has your pastor attended in the last year?

- ₁ None
- ₂ One
- ₃ Two
- ₄ Three
- ₅ Four
- ₆ Five
- ₇ Six
- ₈ More than six

15. Is your pastor a part of a peer learning group?

- ₁ Yes → Please answer Q15a as well
 - ₂ No
 - ₃ Don't know
- } Please skip to Q16

15a. Does your pastor share experiences/learnings from this group with the council?

- ₁ Yes
- ₂ No

16. Is your pastor currently in a mentor/mentee relationship?

- ₁ Yes
- ₂ No
- ₃ Don't know

17. How many of the above (continuing education events, peer learning groups, mentor-mentee relationships) were/are connected with the CRC Sustaining Pastoral Excellence project (which is funded by Lilly Endowment Inc)?

- ₁ 3 or more
- ₂ 1 or 2
- ₃ None
- ₉ Don't know

18. Below, please rate the overall effect of the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence (SPE) project on each area.

SPE has included pastor peer learning groups, continuing education events, mentoring relationships, regional pastor funding, pastor couple learning events, pastors' spouses' peer groups and pastors' spouses' conferences/retreats. You may answer "NA" if your pastor and/or pastors' spouse have not been a part of any SPE programs and/or you are unaware of their effects.

Rate SPE's effect:	very positive	positive	little or none	negative	very negative	N/A
a. on your pastor's role as a pastor and on the pastor's ministry.	<input type="radio"/> ₁	<input type="radio"/> ₂	<input type="radio"/> ₃	<input type="radio"/> ₄	<input type="radio"/> ₅	<input type="radio"/> ₉
b. on your pastor personally.	<input type="radio"/> ₁	<input type="radio"/> ₂	<input type="radio"/> ₃	<input type="radio"/> ₄	<input type="radio"/> ₅	<input type="radio"/> ₉
c. on the culture of the CRCNA.	<input type="radio"/> ₁	<input type="radio"/> ₂	<input type="radio"/> ₃	<input type="radio"/> ₄	<input type="radio"/> ₅	<input type="radio"/> ₉

Please continue to the next page

19. OPTIONAL COMMENT: Your frank comments as a clerk are important to us and will be considered carefully by the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence committee. Is there anything on your mind as a clerk that you would like to communicate to us? Any feedback on the survey? Write your thoughts as legibly as possible in the space below. Please do not identify yourself.

Please continue to the next page

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Please continue to the next page

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If you have any questions and/or suggestions concerning the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence program, please contact:

Lis Van Harten
(877) 279-9994, ext. 0805
lvanharten@crcna.org

Thank you very much for your time. When you have completed the questionnaire, please do one of the following:

1. FAX the survey to CSR at **616 526-7683**

- or -

2. Print the attached postage-paid label for your country, tape it securely to a 6x9 inch envelope, and mail the survey in it

- or -

3. Mail the survey with your own envelope and stamps to:

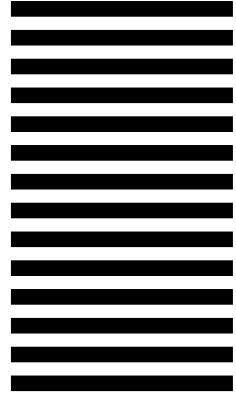
Center for Social Research
Calvin College
3201 Burton St. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Thank you! Please see survey return directions on the next page!

Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Survey



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