

**Assessment Tool: Survey for Congregational Leaders**  
**Come to the Table Project - [www.cometothetable.org](http://www.cometothetable.org)**

**Existing programs**

- Does your congregation have a committee or team that works on social, community, or care of creation/ environmental issues?
- What programs does your congregation have for giving aid to low-income people?
- Does your congregation collaborate with any emergency food organizations?
- Do you have a food pantry or soup kitchen within your congregation?
- Do you have regular meals, special food events, or food traditions at your congregation?
- Does your congregation host a pre-school, school, adult day care, or other program that regularly serves meals?
- How would you describe the economic composition of your congregation?
- Do you have a food exchange or distribution program (such as congregation members sharing homegrown produce)?

**Existing skills and assets**

- Do members of your congregation farm or garden?
- Do members of your congregation have skills to share that could assist in a local food project, such as community organizing, canning, gardening, cooking, grant-writing, etc.?
- Does your congregation have facilities that might be available to a local food project, such as a kitchen, cold storage, parking lot space, land for a garden, an indoor meeting space, etc.?

**Local food in your community**

- Where do people in your congregation get their food? Do they use farmers' markets, grocery stores, food pantries, meal programs, CSA's, school meal programs, etc.?
- What do farms near you produce?
- What factors keep members of your congregation from obtaining fresh, healthy, locally grown food? Transportation, availability, price, lack of familiarity? What factors motivate and enable them get local food?
- What challenges do farms in your area face? Rising land costs, lack of marketing opportunities, labor issues, an aging farm population, etc.? What strengths do they have? A diversity of crops, prosperous markets, farmers with skills to teach?
- What do you see as the assets specific to your congregation that would help accomplish such a partnership with local farmers? What about challenges?
- What do you see as the assets specific to your congregation that would help accomplish such a partnership with people facing food insecurity? What about challenges?