CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY SURVEY

DEBRIEFING THINK SHEET

Your congregation took the Congregational Vitality Survey and now you are ready to learn the results. This worksheet is designed to help you capture your thoughts as you move through the results with your facilitator or coach.

The report is written in sections. As you move through each section you will be asked to take a moment and write down what you expect to see in each section and why. As the results are revealed, write down what surprised you and what you wonder about.

SECTION ONE: CONNECTING WITH GOD

Think about how well your congregation connects people with God through prayer, study, spiritual practices, education, experience, etc. Also, consider how well your congregation as a whole connects with God through its clear sense of mission, sense of God's presence, willingness to try new things and excitement about the future.

Because I assume
What I wonder

SECTION TWO: CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

Think about how your congregation connects people with one another. How well do you seek out and use each other's gifts, build community, include new people and youth in leadership, incorporate newcomers, manage disagreements?

I predict	Because I assume
What surprised me	What I wonder

SECTION THREE: CONNECTING WITH THE WORLD

Think about how your congregation connects with its neighborhood and the world outside the place where you worship. How do you impact your community? How are you part of the neighborhood and how is it part of you? Do your people feel connected to the rest of the ELCA and the wider Christian community?

I predict	Because I assume
What surprised me	What I wonder

SECTION FOUR: SUSTAINABILITY

Think about how your congregation connects with its neighborhood and the world outside the place where you worship. How do you impact your community? How are you part of the neighborhood and how is it part of you? Do your people feel connected to the rest of the ELCA and the wider church?

SECTION FIVE: LEADERSHIP & GOD'S ACTIVE PRESENCE

These two factors influence the way congregations make decisions and moves forward in mission.

What surprised me	What I wonder

SECTION SIX: VITALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

The final chart shows the relationship between your congregation's vitality and sustainability. Write down the category your congregation was in:

What surprised me	What I wonder