

Interim Interview – Joining System/Gathering Data

(1 hour at church, beginning with the council/session)

NO NAMES: What is important is what is said, NOT who said it.

____ Year you became a member

One Name the important people in your life when you joined _____?
Why did you join _____?
What is your role in the congregation?
How do others look at you and what do they expect from you? (Give example at _____)

Two How do you describe this congregation to friends and neighbors?
Three adjectives you would use to describe this congregation to an *Interim* pastor who is trying to understand the congregation in some depth.
Be prepared to explain at least one of them.

Three 2-3 strengths of this congregation
2-3 opportunities for growth that are facing this congregation (not more members)
What is standing in the congregation's way from realizing God's intended purpose?

Themes identified (6* or more identical issues/challenges, strengths = THEMES) are brought to governing board (council) for information.

Significant THEMES are those that either help or hinder congregation's health.

Four HISTORY of the congregation ...
a. major accomplishments, celebrations, joys,
b. pain, sadness, leadership issues, secrets, skeletons

HISTORY in a congregation is powerful. Just as family history is passed on -- without words -- for generations, congregational history often repeats itself over and over again -- especially if the pastor is not privy to certain critical pieces.

For instance, what one thing do you know about this congregation that you think is important for the pastor -- or for the *Interim* pastor to know (history, a particular person's role in the congregation, major accomplishments, joys, pain, leadership issues, a major celebration that has affected the congregation's life, a skeleton -- whatever!)

Five
What is the one thing that, if you were interim, you would need to know about this congregation?
What is the one task you believe the Interim must accomplish before the INTERIM DEPARTS?
Other items you would like to discuss or tell me about.

Six What other people (leaders) (formal or informal) do you think I should interview?
I already plan to interview all council members and call committee. Who else?

As issues arise -- family, congregational, personal -- please feel free to contact me to discuss them in the context of our life together in Christ.

Response sheet follows...

NO NAMES

...an abbreviated form for each individual conversation -- more room for responses and less "reading"

_____ **Year**

One *Important people in your life when you joined*

Why this congregation?

What is/are your role/s?

When others look at you WHAT do they expect from you?

Two Describe this congregation

Three adjectives -

Explain at least one

Three Strengths

Opportunities for growth –

What is in your/Congregation's way from realizing God's intended purpose?

Four **HISTORY** (person's role/s or experiences in the congregation)

a. major accomplishments, celebrations, joys,

b. pain, leadership issues, secrets, skeletons

Five ONE thing if YOU ...know about the congregation?"

TASK for *Interim*

Other Items

Six Others to talk to...

As issues arise -- family, congregational, personal, feel free to contact later...

Share Themes/Trends mentioned with Council