

QUESTIONS THE CANDIDATE SHOULD CONSIDER ASKING THE CHURCH

1. Why am I of particular interest to you?
2. What has been the most significant event in the life of this congregation since you have been a member?
3. Aside from the upheaval of looking for a new pastor, what has been the most upsetting event in the life of this church?
4. In your opinion, what areas of concern need to be addressed by this congregation?
5. What kinds of things did your former pastor do particularly well?
6. What were the circumstances surrounding your former pastor's departure.
7. In what areas do you wish your former pastors had more expertise?
8. What formal and informal methods of support have you used in the past to help your pastor become a better minister?
9. Tell me about the governing board.
10. Has the pastor's family traditionally taken an active role in the church?
11. How is the pastor's compensation package determined? How frequently is it reviewed? By whom? What factors are used in determining that package? Merit or cost-of-living increases? Social Security reimbursement? Equity in the parsonage or a cash equity allowance? Continuing education, book and automobile allowances?
12. How should your pastor spend his time? In the course of a week how much time should be spent in prayer? Personal study? Sermon preparation? Administration? Individual and family counseling? Visiting? With the family?
13. What organizations in the congregation are the most active or successful?
14. Beyond calling a pastor and its related concerns, what is the highest congregational priority for the next twelve months?
15. What goals have you established for church growth? What methods can be used to achieve these goals?
16. What plans have you made for the expansion of staff or buildings?
17. How financially stable is the congregation?
18. What programs do you plan to implement in the next ten years?