



2023 Ministry Information Form

Dear ECO Church Leaders,

ECO Churches are asked to annually complete the Ministry Information Form (MIF). The MIF helps your presbytery and the Synod know how ECO is doing in growing flourishing churches from one year to another. The MIF also helps the Synod gather financial information and verify the 1% dues of the local church's operating budget.

In last year's MIF (2022), it was revealed that approximately half of ECO congregations increased their budgets, while the remaining half either maintained or decreased their budgets. Additionally, the average worship attendance showed an 11% increase.

In 2023, we already know that at least 3 churches have been planted and 3 have moved from being plants to chartered congregations. We don't always know the timing or details when an ECO congregation plants a church unless they are shared with us. We love to celebrate with you! At the same time, the church in the West and certainly the United States, is experiencing cultural headwinds that are making ministry more complex and challenging. The church is experiencing a season of leadership drain where finding qualified and called staff and pastors is difficult. In the church, we continue to see the average congregation's covenant partners and regular attendees show up on average about once a month on a Sunday.

So what do we "count" that accurately measures whether or not a church is flourishing? How is a congregation able to accurately give an account of the age or ethnicity of its attendees if more than half of their population continues to engage with the church in a virtual context? Does a lower number of baptized individuals represent a shift in the church or just a post-pandemic reality? We are also continuing to ask questions about church planting. ECO continues to support congregations and celebrating planters as they start new worshipping congregations and micro-expressions of church. *Remember, the goal is to check in, not check up.* The Synod and presbyteries use church data (along with other information) to determine what additional support needs to be offered to local congregations in order for each one to flourish.

The MIF is due by March 31st, 2024. Note that the process is thorough and does take some time to complete, so plan ahead! We recommend that you:

- Determine which staff and leaders you will need to fill out certain areas of the form.
- Choose one person who is in charge of circulating the MIF among other staff, finalizing data, and submitting the MIF. Please ensure to send this email to that individual, providing them with the link to submit your MIF.
- Print the MIF and circulate it to appropriate staff in order to gather all necessary information from your leaders. To view, print or submit the MIF, go to: eco-pres.org/2023mif
- Please submit the MIF by March 31st, 2024 at: eco-pres.org/2023mif

Thank you! We hope that you have a wonderful Lenten season and Easter celebration!
In Christ,

Rev. Nate Dreesmann
Executive Director of Ecclesiastical Support



2023 Ministry Information Form

The MIF is due by March 31st, 2024. Please make every effort to honor this deadline. If you have any questions about any part of the MIF, please contact us at mif@eco-pres.org.

Ways to Submit Your 2023 Ministry Information Form



Preferred Way: Via the online form link.

Please submit your Ministry Information Form (MIF) using the online link provided below. You can refer back to the link via this pdf or refer to the initial email sent to your church's Pastor/Head of Staff, clerk of session, and primary church contact.

Have your filled out MIF on hand or be ready with all the info so you can easily transfer the data over to the online submission form. Access your church portal account at mychurch.eco-pres.org.

MIF online submission link: eco-pres.org/2023mif

If you encounter any difficulties accessing the link, please email mif@eco-pres.org to request assistance. Ensure that you have the completed MIF, containing all necessary information for a seamless transfer of data to the online submission form.



Alternatively: Via the Church Portal

If you are an ECO pastor and have created your account for the church portal, you can enter the information for your MIF and submit it from within the portal. Once logged into the portal, click "My Church" from the menu. You will see information about the MIF on the page.

Have your filled out MIF on hand or be ready with all the info so you can easily transfer the data over to the online submission form. Access your church portal account at mychurch.eco-pres.org.



Alternatively: Via Email

You can complete the form on your computer and email to us or if you have filled out your MIF by hand, you can scan and email to us. Download the pdf form at eco-pres.org/2023mif and email to mif@eco-pres.org.



2023 Ministry Information Form

Please complete and submit this form by March 31st, 2024.

Person Completing this Form

Name Title
Date Email Phone

Church Information

Full Church Name
Has your church's name changed in the past year? Yes No
If yes, what was your church's previous name?

Church Physical Address
Street
City State Zipcode
Ex. CA, TX, NV etc.

Church Mailing Address
Street
City State Zipcode
Ex. CA, TX, NV etc.

Church Phone # General Church Email
Church Website

ECO ID# ECO presbytery
(Ex. 005)

Number of Covenant Partners (members) Average In-person Worship Attendance

My ECO church has added both ECO and our presbytery as additionally insured on our liability coverage. Yes No

Is your church in a Mission Affinity Group (MAG)? Yes No Not Sure

Is your pastor(s) in a Pastor Covenant Group (PCG)? Yes No Not Sure

Does your church use social media (Facebook and Instagram)? Yes No

If yes: Facebook Link Instagram Link

Primary Church Contacts

Pastor / Head of Staff

Name Email Phone

No Pastor/In Transition Yes No

If yes, would you like ECO to contact your church (Clerk of Session or primary church contact on file) to offer resources and assistance during this time of transition or pastoral search? Yes No

Clerk of Session

Name Email Phone

Primary Church Contact (Person who will receive all communication from the ECO National Office)

Name Title Email Phone

Finance Contact

Name Email Phone

Business/HR Contact

Name Email Phone

Global/Local Missions Contacts

Name Title Email

Name Title Email

Children, Youth, or Family Ministry Contacts

Name Title Email

Name Title Email

Name Title Email

Church Staff & Leaders

How many church staff members are: Paid Full Time Paid Part Time Volunteer Interns

Have all of your pastors completed the 2 required ECO Safe Training courses? Yes No

Is your church interested in having a Mentored Ministry intern in 2024/2025? Yes No

Is your church interested in having an ECO Commissioned Lay Pastor fill one or more of your pastoral positions? Yes No

If you said yes to the Mentored Ministry intern or CLP question, may ECO contact your church (Pastor/Head of Staff, Clerk of Session and/or primary church contact) about this opportunity? Yes No

Other Ordained Pastors

List any other ordained pastors at your church. (Examples: Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, Assistant Pastor for Youth/Students. Only list ordained pastors.)

Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

During online submission of the MIF you will have more spots to add additional pastors

Non-Ordained Ministry Directors and Leaders

List any non-ordained leaders involved in direct ministry. (Examples: Children/Youth Directors, Discipleship Coordinator, Worship Leaders)

Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Name	Title	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time
			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

During online submission of the MIF you will have more spots to add additional ministry directors and leaders

Ages

For Children and Youth - include those who are active in ministry activities.

For Adults - include those who are on the membership rolls.

In 2023, how many people were in the following age groups:

17 and under

18 -29

30 - 64

65 and older

Covenant Partners

Beginning Total (as of 1/1/23)

Total Losses

(Removed from Covenant Partnership -
Those who transferred, are deceased,
or were removed for other reasons.)

Total Gains

Ending Total (as of 12/31/23)

Ethnicity

Please indicate which ethnicity makes up the majority of your congregation as well as what percentage of your congregation is made up of this ethnic majority.

Ethnic majority of your congregation

What percentage of your congregation is made up of this ethnic majority? %

Baptisms

Infants / Children

Adults

Total Number of Baptisms for 2023

Session

How many people made up your church's session in 2023?

Financial Information

2023

2023 Receipts/Income: Actual Year-End Amounts

2023 Total Income \$

Actual Giving Units

2023 Expenditures: Actual Year-End Amounts

2023 Total Expenses \$

2024

2024 Budgeted Expenses

2024 Total Budgeted Expenses* \$

*This is the amount used to calculate 2024 ECO support. Do not include in any expenses related to Capital Campaigns or pass- thru accounts in this total.

Pass-thru accounts are accounts where special collections are made and then dispersed outside of the normal budget. For example, youth mission offerings or building projects related to Capital Campaigns.

Church Planting

We are trying to have better insight in the ways in which our churches are involved in the multiplication of new churches and where we can grow in our efforts. For the purposes of the questions below we use the phrase "new church-type mission" to refer to church plants and/ or micro-expressions.

Q1. Has your church started a new church-type mission in the last year? Yes No

Q2. In 2023 did your church contribute financially and/or with in-kind gifts to any new church-type mission(s)? Yes No

Q3. In 2023, how much did you give in the below categories to new church-type missions?

\$ Direct financial giving to individual new church-type missions.

\$ Estimated value of in-kind gifts, e.g. staff time, discounted rent, loaned equipment, etc. (if any)?

Q4. How many new (<6 years old) church-type mission(s) are being contributed to?

Q5. Is the leadership of the new church-type mission in the process of being credentialed either by an outside organization or by ECO in some way (i.e. CLP 1, CLP 2, ordination or ECO planting process)? Yes No

Q6. Apart from the regular membership fees, did your church contribute financially to your presbytery and/or Synod?
 Yes No If yes, what was the additional amount given? \$

Church Health

Q1. Does your church use an established criteria, aside from attendance, membership, and finances, to measure and evaluate the success of your programs or processes? Yes No

If yes, would you be willing to share those criteria?

Q2. Please identify the statement that most accurately represents your church.

- Our church is currently flourishing or actively engaged with resources that will move us toward flourishing.
- Our church is in a season of plateau or decline and ready to engage with resources that will move us toward flourishing.
- Our church is in a season of decline and uncertain about our future.
- Our church is currently facing a season of transition or crisis.
- I'm not sure.

Q3. Is your church currently involved in or planning a flourishing next step (proactive initiative or strategy) to foster growth and enhance its overall health? Yes No

If so, would you expand on the steps you are taking.

Q4. Would you like ECO to contact your church (Pastor/Head of Staff, Clerk of Session, and/or primary church contact) to explore and offer resources that could improve your church's health? Yes No