

# NOTE TO DATA ENTRY PERSON

We are delighted that your congregation has been nominated for participation in the *Romans 12 Project*. This project seeks to identify vital congregations that embody the Wesleyan model of being and forming disciples. We hope to learn from each congregation and then distribute that information throughout the United Methodist Church in practical and meaningful ways so others might learn as well.

Your congregation was nominated based on one or more of the following criteria:

- ✓ Clarity around the mission and vision of the congregation.
- ✓ Practice of spiritual disciplines both corporately and individually.
- ✓ Nurture of growth in discipleship through mutual support and accountability.
- ✓ Cultivation of intentional and mutual relationships with the most vulnerable the poor, children, the imprisoned, the powerless.
- ✓ Consistent concern for inviting people into relationship with Jesus Christ, combined with wise practices for initiating them into the Body of Christ.
- ✓ Connectional relationships that facilitate participation in God's mission of global transformation.
- ✓ Shared clergy and lay leadership.

To learn more about the project go to [www.gbod.org/congregational/romans12](http://www.gbod.org/congregational/romans12).

Our next step is to gather information about each nominated congregation and we need your help. You have been selected as the data entry person for those persons who cannot access the Internet OR for those who need assistance and is essential for the success of the project. After receiving the written or oral answers, it is your responsibility to enter the answers into the online survey form. You may choose to collect the data in whatever way you find most convenient:

**1. Distribute, Collect & Enter:** You may make copies of paper surveys and distribute them to individuals identified by your onsite facilitator of the *Romans 12 Survey*. Some have found it easiest to hold a 2 hour meeting with those individuals needing your assistance. Explain and distribute the survey using the instructions provided. Give them the time they need to complete the survey. Collect completed surveys before folks leave the room. Enter surveys into the online form.

**2. Interview & Enter:** Conducted either on the phone or in person, you read the instructions and questions to those individuals identified by your onsite facilitator of the *Romans 12 Survey*. Many find it easiest to collect these answers directly online. You read them the instructions and questions as they appear on the screen. You then capture their answers as they give them directly onto the online survey tool.

If you need to leave or close the survey for any reason, the survey will remember where you stopped and will bring you back to the same place (You must re-enter the survey using the same computer.) Keep the following in mind:

- Complete the survey as if you were the actual person you are reporting on behalf of—use their name and identifiers.
- If you are serving as the data entry person for an individual, ALSO check the box on the “About You” section that says “Entering data on behalf of someone else”

Thank you in advance for agreeing to perform this very important role. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us using the information provided below.





## Romans 12 Congregational Survey

We are delighted that your congregation has been nominated for participation in the *Romans 12 Project*. This project seeks to identify vital congregations that embody the Wesleyan model of being and forming disciples. We hope to learn from each congregation and then distribute that information throughout the United Methodist Church in practical and meaningful ways so others might learn as well. Your congregation was nominated based on one or more of the following criteria:

- J Clarity around the mission and vision of the congregation.
- J Practice of spiritual disciplines both corporately and individually.
- J Nurture of growth in discipleship through mutual support and accountability.
- J Cultivation of intentional and mutual relationships with the most vulnerable the poor, children, the imprisoned, the powerless.
- J Consistent concern for inviting people into relationship with Jesus Christ, combined with wise practices for initiating them into the Body of Christ.
- J Connectional relationships that facilitate participation in God's mission of global transformation.
- J Shared clergy and lay leadership.

Visit [www.gbod.org/congregational/romans12](http://www.gbod.org/congregational/romans12) on the web to learn more.

Our next step is to gather information about each nominated congregation. We need you to participate in the following survey which will supply us with insight about your congregation's life.

There are two parts to this intensive congregational self-study survey. Please allow 60-90 minutes to complete the information.

Your personal information will not be shared with any third party and your responses are completely confidential.

Congregation ID # \_\_\_\_\_

## About Me

\*First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age (circle one):

11-13    14-18    18-22    23-35    36-50    50-64    65 & up

Gender (circle one):    M    F

Ethnicity (optional):

African American                       Asian American                       Caucasian/Anglo  
 Hispanic                                       Multicultural                               Native American  
 Pacific Islander                               Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

I have been attending this congregation for (circle one):

Less than 1 year    1-4 years    5-9 years    more than 10 years

I have been an active member of this congregation for (circle one):

Less than 1 year    1-4 years    5-9 years    more than 10 years    doesn't apply

Select the words below that best describe your role within the congregation (please check all that apply)

Founding member                               Youth (13-18)  
 New member (less than 1 year)                               Young Adult (19-30)  
 Active member                                       Committee Chair  
 Inactive member                                       Committee Member  
 Leadership team member                                       Small Group Leader  
 Pastor     Christian Education teacher  
 Associate Pastor                                       Other (specify)  
 Lay Leader

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 Facilitator for this survey                                       Entering data on behalf of someone else  
 Administrator for this survey

\*We have a strict privacy policy. Your personal information will not be made available to anyone nor viewed by anyone outside of the *Romans 12 Project* analysis team. We collect this information in case we need to contact you for clarification of your answers.

**Part One of Two:** This section of the self-study contains multiple choice questions which take approximately 15-30 minutes to complete. Please select the response to each question that best describes your congregation.

## MISSION & VISION

1. In my opinion, the ministry of our congregation is (select one)
  - ☐ Excellent – we excel in ministry areas demonstrated by high levels of involvement and energy in a variety of contexts
  - ☐ Above average – we excel in a few key ministry areas
  - ☐ Above average – we have a high level of involvement and energy
  - ☐ Average, but improving – we are growing and developing in a few key areas with increasing involvement and energy
  - ☐ About average – we provide a good array of ministries and programs with moderate involvement and energy
  - ☐ Below average – we provide limited ministries with little involvement and energy
  - ☐ Struggling – we provide limited ministries and struggle to keep people involved and energy up
  
2. The primary focus of our congregation is:
  - ☐ Member care and/or nurture (this includes Christian education, small group ministry, Bible study groups)
  - ☐ Outreach and/or service (this includes missions, mission trips, community service)
  - ☐ Witness and/or new participant recruitment (this includes new member programs, visitor recognition, visitation programs)
  - ☐ All of the above
  
3. At our congregation, participants clearly understand what Christian discipleship (following the teachings of Jesus) means.
 

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
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4. How many active participants in our congregation know what we mean when we say, "Christian disciple?"
 

Almost All	More than Half	Half	Less than half	Very few
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5. We *lack* a clear sense of purpose in our congregation.
 

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
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6. How many active participants in the congregation can state the purpose and mission of the congregation?
 

Almost All	More than Half	Half	Less than half	Very few
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7. Rank the following from 1 to 7 in order of importance in your congregation. (1 being the most important and 7 being least important):

Taking care of the needs of members of the congregation:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Providing good quality programs at the congregation:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Attracting new participants to the congregation:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Serving the needs of others outside the congregation:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Providing meaningful worship:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Equipping people to be disciples:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Balancing internally focused ministries with externally focused ministries:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

## INVITATION

8. Most people come to our church to have their personal needs met.  
Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
9. Most people come to our church to worship God.  
Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
10. Most people come to our church to learn about God.  
Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
11. Most people come to our church to participate in serving the community or world.  
Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
12. In our congregation, *the only real difference* between being a member or being a participant is whether or not you make a financial pledge.  
Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
13. How many newcomers (those who have been attending less than 6 months) in your congregation participate in a class or other activity that helps them know what you expect from them as participants in your congregation?  
Almost All      More than Half      Half      Less than half      Very few      Not Applicable
14. Almost all newcomers in our congregation participate in a gifts discovery process (such as, taking a survey that helps them identify their talents and interests for ministry) to help them identify their gifts for ministry.  
Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
15. Almost all newcomers in our congregation are matched with a more mature disciple to help mentor them in their discipleship.  
Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

16. We do *not* take newcomers through an assessment process to help them identify areas where they want to grow in spiritual practices (such as Bible study, meditation, prayer and fasting.)

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

17. We help all newcomers in our congregation find an appropriate small group within the congregation that will educate and support them in becoming a disciple.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

## SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

18. Most active participants are involved in some sort of Christian conversation (small group or Sunday school class or other covenant group) at least twice a month.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

19. Most active participants in our congregation engage in a form of daily prayer.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

20. Most active participants in our congregation attend worship services weekly.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

21. Most active participants in our congregation talk with others and tell how God is active in their lives.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

22. Most people in our congregation read the Bible:

Every Day      Every Week      Every Month      Don't Know

23. Most people in our congregation read and study the Bible together in small groups.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

24. We celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper:

Every Time We Worship      Weekly      Once per Month      On Special Occasions      Never

25. Most people in our congregation work together on projects of outreach and service to the community or the world.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

26. Most of the active participants in our congregation personally engage in outreach and service in the community.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

27. Most people in our congregation are *not* part of a small group for spiritual growth.

Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

28. I practice fasting as an individual spiritual discipline.  
 At Least Once a Month      Quarterly      Annually      Rarely      Never
29. Our congregation does *not* fast as a regular spiritual practice.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
30. Most people in our congregation financially tithe (give 10% of their income).  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
31. Of those who give financially, most do so out of obligation, not as an act of devotion.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

## ACCOUNTABLE DISCIPLESHIP

32. *No one* at my congregation helps to hold me accountable (helps me set goals or checks on my progress) for living as a disciple in the world.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
33. Our congregation *does not* provide me with a way to help me measure my spiritual growth.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
34. We have a comprehensive plan that supports faith formation for all participants in our congregation (from childhood through older adulthood).  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
35. We let people figure out how best they can serve others rather than take them through a process that helps them determine where they can best serve others.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
36. We *do not know* how people in our congregation live out their faith during the week.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know

## SERVICE

37. Most people who attend our church on a regular basis serve the congregation (are on a committee of the church or perform tasks within the congregation) in some way.  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know
38. Most people who attend our church on a regular basis serve the community (are involved in mission and outreach on behalf of our congregation)  
 Strongly Agree      Agree      Disagree      Strongly Disagree      Don't Know









