**NSRL QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Last Revised: January 12, 2021**

Thank you for participating in the National Survey of Religious Leaders (NSRL).

Leaders of religious congregations are key figures in American society and influential contributors to their communities. In these fast-changing times, it is important to get an up-to-date national picture of religious leaders. The NSRL will provide such a picture. The information collected will be used by scholars and religious leaders to document religious leaders’ characteristics, contributions, and challenges, and better meet their changing needs. The study is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago, on behalf of Mark Chaves at Duke University.

We will ask you questions about your work, career, and activities, and your attitudes and opinions on important topics. Your participation is voluntary. You may stop participating at any time, or refuse to answer any or all questions. It is important to us to protect your privacy.

Data for the study will be released publicly only in a way that preserves your anonymity. Electronic files will be stored on secure computer servers at NORC and Duke that are protected by a variety of restrictions, procedures, and passwords. Only authorized project staff will have access to these servers.

If you have questions or concerns about this research, please feel free to contact Mark Chaves at 919-660-5783. If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, contact the Duke University Office of Research Support at 919-684-3030.

The success of this study depends very much on your cooperation. We appreciate your time very much. We expect the survey to take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

Are you ready to proceed?

Yes 1

No 2

# **I. Congregation and Denomination**

1. First, we’d like to make sure that we have matched you correctly with the congregation where you currently serve. Is it [CONGREGATION NAME PRELOADED FROM NCS]?

Yes (GO TO Q2) 1

Yes, and I also serve at another congregation (GO TO Q2) 2

No, I never served at this congregation (GO TO END SURVEY1) 3

No, I do not currently serve at this congregation, but I did in the

past (GO TO Q2) 4

\*Note: Q1: Response item 4 originally said “GO TO END SURVEY1.” Soon after data collection began, it changed to “GO TO Q2.”

Thank you for confirming that. Throughout this questionnaire, when we say “this congregation,” we mean [CONGREGATION NAME]. When we say “religious leader,” we mean you!

Also, please keep in mind that leaders from a wide variety of religious groups will participate in this study. We tried to use language that works for everyone. We apologize if we haven’t always succeeded. Please answer each question as best you can.

ONLY ASK ROMAN CATHOLICS Q2

2. Are you a member of a religious order?

Yes 1

No [GO TO Q3] 2

2a. What religious order are you a member of?

# **II. Job and Career**

The next questions are about your work situation, career, and some professional activities.

3. What is your position or job title at [CONGREGATION NAME]?

4. Are you the *head* or *principal* clergy person or religious leader at [CONGREGATION NAME]? Please answer “yes” if your congregation has equal co-leaders and you are one of the co-leaders. Please also answer “yes” if you are the sole clergy person or religious leader at [CONGREGATION NAME].

Yes 1

No 2

5. Are you paid for your work in this congregation?

Yes 1

No 2

IF NOT PRIMARY LEADER AND NOT PAID (I.E., IF Q4 = 2 AND Q5 = 2), GO TO END SURVEY2

IF PRIMARY LEADER (I.E., IF Q4 = 1), GO TO Q7.

6. In your position at [CONGREGATION NAME], do you mainly focus on a specific area such as youth, children, music, worship, adult education, outreach, administration, or some other specific area?

No, I do not mainly focus on a specific area [GO TO Q9] 2

Yes, I do mainly focus on a specific area 1

Note: Q6: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

6a. What specific area or areas do you focus on? (Check all that apply.)

[CREATE DROP-DOWN LIST OF SPECIALTIES – SEE BELOW]

Administration

Children’s ministry

Community engagement

Family ministry

Media or communications

Music

Outreach

Pastoral care

Preaching

Psychological counseling

Religious education/Teaching

Spiritual growth

Technology other than worship-related technology

Volunteer coordinator

Worship leader

Worship-related technology

Young adult ministry

Youth ministry

Other, please specify:

Other, please specify:

Other, please specify:

IF Q6a = ONLY MUSIC, ADMINISTRATION, WORSHIP-RELATED TECHNOLOGY, TECHNOLOGY OTHER THAN WORSHIP-RELATED TECHNOLOGY, OR MEDIA OR COMMUNICATIONS, GO TO END SURVEY3.

GO TO Q7 IF Q4 = 1

GO TO Q9 IF Q4 = 2

7. In what year did you start serving at [CONGREGATION NAME] as the congregation’s main leader or co-leader? [DROP DOWN LIST OF YEARS, “2019” at top, down to “1950 or earlier” at the bottom]

8. Were you on the staff of [CONGREGATION NAME] before you became its main leader or co-leader?

Yes 1

No 2

GO TO Q10

9. In what year did you start serving at [CONGREGATION NAME] as a paid staff member, full- or part-time? [DROP DOWN LIST OF YEARS 2019” at top, down to “1950 or earlier” at the bottom]

10. Were you a member or regular participant in [CONGREGATION NAME] before you started serving there as a full- or part-time religious leader or staff member?

Yes 1

No 2

11. Overall, including your time at [CONGREGATION NAME] how many years have you served in *any* congregation as a paid ministerial staff member, full- or part-time, or as the congregation’s main leader, even if you weren’t paid? [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS THAT STARTS WITH ‘LESS THAN A YEAR’, AND THEN 1, 2, 3, ALL THE WAY TO 90]

12. Did you work full-time in a *different career or occupation* before serving in a congregation, not counting summer or other temporary work? (Please answer “no” if your previous career was as a chaplain, campus minister, or other occupation in which you did ministerial or pastoral work.)

Yes 1

No 2

13. In a typical week, about how many hours do you spend in activities related to your position at [CONGREGATION NAME]? [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS THAT STARTS WITH ‘LESS THAN AN HOUR’, AND THEN 1, 2, 3, ALL THE WAY TO 90]

14. Do you serve any other congregations besides this one?

Yes 1

No (GO TO Q15) 2  
IF NOT ANSWERED, SKIP TO Q15

14a. In a typical week, about how many hours do you spend in activities related to your work with any other congregations over and above the time you spend in your work with [CONGREGATION NAME]? [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS THAT STARTS WITH ‘LESS THAN AN HOUR’, AND THEN 1, 2, 3, ALL THE WAY TO 90]

15. In addition to your service in [CONGREGATION NAME], do you currently have an official role as a chaplain or minister in a hospital, nursing home, college, prison, or any other kind of institution or setting?

Yes 1

No (GO TO BOX 1) 2

15a. In what kind of institution or setting do you serve as a chaplain? (Check all that apply)

[DROP DOWN LIST: College/university, Hospital, Nursing homes, Prison/jail, Police or fire department, Other, please specify]

15b. In a typical week, about how many hours do you spend in activities related to your official role as a chaplain over and above the time you spend in your work for [CONGREGATION NAME]? [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS THAT STARTS WITH ‘LESS THAN AN HOUR’, AND THEN 1, 2, 3, ALL THE WAY TO 90]

**BOX 1**

IF (Q14 = NO or NA) and (Q15 = NO or NA), GO TO Q16a.

IF (Q14 = YES) and (Q15 = NO or NA), GO TO Q16b

IF (Q14 = NO or NA) and (Q15 = YES), GO TO Q16c

IF Q14 = YES and Q15 = YES, GO TO Q16d

16a. Do you have any other job (full- or part-time) besides serving in [CONGREGATION NAME]?

Yes [GO TO Q16x] 1

No [GO TO Q17] 2

16b. Do you have any other job (full- or part-time) besides serving in [CONGREGATION NAME] and any other congregations?

Yes [GO TO Q16x] 1

No [GO TO Q17] 2

16c. Do you have any other job (full- or part-time) besides serving in [CONGREGATION NAME] and as a chaplain?

Yes [GO TO Q16x] 1

No [GO TO Q17] 2

16d. Do you have any other job (full- or part-time) besides serving in [CONGREGATION NAME] and the other positions you mentioned?

Yes [GO TO Q16x] 1

No [GO TO Q17] 2

16x. In a typical week, about how many hours do you spend in activities related to this other job or jobs? [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS THAT STARTS WITH ‘LESS THAN AN HOUR’, AND THEN 1, 2, 3, ALL THE WAY TO 90]

17. Your answers to the previous few questions imply that, in a typical week, you spend [SUM OF Q13, Q14a, Q15b, AND Q16x] hours in work activities overall. Does this sound about right?

Yes [GO TO Q18] 1

No 2

17a. About how many hours overall do you spend on work activities in a typical week? [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS THAT STARTS WITH ‘LESS THAN AN HOUR’, AND THEN 1, 2, 3, ALL THE WAY TO 90]

18. Within the past 12 months, how often did you:

a. Preach or serve as the principal worship leader during a religious service?

b. Lead a class or group of some sort within your congregation?

c. Visit people who are sick, in the hospital or another care facility, or housebound?

d. Engage in pastoral counseling, spiritual direction, or offer other kinds of guidance or advice in a private setting, not including meetings with other congregational staff?

Response options: Not at all

Once or twice

Several times but less than once a month

About once a month

Two to three times a month

Nearly every week

About once a week

Several times a week

Note: Q18: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same

19. Within the past 12 months, in your role as a religious leader, have you personally collaborated on any sort of event, program, or project with:

a. Congregations other than your own?

b. An office or program of your denomination or religious group?

c. An office or program of a denomination or religious group other than your own?

d. A nonprofit social service organization?

e. A public elementary, middle, or high school?

f. A religious or other private elementary, middle, or high school?

g. A college or university?

h. A seminary or theological school?

i. A business?

j. A hospital?

k. A local, state, or federal government agency or program?

l. An advocacy organization?

Response options: Yes

No

20. On the whole, how satisfied are you with the work you do as a religious leader?

Not satisfied at all 1

Only a little satisfied 2

Moderately satisfied 3

Very satisfied 4

Note: Q20: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

21. In the past 12 months, how often, if ever, have you considered leaving congregational work to do some other sort of religious work?

Never 1

Once in a While 2

Fairly Often 3

Very Often 4

Note: Q21: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

22. In the past 12 months how often, if ever, have you considered leaving congregational work to do something that does *not* involve religious work?

Never 1

Once in a While 2

Fairly Often 3

Very Often 4

Note: Q22: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

# **III. Religious Beliefs and Practices**

The next few questions are about your own personal religious and spiritual beliefs and practices.

23. Which statement comes closest to expressing what you believe about God?

I know God really exists, and I have no doubts about it 1

While I have doubts, I do believe in God 2

I find myself believing in God some of the time, but not at others 3

I don't believe in a personal God, but I do believe in a higher power of some kind 4

I don't know whether there is a God, and I don't believe there is any way to find out 5

I don’t believe in God 6

24. How often, if ever, do you have doubts about your religious faith?

Never 1

Sometimes 2

Frequently 3

All the time 4

I do not have a religious faith 5

Note: Q24: Response options have been reordered: All the time / Frequently / Sometimes / Never / I do not have a religious faith on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

25. Do you believe in:

a. Life after death?

b. Heaven?

c. Hell?

d. Miraculous healing?

e. God giving financial wealth and good physical health to those with enough faith?

f. Reincarnation (that people will be reborn in this world again and again)?

g. Astrology (that the position of the stars/planets can affect people’s lives)?

h. [FOR CHRISTIANS ONLY] Jesus’ bodily resurrection?

i. [FOR CHRISTIANS AND JEWS ONLY] Adam and Eve as literal historical people?

Response options: No, definitely not

No, probably not

Not sure

Yes, probably

Yes, definitely

Note: Q25: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

IF CHRISTIAN GO TO Q26. OTHERWISE, GO TO Q27.

26. Which of the following comes closest to your personal beliefs about the Bible?

a. The Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally, word-for-word.

b. The Bible is the inspired word of God, without errors. Some parts are meant to be symbolic, but all of it applies today.

c. The Bible is the inspired word of God that still speaks to us today, but not all of it is historically accurate, and some parts reflect the culture in which it was written and do not apply today.

d. The Bible is *not* the inspired word of God, but its stories and wisdom contain much that is true and relevant today.

e. The Bible contains a mix of legends, stories, and moral precepts with little relevance for today.

27. In the past month, how often have you:

a. Said a prayer before or after a meal?

b. Prayed or meditated when you were *by yourself*, not including praying before or after a meal?

c.

Response options: Not at all

Sometimes, but less than once a week

Once a week

Two or more times a week, but not every day

Every day

More than once a day

Note: Q27: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

28. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements:

a. All the great religions of the world are equally good and true.

b. My religion would be the best one for all people no matter their background or current religion.

c. It is important for me to try to persuade people in other religions to accept my religion instead of their own.

d. Ideally, people in my congregation should avoid developing close friendships with people who do not share their religious views.

e. All religious leadership positions should be open to women.

f. All religious leadership positions should be open to people regardless of their sexual orientation.

Response options: Completely disagree

Mainly disagree

Slightly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Slightly agree

Mainly agree

Completely agree

\*NOTE: Q28 will be a question to be split, because the items are so long. Split into two screens of three items each and FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

29. Would you perform the wedding of a same-sex couple if your religious group allowed it?

Response options: Definitely not

Probably not

Not sure

Probably yes

Definitely yes

I am not credentialed to officiate at weddings

Note Q29: Response options have been reordered: Definitely yes / Probably yes / Not sure / Probably not / Definitely not / I am not credentialed to officiate at weddings

Now we’d like to ask about your beliefs and experiences regarding some important issues. There are no right or wrong answers to any of these questions. We want to know what *you* think, and how you respond when faced with certain kinds of situations.

The first issue has to do with mental illness.

# **IV. Mental Illness**

31. In the past 12 months, in your professional role as a religious leader, has anyone come to you for help because they or a family member had what might be described as a mental illness?

Yes 1

No (GO TO Q32) 2

31a. How often did this happen in the past 12 months?

Response options: Not at all

Once or twice

More than once or twice, but less than monthly

About once a month

More than once a month

Note: Q31: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

32. In the past 12 months, how often have you:

a. Encouraged someone to seek help from a psychiatrist, psychologist, or other mental health professional?

b. Preached a sermon that focused on mental illness?

c. Led a prayer or healing service that focused on mental illness?

d. Organized or led a class or study group that focused on mental illness?

e. Read a book, attended a class or seminar, or searched for resources on the internet about mental illness?

Response options: Not at all

Once or twice

More than once or twice, but less than monthly

About once a month

More than once a month

Note: Q32: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

33. Below we describe a person you might encounter, followed by a few questions about what you think about this person. Please remember, there are no right or wrong answers to these questions. We are interested in what you think might be going on with this person, and how you might respond to her.

For the past month a forty year old woman in your congregation has been feeling really down. She wakes up in the morning with a flat heavy feeling that sticks with her all day long. She isn't enjoying things the way she normally would. In fact, nothing gives her pleasure. Even when good things happen, they don't make her happy. She pushes on through her days, but it is really hard. The smallest tasks are difficult to accomplish. She finds it hard to concentrate on anything. She feels out of energy and out of steam. And even though she feels tired, when night comes she can't go to sleep. She feels worthless and discouraged.

How serious would you consider this person’s problem to be?

Response options: Not at all serious

A little bit serious

Moderately serious

Very serious

Note: Q33: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

34. In your opinion, how likely is it that this person’s situation might be caused by:

a. A chemical imbalance in her brain?

b. A genetic or inherited problem?

c. A traumatic experience?

d. Demon possession?

e. Lack of community or social support?

f. Lack of faith?

g. Stressful circumstances in her life?

Response options: Not at all likely

A little bit likely

Moderately likely

Very likely

Note: Q34: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

35. How likely are you to:

a. Encourage this person to seek help from a mental health professional?

b. Encourage this person to take medicine for her condition if it was prescribed by a doctor?

c. Encourage this person to address her situation through prayer, scripture study, or other religious activity?

Response options: Not at all likely

A little bit likely

Moderately likely

Very likely

Note: Q35: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

36. [QUESTION INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

# **V. Science**

The relationship between religion and science is another important issue. The next few questions are about that. They concern both the natural sciences, like astronomy or biology, and the social sciences, like psychology or sociology. Again, there are no right or wrong answers. We’re interested in what *you* think.

37. In the past 12 months, how often, if at all, have you discussed any of the following in your sermons, teachings, writings, or other messages to your congregation, or as part of a class or group that you led within your congregation?

a. Astronomy

b. Climate change

c. Environmental science other than concerning climate change

d. Human origins or evolution

e. Psychology or neuroscience

f. Results of surveys or public opinion polls

g. Stem cell research

h. Vaccines

i. Medical science concerning subjects other than stem cells or vaccines

j. Some other science issue? Please specify:

k. Some other science issue? Please specify:

l. Some other science issue? Please specify:

Response options: Not at all

Once or twice

More than once or twice, but less than monthly

About once a month

More than once a month

Note: Q37: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

38. We are interested in your views on the origins and development of the universe and life on Earth. Below are some statements on that subject. In your view, how likely is it that each is true or false?

a. God created the world in six 24-hour days.

b. The Earth is less than 10,000 years old.

c. God directly created humans through a miraculous process.

d. Humans evolved from non-human life forms.

e. All life, including humans, evolved over millions of years according to the design of God or an Intelligent Force.

f. God or an Intelligent Force created the laws of nature, which led to the emergence of humans over millions of years of evolution, but ***without any guidance*** from God or an Intelligent Force.

g. All life, including humans, evolved over millions of years; no God or Intelligent Force was involved in either the creation or evolution of life.

Response options: Definitely false

Probably false

Not sure

Probably true

Definitely true

Note: Q38: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same

39. Which of the following statements best represents your opinion about climate change?

The climate is changing, and human actions are a major cause of the change 1

The climate is changing, but human actions are only a minor cause of the change 2

The climate is changing, but not because of human actions 3

The climate is not changing 4

40. To what extent do you feel that scientific findings conflict with your religious beliefs?

Not at all 1

A little bit 2

A moderate amount 3

Quite a bit 4

Very much 5

Note Q40: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

41. How important is it for your religious beliefs to be consistent with established scientific knowledge?

Not at all important 1

A little bit important 2

Pretty important 3

Very important 4

Note: Q41: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

42. How open are you to the possibility of changing your religious beliefs in light of new scientific findings?

Not at all open 1

A little bit open 2

Pretty open 3

Very open 4

Note: Q42: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

43. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement:

“Most scientists are hostile to religion.”

Completely disagree 1

Moderately disagree 2

Slightly disagree 3

Neither agree nor disagree 4

Slightly agree 5

Moderately agree 6

Completely agree 7

Note: Q43: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

44. Have you come across any research studies about:

a. Character development or moral formation?

b. How to forgive, or the benefits of forgiveness?

c. How to be humble, or the benefits of humility?

d. How to be grateful, or the benefits of gratitude?

e. How to be generous, or the benefits of generosity?

f. How to be self-controlled, or the benefits of self-control?

g. Prayer or meditation?

Response options: No 2

Maybe, but I’m not sure 3

Yes 1

Note: Q44: Response options have been reordered to Yes/No/Maybe, but I’m not sure. In contrast to the other response option codeframes that were reversed in the web display (but had coding numbering maintained), coding for this question was fixed to Yes=1, No=2, Maybe but I’m not sure=3.

IF ANY OF Q44 a – h = “Yes,” GO TO Q45. OTHERWISE, GO TO Q46.

45. Have you discussed any of these studies in a sermon, teaching, writing or other message to your congregation, or as a part of a class or group that you led within your congregation?

Yes 1

No 2

# **VI. End-of-life issues**

Religious leaders often talk with people who are sick and dying. The next few questions ask about your views and experiences around end-of-life issues.

46. Within the past 12 months, have you visited anyone in your capacity as a congregational leader who was sick and very likely to die within six months?

Yes 1

No (GO TO Q47) 2

46a. How often have you done this in the past 12 months?

Response options: Not at all

Once or twice

More than once or twice, but less than monthly

About once a month

More than once a month

Note: Q46A: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

47. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

a. In some circumstances a patient should be allowed to die by withholding possible treatments.

b. In some circumstances a patient should be allowed to end his or her own life by taking a physician-supplied overdose of drugs.

Response options: Completely disagree

Moderately disagree

Slightly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Slightly agree

Moderately agree

Completely agree

Note: Q47: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

48. If you were visiting someone with cancer, whom doctors say will die in six months or less, how likely are you to…

a. Encourage them to hope for a miracle physical cure?

b. Encourage them to stop aggressive medical treatment and instead pursue care to minimize pain and make them as comfortable as possible in the time they have left?

Response options: Not likely at all

A little bit likely

Moderately likely

Very likely

**Note: Q48**:FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST." Numerical codes remain the same.

# **VII. Politics**

The next few questions concern your political views and activities. Some of these questions may be sensitive, but they are important in helping us paint the most accurate possible picture of religious leaders’ contributions to their communities. You can of course skip any question that you prefer not to answer.

49. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, Democrat, Independent, or what?

Republican (GO TO Q49a) 1

Democrat (GO TO Q49a) 2

Independent (GO TO Q49b) 3

No Preference (GO TO Q49b) 4

Other (GO TO Q49c) 5

49a. Would you call yourself a strong [Republican/Democrat] or a not very strong [Republican/Democrat]?

Strong 1

Not very strong 2

GO TO Q50

49b. Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?

Republican 1

Democratic 2

Neither 3

GO TO Q50

49c. Please specify:

50. We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Below is a seven-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservative. Where would you place yourself on this scale?

Extremely liberal 1

Liberal 2

Slightly liberal 3

Moderate, middle of the road 4

Slightly conservative 5

Conservative 6

Extremely conservative 7

51. In the past *two years*, how often have you engaged in the following activities?

a. Organized or led a group in your congregation to work on advancing a social or political goal.

b. Took a stand on a controversial public issue while preaching, speaking, or writing to your congregation.

c. Prayed out loud about a controversial political issue during a worship service at your congregation.

d. Urged people in your congregation to vote.

e. Urged people in your congregation to get involved in some type of political action beyond voting.

f. Contacted or lobbied a public official in your capacity as a congregational leader.

g. Participated in a protest, march, or demonstration in your capacity as a congregational leader.

Response options: Not at all

Once or twice

More than twice

Note: Q51: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

IF ANY OF Q51 a, b, c, e, f, or g > “Not at all,” GO TO Q51a1. OTHERWISE, GO TO BOX Q51a2.

51a1. When you have been involved in these sorts of activities in your capacity as a congregational leader within the past *two years*, which of the following issues, if any, did those activities address?

We are asking here about the issues addressed by the activities you reported on the previous two screens. *(Check all that apply)*

a. Abortion

b. Capital punishment

c. Economic issues

d. Education

e. Environmental issues

f. Foreign policy

g. Gay, lesbian, or transgender issues

h. Gun laws

i. Health care

j. Hunger or poverty

k. Immigration

l. Police-community relations

m. Race relations

n. Some other issue, please specify:

o. Some other issue, please specify:

p. Some other issue, please specify:

51a2. Have you ever endorsed or opposed a political candidate while preaching, speaking, or writing to your congregation?

Yes [GO TO Q52] 1

No 2

51b1. Do you think you would do this if tax laws allowed it?

No, definitely not 1

No, probably not 2

I’m not sure 3

Yes, probably 4

Yes, definitely 5

Note: Q51b1: Response options reversed on the web display though numerical codes remain the same.

52. When it comes to politics, how would you compare your own political views to those held by most people in your congregation?

I am much more politically conservative 1

I am somewhat more politically conservative 2

I am about the same as most people in my congregation 3

I am somewhat more politically liberal 4

I am much more politically liberal 5

53. Did you vote in the 2016 Presidential election?

Yes 1

No (GO TO Q54) 2

Not sure (GO TO Q54) 3

53a. Who did you vote for?

Hillary Clinton (GO TO Q54) 1

Donald Trump (GO TO Q54) 2

Someone else (GO TO Q53a1) 3

I prefer not to say (GO TO Q54) 4

53a1. Who?

# **VIII. What you Read, Watch, and Listen To**

54. In a *typical month*, how often do you obtain information or resources for your work at [CONGREGATION NAME] from each of the following sources:

a. Books other than the Bible or other sacred texts?

b. Magazines or journals (either in print or online)?

c. Websites?

d. Podcasts?

e. Individuals or groups you follow on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, or other social media?

Response options: Never

Once or twice

About once a week

Two or three times a week

Almost every day

Every day

Note: Q54: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

IF ALL RESPONSES TO Q54 a - e = “Never,” GO TO Q55. OTHERWISE, GO TO Q54a1.

54a1. Which books, magazines, websites, podcasts, people, or groups have you found most helpful as sources of information or resources for your work at [CONGREGATION NAME]?

a. Source 1:

b. Source 2:

c. Source 3:

d. None come to mind 4

# **IX. Demographics**

Here are a few basic questions about your demographic characteristics, education, and marital status.

55. How do you describe yourself? (Please check one)

Male 1

Female 2

Other, please specify:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3

56. What race or ethnicity are you? (You can check more than one if you wish)

White 1

Black or African American 2

Hispanic/Latino 3

American Indian or Alaska Native 4

Asian 5

Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander 6

Other, please specify:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 7

57. In what year were you born? [DROP DOWN LIST OF YEARS, “2019” at top, down to “1900” at the bottom]

58. Were you born in the United States?

Yes (GO TO Q59) 1

No 2

58a. In what country were you born? [DROP DOWN LIST OF COUNTRIES]

59. Do you have a bachelor’s degree from a four-year college or university?

Yes 1

No (GO TO Q60) 2

IF NOT ANSWERED, SKIP TO Q59a

59a. Do you have a Master’s degree, doctorate, or other professional or graduate degree?

Yes 1

No (GO TO Q60) 2

59a1. Is one of your degrees a Master of Divinity or similar graduate degree from a seminary or divinity school? (By “similar” we mean a graduate degree intended to prepare people to become clergy.)

Yes (GO TO Q62) 1

No 2

60. Do you have any formal pastoral or ministerial training, such as from a Bible college, seminary, denomination, certificate program, or other training program?

Yes 1

No 2

61. Are you currently attending a seminary, divinity or theological school, or engaged in some other kind of training for pastoral work?

Yes 1

No 2

62. What is your current marital status?

Never married (GO TO Q62a) 1

Married (GO TO Q63) 2

Divorced or separated (GO TO Q62a) 3

Widowed (GO TO Q62a) 4

62a. Are you currently in a committed romantic relationship?

Yes 1

No 2

63. Do you have children living at home?

Yes 1

No (GO TO Q64) 2

63a. How many? [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS, 1-10]

# **X. Health and Well-being**

The next few questions are about your health. We realize that these questions might be sensitive, but your answers will help us paint the most accurate possible picture of religious leaders’ well-being.

64. In general, would you say that your health is:

Excellent 1

Very Good 2

Good 3

Fair 4

Poor 5

65. To what extent do you feel truly cared for by people in your congregation?

Not at all 1

A little bit 2

A moderate amount 3

Quite a bit 4

Very much 5

**Note: Q65**: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same

66. Over the past *two weeks*, how often have you been bothered by either of the following problems?

a. Little interest or pleasure in doing things

b. Feeling down, depressed or hopeless

Response options: Not at all

Several days

More than half the days

Nearly every day

**Note: Q66**: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

67. During the past *month*, how often did you feel…

a. Happy?

b. Satisfied with life?

Response options: Never

Once or twice

About once a week

Two or three times a week

Almost every day

Every day

**Note: Q67**: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

68. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement:

“In most ways my life is close to my ideal.”

Response options: Completely disagree

Moderately disagree

Slightly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Slightly agree

Moderately agree

Completely agree

**Note: Q68**: FOR PRODUCTION, THESE RESPONSE OPTIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED IN ORDER TO START WITH POSITIVE END OF SCALE FIRST. Numerical codes remain the same.

69. About how tall are you without shoes?

FEET [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS, 1-8]

INCHES [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS, 0-11]

70. About how much do you weigh without shoes? [DROP DOWN LIST OF NUMBERS OF POUNDS THAT STARTS WITH ‘Less than 80’, AND THEN 80, 81, 82, ALL THE WAY TO ‘400 or more’]

# **XI. Finances**

We’re almost done! The next few questions are about your finances. Again, we realize that this is a sensitive subject, but we want to paint the most accurate possible picture of religious leaders’ financial situation. Your responses will help us do that.

IF R IS PAID BY THE CONGREGATION, (I.E., IF Q5 = 1) OR Q5=No Answer, GO TO Q71. OTHERWISE, GO TO Q72.

71. What is your current annual salary for your work at [CONGREGATION NAME], including compensation that might be designated as housing allowance? [DROP DOWN CATEGORIES]

72. Are you currently living rent-free in a parsonage, manse, rectory, or other living arrangement provided by your congregation, denomination, or some other organization?

Yes 1

No 2

73. In the past 12 months, did you receive personal income from sources other than [CONGREGATION NAME], such as from another job, a retirement account, investment income, fees from weddings or funerals, or other sources?

Yes 1

No (GO TO Q74) 2

73a. How much income did you receive from these other sources in the past 12 months before taxes? (It’s ok to answer thinking about the most recent calendar year rather than about the past 12 months.) [DROP DOWN CATEGORIES]

74. Still thinking about the past 12 months, what was your total *household* income, from all sources, before taxes? (It’s ok to answer thinking about the most recent calendar year rather than about the past 12 months.) [DROP DOWN CATEGORIES]

75. Did you take out any student loans to help pay for your own education?

Yes 1

No [GO TO Q75b] 2

75a. How much overall did you borrow in student loans to help pay for your own education?

[DROP DOWN CATEGORIES]

75b. We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. So far as you and your family are concerned, how satisfied would you say that you are with your present financial situation?

Response options: Not satisfied at all

More or less satisfied

Pretty well satisfied

# **XII. Speakers and Challenges**

Our last two questions ask for information that will help develop resources that might be useful to you. Having come this far, we hope you will take another few minutes to answer these last questions. Most participants will, and we would greatly appreciate it if you would too!

76. If cost was no object, who would you most want to invite to speak to your congregation? Please list up to three people. If you list someone who is not a well-known public figure, please briefly describe who the person is by saying something like “author of….”; “leader of….”; or “expert in…”.

1:

2:

3:

No one comes to mind 4

77. Finally, please tell us the most important practical challenge(s) you currently face in your work at [CONGREGATION NAME].

Please also feel free to use this space to tell us anything else you’d like to share about yourself or your work at [CONGREGATION NAME] that this survey did not adequately inquire about.

[PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL SPACE]

Nothing comes to mind [GO TO CLOSING] 1

[IF ELIGIBLE FOR INCENTIVE DISPLAY **INCENTX**; OTHERWISE, GO TO **CLOSING**:]

INCENTX         As a token of our appreciation for your participation in this important project, we would like to send you or your congregation $[AMOUNT] in the form of a check.

If you would prefer to not receive any sort of token of appreciation, please indicate this.

Please make the token of appreciation payable to...

My congregation

My name

Do not send any monetary token of appreciation

[PROGRAMMER:

If user selects either of the first two options, or selects nothing, user should get screen **INCENTADDR**.. Otherwise, if they select the third option, they just select ‘next’ to advance to **CLOSING**. This strategy is used on the web survey for NSCEP.]

**INCENTADDR:**

Please provide the address where you would like us to mail this token of appreciation. Please give us at least two weeks to process and mail the check.

              Your name or congregation name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

          Address 1\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                         Address 2\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                          City\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                          State\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                          Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[PROGRAMMER:

Prompt with warning if respondent chooses "My congregation" or "My name" above and then tries to proceed without filling contact info fields.

Require all these fields:

* Your name or congregation name
* Address 1
* City
* State
* Zip Code

**CLOSING**

That’s it! Thanks so much for participating in the National Survey of Religious Leaders. Results from this study will be available sometime in 2019. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the progress of this research, please don’t hesitate to call us at any of the numbers we have given you. Thanks again for your time.

**END SURVEY 1 (FOR OUT OF SCOPE CONGREGATIONS)**

We greatly appreciate your willingness to participate in this study, but we are gathering information only from those who currently serve at one of our sampled congregations. We apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you again for your willingness to participate.

**END SURVEY 2 (FOR OUT OF SCOPE BECAUSE UNPAID *AND* NOT PRIMARY LEADER)**

We greatly appreciate your willingness to participate in this study but, except for a congregation’s head or primary leader, we are gathering information only from congregations’ paid staff. We know that volunteer leaders are very important to congregations, but available resources do not allow us to extend our research to include them. We apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you again for your willingness to participate.

**END OF SURVEY 3 (FOR OUT OF SCOPE BECAUSE MUSICIAN, ADMINISTRATION, TECHNOLOGY, OR COMMUNICATIONS)**

We greatly appreciate your willingness to participate in this study, but we are not able to gather information from congregational leaders who specialize in music, administration, technology, or communications. We know that people with these skills are very important to congregations, but available resources do not allow us to extend our research to include them. We apologize for any inconvenience. Thank you again for your willingness to participate.