

Pastoral Priorities Survey

	Average Ranking from Congregation al Survey
High priorities	
PEACE AND JUSTICE Pastor emphasizes the application of the Christian gospel to issues of the contemporary world, planning with the congregation for appropriate strategies to join God's action and witness in the world.	6.2
PREACHING Pastor places high priority on sermon preparation, content, style and delivery that invites people to a growing maturity in faith, discipleship and mission. Pastor seeks feedback from congregation	5.7
HEALTHY COMMUNICATION Pastor leads in developing effective and transparent communication and healthy ways of living with congregational differences, working at problem solving and decision-making while recognizing that our unity is grounded in Christ.	5.3
LEADERSHIP/ADMINISTRATION Pastor facilitates the development and implementation of vision, mission and goals for the congregation and accepts appropriate administrative and supervisory responsibilities in a climate of shared leadership with members/ ministry team.	5.2
WORSHIP/MUSIC PLANNING Pastor actively participates in planning, designing and leading in meaningful worship which invites a deepening relationship with God and transformation of the worshiper.	4.9
Medium priorities	
TEACHING Pastor is actively involved in the teaching of Scripture, theology, and the history of the church; providing instruction for church leaders, new members and new believers.	4.9
MENTORING YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS Pastor gives priority to mentoring persons in this key life transition time, with the goal of assisting their involvement in and commitment to the church and its faith. Helps promote a culture of calling to pastoral ministry and other forms of Christian service.	4.7
CRISIS CARE Pastor visits those in hospitals or emergency situations regularly; network is developed to keep pastor and others informed of crisis situations; needs of ill or bereaved are met.	4.6
CONGREGATIONAL CARE Pastor gives priority to developing and carrying out a plan for congregational care that nurtures growing discipleship and invites and equips others to share in Christ's ministry.	4.5
CHRISTIAN FORMATION Pastor provides leadership in identifying formation needs of persons of all ages and backgrounds and in developing opportunities for growth and transformation.	4.4
MINISTRY IN THE COMMUNITY Pastor is actively engaged in identifying the missional context of the local community, and working with both church and community groups. Encourages members to become informed and involved. Works with local ecumenical and interfaith efforts.	4.4
DEDICATIONS, BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS Pastor gives priority to important rituals of commitment, transition and healing in the lives of individuals and families so that these occasions become opportunities for spiritual growth.	4.3
CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY Pastor models and teaches personal and communal Christian spiritual practices, encouraging members to grow in authentic personal and congregational spiritual life.	4.1
MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP Pastor helps inspire a shared vision for the church to join in God's activity in the world so that the church will grow in its understanding and be willing to be changed as a people called, redeemed and sent into the world God loves.	4.1
WORK WITH SMALL GROUPS Pastor places emphasis on developing structures which help members to know one another, to grow in faith and maturity, to love and support one another and to reach out to others.	3.8
Low priorities	
ACTIVELY CALLS OUT AND DEVELOPS SPIRITUAL GIFTS Pastor sees effective leadership of a congregation is a shared leadership and works actively to develop, support, and encourage lay leadership. Seeks to equip members to release their spiritual gifts in ministries within and beyond the congregation. Encourages mentoring and promotes a culture of calling and equipping new leaders.	3.7
BROADER MENNONITE CHURCH RELATIONSHIPS Pastor actively finds ways to connect the local congregation with the wider Mennonite Church for the strengthening of the mission and body of Christ.	3.7
COUNSELING Pastor initiates counseling and pastoral care for those within and outside the church, and makes appropriate referrals.	3.4
EVANGELISM Pastor leads the congregation in a way that communicates the Good News of Jesus Christ to all and understands that the local church is God's agent in the world. The result being the growth of individuals, the congregation and/or the planting of new congregations.	3.4
STEWARDSHIP/FINANCES Pastor works with the congregation to develop a planned stewardship program that grows out of God's generosity and translates into church finances that support the mission to which God has called the local congregation and the wider church.	2.9