

What is the Minister for?

What are the priorities on the minister's time in your congregation? What does the minister see as the order of priority on his/her time? What do the members believe it to be? Try the exercise below to discover some answers.

Look at the cards

They indicate some things that ministers spend their time doing.

- First discard the FOUR aspects that you believe to be the least important for your minister.
- Now out of the remaining aspects choose the SIX that you think the most important; those which you think YOUR minister should concentrate on.
- Then in small groups, share what you think your minister should be doing and list the six most commonly chosen aspects of your group.
- Which got the most votes and which the least? Why?

<p style="text-align: center;">THE LEADER</p> <p>Leading in the congregation—the person to whom members turn to for advice and guidance on all aspects of the life and work of the church. The one who is expected to initiate new ideas?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">VISITING</p> <p>Calling on the members in their homes or where they work in order to meet with each member and potential member of the church.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP</p> <p>Serving as a volunteer leader in the community to help make this a better world for all God's people.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ENABLER</p> <p>Helping others to identify their own special call to service and ministry and enabling them to respond to that call.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">COUNSELLING</p> <p>Counselling with individuals on personal and spiritual problems, with couples planning to be married or having marriage problems, and with those bereaved, ill and hospitalised.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LEADING WORSHIP AND PREACHING</p> <p>Planning and conducting worship services, including sermon preparation, and working with others who will participate in leading corporate worship.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">DENOMINATIONAL & ECUMENICAL RESPONSIBILITIES</p> <p>Involvement in a fair share of denominational responsibilities, and participating in ecumenical and other co-operative groups. Also seeking denominational and ecumenical resources for use in the local situation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LEADING THE LEADERSHIP</p> <p>Serving with the lay leaders as one of the core of leaders in the congregation—each with his or her own gifts and each with their special responsibilities. The expectation being that this leadership team will initiate new ideas.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH</p> <p>Developing and following a discipline of Bible and other devotional study, and participating in programmes of continuing education. Helping to plan and lead opportunities for personal and spiritual growth for others.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EVANGELISM</p> <p>Calling on visitors to the church and any unchurched people in the community, and acting as a witness to the Gospel. Helping to train the church members to be evangelists.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ADMINISTRATION</p> <p>Serving as a sort of 'chief executive' in the congregation, working with committees to plan and implement activities and programmes, in planning the financial programme of the church, correspondence and general liaison work, etc.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OTHER</p> <p>Your own idea of a priority for the minister:</p> <hr/>