

MINISTRY ACTIVITY LOG

TYPE OF MINISTRY OBSERVATION

[rehearsal // meeting // interview // etc.]

LOCATION OF MINISTRY OBSERVATION

[church // non-profit // city // state // etc.]

DATE OF MINISTRY OBSERVATION

[when you attended]

LENGTH OF MINISTRY OBSERVATION

[how long from start to finish]

LEADER(S) OF MINISTRY ACTIVITY

[name of person // role at church/organization]

PARTICIPANT(S) IN MINISTRY ACTIVITY

[choir // band // staff // age group // etc.]

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO OBSERVE THIS MINISTRY ACTIVITY?

WHAT DID YOU OBSERVE?

WHAT DID YOU LIKE ABOUT WHAT YOU OBSERVED?

WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE ABOUT WHAT YOU OBSERVED?

OTHER COMMENTS ABOUT THIS MINISTRY OBSERVATION

Worship Gathering—Participant Observation

This guideline should be used in completing your participant observation.

The Church . . .

- What church did you attend? (name, city, denomination if applicable)
- Had you been here before? Why did you choose this church?
- What were your expectations before attending?

The Ministers and Leadership . . .

- Describe all those in leadership (gender, age, ethnicity, dress, etc.) and their involvement in the service
- What identified these people as leaders in the service?
- Describe in detail the primary actions (gestures, movements, etc.) of those in leadership
- In your opinion, did the leaders successfully and appropriately enliven worship through their actions, gestures, speech, etc.? Why or why not?

The Congregation . . .

- Describe them (gender, age, ethnicity, dress, etc.) and their involvement in the service
- Describe your relationship to them as a guest in this service
- Describe their apparent familiarity with and response to the liturgy

Space, Signs, and Symbols . . .

- Describe the neighborhood of the building
- Describe the outside of the worship space
- Describe the inside of the worship space
- What signs and symbols were prominent in the room? Did the service utilize these? Did you know their meaning?

The Music . . .

- What did the setup of the room say about music?
- Who made the music? What instruments did they use?
- How did the congregation engage with the music? Did they participate or primarily observe?
- What statements were made about God in the lyrical content of the song?
- Did the music seem to match the liturgical action with which it was used?

Overall . . .

- What was meaningful to you in the service?
- What was distracting to you in the service?
- Other comments or thoughts you had about attending this service?

Congregational Report

Consult with your mentor to complete this assignment:

Objective Data

Gather information on your church:

- Website URL
- Mission statement and vision
- History of the congregation
- Size
- Recent growth patterns
- Staff and leadership structure
- History of former pastors and leaders
- Information about its various ministries
- What the church is especially known for
- General style or “personality” of congregation
- Church’s affiliations
- Constitution and by-laws
- Statement of faith
- Demographics of community
- Cost of living in community
- Church’s reputation in community
- Involvement in its denomination or affiliated groups

After a personal consultation with your mentor, write a brief description of the church to which you are assigned. Include objective information such as average attendance, number of services, size and scope of the music ministry, size of the church staff, etc.

Subjective Data

After a personal consultation with your mentor, write a brief description of the church to which you are assigned. Include subjective information such as your impression of the overall ministry philosophy, concept and approach to worship, the emphasis on staff relations, etc.