

Deacons, This is a guideline only for your use.

Hello ---, I just want to establish contact with you as part of our
Pastoral Care duties.

Questions to Build Relationships with a Member of your Congregation so as to ...Care with Compassion

Meaningful Icebreakers:

- ① → 1. How are things going with you?
2. How was your day?
3. Have you always been a ...Christian?

Questions Concerning the Personal Life of the Member:

1. What new "adventures" have you begun recently?
2. Is there anything new going on with your family?
② → 3. How are things going with your job?
4. How are you feeling – bodily, mentally, spiritually?
5. How are you feeling about life right now – happy, sad, etc.?
6. How do you feel about your job?
7. If you could make one hope for yourself come true, what would that be?
8. What has been the biggest change in your life recently?
③ → 9. How has your health been this year?
10. What joys are you experiencing in your life right now?

Questions Concerning the Congregation:

- ④ → 1. Do you feel a part of our church family? (Followed up by) How so?
2. How do you find our worship services?
3. Why do you keep coming to church?
4. Do you enjoy "giving" to the church?
5. What does our community of faith mean to you?
6. If you could make one wish come true for our congregation, what would it be?
7. What do you like best about our congregation?
8. What do you like least about our congregation?
9. Are you aware of how to go about sharing your concerns?
10. Do you think your gifts are adequately utilized in our congregation?
11. Is there anything you would like to be doing in our congregation that you have not been asked to do?
12. Is our congregation meeting the needs of your family?
13. Is our congregation meeting your own needs?
⑤ → 14. How could the congregation best meet your needs?
15. How do you find the "atmosphere" of our congregation? Friendly? Cold? Indifferent?
16. What part has our congregation played in your life?
17. If you could improve or change anything about our congregation, what would you do?
18. What would you advise our congregation to change so that we can capitalize on its strengths and overcome its weaknesses?
19. How can the congregation help you grow in faith?
20. What would you like to see in the sphere of Christian education?

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21. What activities of our congregation were most meaningful for you during the past year?
22. Is our congregation providing the spiritual nurture which you desire for your children?
23. What subject(s) would you like to hear about in our congregation?
24. How can our congregation help you toward the wholeness of person God intends for you?
25. What more can our congregation do to facilitate the spiritual growth of our members?
26. How can we enhance our congregation's communication?
27. What formal or informal groups of our congregation are you involved in?
28. What do you expect to receive from our church?
29. If you had to keep only one ministry of our congregation, which would you keep? Why?
30. Are there any concerns you would like me to carry back to the council?
31. Are there any concerns you would like me to carry back to the council anonymously?
32. Have you heard about (program/event, etc) that is happening at (location) now?
33. In terms of my own Christian relationship (or, if appropriate, ministry to you), am I sufficiently meeting your needs?
34. What do the worship services mean to you?
35. Is there anything or anyone you would like the congregation to pray for?
36. Do you feel a need for new ministries in the congregation? What do you suggest?

Questions Concerning the Member's Relationship to God:

1. What are some of the disappointments or frustrations you experience in your relationship with Jesus Christ?
2. What are some of the joys in your relationship with Jesus Christ?
3. How has God worked in your life recently?
4. At what times does God seem very present to you? Very distant?
5. Has your concept of God changed over the years? If so, how?
6. Have you experienced evidence of God's love for you recently?
7. What are some of the more important things you've learned about God recently, perhaps in the last year or so?
8. Has God expressly blessed you in the last year or so?
9. How does your relationship with God tie in to your job?

Questions Concerning Spiritual Life and the Christian Walk:

1. How do you as a Christian relate to the world?
2. Are you able to share your faith as a Christian with others in your everyday life?
3. What do you believe is the message of the Church?
- ⑥ → 4. What are your challenges in your Christian witness?
5. Do you/would you like to have family or personal devotions?
6. Do you have any resources to help you in your spiritual life?
7. Do you do any devotional reading? (If so) Would you like to tell me more about it?
- ⑦ → 8. Are you experiencing any struggles in your Christian journey?
9. How is your spiritual life generally?
10. Have you read a Scripture passage recently that was especially meaningful to you?
11. What has been a life-changing spiritual experience for you?
12. What has been the greatest joy in your Christian life?

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