

Memo to: District Leaders  
From: Mission Strategy USA/Canada

## QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questionnaire may be used to “crunch” the statistics into a picture of the multicongregational ministries on your district. This is not part of the “official” reporting of the church, but merely a tool to help the district understand what the needs and blessings of the ministry are. It also can be used within a local church not only to inform but also to strategize.

We realize that the task of getting a truly accurate picture is a difficult one especially where language and cultures understand accountability and assessment in different ways.

It is suggested that the pastor of the “host” congregation bring together the leaders of the various congregations that meet in the facility to discuss jointly their responses to the questionnaire. It might be helpful to distribute the questions ahead of such a meetings so that the participants can come fully informed.

Encourage these leaders to write commentary or explanations beyond what is asked here, for clarification, correction or explanation. It might be good to have each leader sign off on this before it is submitted to the district office.

### **MISSION STRATEGY USA/CANADA: MULTICONGREGATIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE**

**M**ulticongregational churches are an emerging phenomenon both in the Church of the Nazarene and elsewhere. We recognize the various motives, arrangements, and experience that might be useful to all of us. With this purpose, we are asking “host”\* pastors to carefully complete this questionnaire fully and quickly in consultation with the leadership of the various congregations that meet in your church. We request that a copy of the information be sent to your district superintendent and to the office of Mission Strategy USA/Canada, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131. If more than one “guest\*” congregation, meets at the facility, then we request that a copy of the questionnaire be used for each congregation.

\*The terms, “host” and “guest” are completely inadequate for many situations. Feel free to cross out and replace these terms by the terms most appropriate to your situation.

# Questionnaire Addressed to the Host Congregation

(Please Print or Type)

## **I. Background Information Concerning Host Congregation**

Name of the Church: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of the Church: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number of the Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Incorporation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Senior Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Average Worship Attendance (Host congregation only): \_\_\_\_\_

How many worshipping units (“guest” congregations) other than the host congregation meet in your church facility? \_\_\_\_\_

## **II. Information about “Guest” Congregation** (If you have more than one “guest” congregation, please copy this questionnaire and complete for each.)

1. What is the official name of the “guest” congregation?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Who is the official leader of the “guest” congregation (name and address)?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Describe the “guest” congregation in the following ways:

A. As to their ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_

B. As to their language: \_\_\_\_\_

C. As to their national origin: \_\_\_\_\_

D. age mix: % of attendees age 0-12: \_\_\_\_\_; % age 13-19: \_\_\_\_\_;

% age 20-45: \_\_\_\_\_; age mix % age 46-65: \_\_\_\_\_; % over 65: \_\_\_\_\_;

E. generation in U.S.: % 1<sup>st</sup> generation: \_\_\_\_\_; % 2<sup>nd</sup> generation \_\_\_\_\_;

% 3<sup>rd</sup> generation: \_\_\_\_\_; % over 3<sup>rd</sup> generation: \_\_\_\_\_;

F. average main worship attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

G. day and time of worship gatherings: \_\_\_\_\_

4. How did this “guest” congregation move into the facility? (please check one)
- through an expansion of ministry within the host congregation
  - through solicited efforts of host congregation seeking persons outside of the existing congregation
  - through unsolicited approach of an outside congregation that requests space
  - through Nazarene district initiative
  - other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_
5. How long (months and years) has this “guest” congregation been meeting in your facility? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Is this guest congregation considered to be: ( please check one)
- pre-Nazarene (with the hope that it will become Nazarene)
  - Nazarene (formally affiliated with the Church of the Nazarene)
  - Other (i.e., Baptist, Independent, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
7. Does this guest congregation have a pastoral leader?
- Yes     No
8. (If yes to question 7), Is this pastoral leader:
- an uncredentialed lay leader?
  - a licensed minister in the Church of the Nazarene?
  - an ordained minister in the Church of the Nazarene?
  - a credentialized minister outside of the Church of the Nazarene?
  - other
9. (If yes to question 7) What best describes your personal relationship with the “guest” congregations’ pastor? (check one)
- a contractual agreement only, i.e., business dealings only
  - friendly, though infrequent contact based primarily on facility use
  - employer-employee relationship, under your supervision
  - peer ministry but infrequent contact
  - peer ministry, as part of overall ministry team
  - other (please describe)
10. Which statement best describes your congregation’s relationship with the “guest” congregation? (check one)
- primarily a contractual rental agreement
  - nurturing an immature ministry into maturity
  - an integral part of your overall ministry
  - a temporary accommodation until they move on to their own facility

- as yet, an undetermined experiment
- other

11. Check the following applicable items. Does the “guest” congregation...

- have a written contract with the host congregation?
- pay rent to the host congregation?
- perform services for the host congregation, i.e., janitorial, etc.?
- participate in combined worship services with the “host” congregation; how many times annually? \_\_\_\_\_
- finance its own pastor?
- pool its finances into the “host” congregation?
- use a pastoral office in your facility?
- pool its membership with that of the host congregation?
- have representatives on your church board?
- supply its pastoral leadership with housing?
- have an arrangement where the “host” congregation supplies pastoral housing?
- have an arrangement where the “host” congregation supplies covers the salary and/or benefits of the “guest” pastor?

(Continued) Check the following applicable items. Does the “guest” congregation...

- have “guest” pastoral leadership seeking a credential in the Church of the Nazarene?  
If checked, indicate how:
  - Course of Study       a Nazarene Bible School
  - a Nazarene College     Nazarene Theological Seminary
  - Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_
- have its own legal identity?
- have recognition from the district as an organized church?
- have denominational affiliation outside the Church of the Nazarene?
- have a pastor/leader who reports regularly to the host congregation’s board?
- have representation in the district assembly?
- select its own pastor?

12. How does your host congregation serve the “guest” congregation? (Check all that apply.)

- with mutual Sunday School classes?
- with legal and document assistance?
- with compassionate ministry assistance?
- with at least some pastoral support?
- with educational assistance for its young people?
- with training assistance for its participants?
- with training expenses for its pastor?
- with English as a Second Language classes?
- with transportation assistance for its pastor?
- with transportation assistance to services?

- with reduced costs for facility usage, i.e., weddings, funerals?
- other (please describe)\_\_\_\_\_

11. What has been your preparation for managing multicongregational arrangements?

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12. How could the denomination help you to understand and create multicongregational arrangements for the better satisfaction of all involved?

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13. What is the most favorable benefit of your arrangement with the guest congregation?

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14. What is the greatest difficulty faced in your relationship with the guest congregation?

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your help!**

