

A Parish Survey

A parish is defined here as a partnership of two or more congregations who choose to work together rather than remain “single.” A parish relationship can have similarities to a marriage relationship.

INSTRUCTIONS: *Read through the list below and rate your own **parish** relationship on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 representing the most positive and 5 representing “needs improvement”). Please note that you are asked to rate each category with the **entire parish** (not just your specific congregation) in mind.*

Purpose **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish cooperate for the sake of God’s mission—not merely to survive or save money.

Fidelity **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish have a strong commitment to one another, expressed through a parish agreement that is periodically reviewed and affirmed

Love and Respect **Rating**_____

Members of the churches in this parish regularly express care, respect and love for one another—especially when people are facing troubles or special needs. The partner churches hold one or more “joint” activities each year.

Communication **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish keep each other informed about what they’re doing, decisions they’re facing, events/ministries they’re sponsoring

Conflict Resolution **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish face issues honestly, work through differences, have mechanisms for dealing with “hurts”

Personality Issues **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish have “personalities” (habits, histories, priorities, “tone”) that complement each other

Financial Management **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish have a thoughtful, transparent, flexible way of managing their financial resources

Leisure Activities **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish have members who go back and forth for activities (dinners, musical events, worship, etc.) in each other’s congregations

Children and Parenting **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish support one another in raising up the next generation of disciples for our Lord Jesus Christ

Family and Friends **Rating**_____

The churches in this parish are “good neighbors” to other faith communities (Lutheran and non-Lutheran) and to the wider (non-church) community

Northwestern Minnesota Synod Resource
(an adaptation of the Marriage Enrichment survey)