

Hello, my name is [name] and I am calling from Wesley Theological Seminary. We are conducting research with local congregations in the DC area. Is the pastor available?

**If pastor is available**, continue...

Hi, my name is name and I am calling from Wesley Theological Seminary. We are conducting a research study of the religious workforce and I was wondering if you had a few minutes to discuss the possibility of [name of congregation] participating in our study.

**If pastor is not available**...is there time when I might call back to reach him/her?

OR

Okay, would it be okay if I sent along a letter of invitation and some additional information? [record response in notes of call log]

**If no**, send email / follow up.

**If yes**, continue...

The Religious Workforce project is a major research study here in the DMV, and we are trying to better understand Christian congregations in the area.

We know that religious participation and involvement is changing, and we would like to learn more about what congregations are doing these days, and what kind of staff/volunteer leadership they require for their ministry.

Participating in the study is pretty simple. We have a brief questionnaire that takes about 20 minutes to complete and provides some background information on the congregation.

We would definitely want to interview you, as the pastor of the church, and if you give us permission, we would love to come and observe a worship service and some kind of organizational meeting. [We realize that during the pandemic, worship services and organizational meeting may look different – however you are doing those things is of interest to us].

While most congregation complete all these research activities, it is possible to choose to participate in some, but not all, of the research activities.

If you have questions, I would be happy to answer them OR I can also send you more information and follow up with you in the next few days.