

To Give!



Faith Practice #7

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back. -- Luke 6: 38

Things to think about as you determine a rating:		Your Rating High -- Low (circle one)
Pastor(s)	Our pastor(s) gives generously. He/she encourages us to give to the congregation, the synod, and the ELCA.	5 4 3 2 1
Lay Leaders	Our lay leaders give generously. They encourage us to give to the congregation, the synod and the ELCA.	5 4 3 2 1
The Congregation	Our congregation generously supports our local ministry and the mission of the whole ELCA.	5 4 3 2 1
Me	I give generously to the church. I have recently increased my giving. I give a percentage of my income to the church. I do my best to tithe.	5 4 3 2 1

How can we grow in our enthusiasm for giving?

DRAFT COPY

of a Mutual Ministry Evaluation Form to be used in a "field test"

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christ has called us to a mission together. We have been baptized into the "priesthood of all believers." We have been marked by the Cross of Christ and sealed with the Holy Spirit forever. Every one of us has a part in Christ's ministry on earth, and the Holy Spirit has given each of us gifts to use in that ministry.

So, how are we doing? How is our ministry together going? More importantly, how can we better fulfill Christ's mission?

Will you assist in the evaluation process of our ministry together as the baptized people of God? Please fill out the attached evaluations of the pastoral and congregational ministries. The pastor(s) and council will do the same. If there are areas about which you are unsure or have no knowledge, please do not fill in a rating.

This information will be summarized and shared with the pastor(s) to help guide personal growth in ministry and continuing education, and with the council to help guide future planning for mission.

This evaluation process is mutual and self-reflective. The pastor(s) and lay people will be asked to evaluate their own ministry, plus each other's ministry.

Thank you for your assistance in this mutual ministry evaluation.

In Christ,

Your pastor(s) and congregational president

To Pray!

Faith Practice #1



Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you!

-- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Things to think about as you determine a rating:

Your Rating High -- Low (circle one)

Pastor(s)	Our pastor(s) prays regularly in public, speaks of his/her private prayer life, and encourages us to daily prayer.	5	4	3	2	1
Lay Leaders	Our lay leaders pray in public and encourage us to daily prayer.	5	4	3	2	1
The Congregation	Other than in worship services, our meetings, study groups, meals (etc.) regularly include prayer. We regularly pray for the needs of the world, the injured and ill, church leaders, national leaders, the poor, etc.	5	4	3	2	1
Me	Other than in worship services, my prayer life enriches me daily, with things like private and public prayer, devotional booklet, etc.	5	4	3	2	1

What do we need in order to pray more faithfully?

To Serve!

Faith Practice #6



For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Mark 10:45

Things to think about as you determine a rating:

Your Rating High -- Low (circle one)

Pastor(s)	We see the image of Christ's servanthood in our pastor(s). His/her words and deeds challenge and motivate us for service.	5	4	3	2	1
Lay Leaders	Our lay leaders demonstrate Christ's "Servant leadership". Their words and deeds challenge and motivate us for service	5	4	3	2	1
The Congregation	Our congregation serves others through local food pantries, clothing exchanges, prison ministries, visitations, Bible camps, making quilts and/or assembling school kits for Lutheran World Relief, etc.	5	4	3	2	1
Me	I serve my neighbors near and far by participating in the missions of the Church, in the community, at work, and with my family.	5	4	3	2	1

How can we better serve our neighbors?

To Encourage!

Faith Practice #5



Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. -- 1 John 3:18

	Things to think about as you determine a rating:	Your Rating High -- Low (circle one)
Pastor(s)	Our pastor(s) encourages and equips us to be involved in the life of the church, to discover our spiritual gifts and use them. His/her sermons are uplifting and inspirational, and are delivered with conviction.	5 4 3 2 1
Lay Leaders	Our lay leaders recruit and mentor new leaders, including younger members. They give sermons or temple talks, etc.	5 4 3 2 1
The Congregation	Our congregation encourages and equips all people for ministry, including children, young people and new members..	5 4 3 2 1
Me	I actively encourage younger members in their faith journeys. I act as a role model. I feel encouraged to use my spiritual gifts.	5 4 3 2 1

How can we better encourage each other in our spiritual gifts and spiritual journeys?

To Study!

Faith Practice #2



Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105

	Things to think about as you determine a rating:	Your Rating High -- Low (circle one)
Pastor(s)	Our pastor(s) encourages and teaches us to study Scripture. His/her sermons include studies from Scripture, our Lutheran beliefs, and from the worldwide mission of our Church.	5 4 3 2 1
Lay Leaders	Our lay leaders study Scripture in private and/or in groups. Our Sunday School teachers study in preparation for their lessons.	5 4 3 2 1
The Congregation	Our congregation offers opportunities for study and education for all ages. We sponsor Mission Festivals to learn about our global church and its missions. Confirmands study Scripture and the Small Catechism.	5 4 3 2 1
Me	I read and study Scripture regularly, on my own or with a group. I regularly use things like <u>The Lutheran</u> magazine, "Lutheran Vespers" radio program, etc., in my own study.	5 4 3 2 1

How can our study habits and opportunities be improved?

To Worship!

Faith Practice #3



I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. -- Psalm 34:1-3

	Things to think about as you determine a rating:	Your Rating High -- Low (circle one)
Pastor(s)	Our pastor(s) leads worship in a way that encourages participation, reverence, meditation and praise.	5 4 3 2 1
Lay Leaders	Our lay leaders worship regularly, take a public role in leading worship, help plan worship, etc. Scripture passages are read well.	5 4 3 2 1
The Congregation	Our congregation's members are engaged with worship. Our facilities for worship are adequate. Holy Communion is celebrated with proper frequency.	5 4 3 2 1
Me	I worship regularly and am actively engaged in worship.	5 4 3 2 1

How can our worship practices be improved?

To Invite!

Faith Practice #4



But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" -- Romans 10:14-15

	Things to think about as you determine a rating:	Your Rating High -- Low (circle one)
Pastor(s)	Our pastor(s) invites new people to church. He/she teaches, encourages, and leads us to invite people of all backgrounds to worship and to take part in our congregational life.	5 4 3 2 1
Lay Leaders	Our lay leaders invite new people to worship with us and encourage us to invite people from all backgrounds to church.	5 4 3 2 1
The Congregation	Our congregation invites and welcomes all new people to church. We regularly plan activities that are open to the community.	5 4 3 2 1
Me	I invite new people to church. I show hospitality to new people I meet at church. I speak to people outside the congregation about my faith.	5 4 3 2 1

How can we better invite and welcome all people?