Dear Pastor,

This email invites you to participate in a national survey of clergy resilience in Canada. This survey is one aspect of my research study, *Understanding Clergy Resilience*, which I am undertaking at the University of Saskatchewan under the supervision of Dr. Keith Walker and in collaboration with the Flourishing Congregations Institute.

The purpose of my study is to explore the nature of Christian clergy resilience in Canada to support its development through post-secondary training, ongoing professional development and individual care. Resilience is the ability to positively adapt to adversity or stress. It is well documented that clergy are at risk of experiencing the negative impacts of role-related stress and adversity, especially burnout. Burnout is a significant concern for the clergy profession, those they serve, and their families as it decreases ministry effectiveness, lowers the sense of personal accomplishment in their role, and negatively impacting the quality of family life and family relationships.

Unfortunately, there is limited literature on the current nature of clergy resilience, the specific variables that enable clergy to positively adapt to adversity, and the aspects of pre-service training and professional development that best foster clergy resilience. Through this survey we seek to collect information to better understand the current nature of clergy resilience and wellness in Canada. Knowledge of the nature of clergy resilience may provide valuable insights for the development of clergy resilience through post-secondary preparation of clergy, ongoing professional development, and individual care.

This survey will take participants approximately 25 minutes to complete and includes a variety of questions about your resilience and well-being. As a full or part-time Christian clergy, you have valuable insight to provide, which will lead to greater understanding of clergy resilience in Canada. You can access the survey here: [https://bit.ly/3eZtF7B](https://bit.ly/3eZtF7B) and the survey will remain open for four weeks.

You are welcome to share this survey link with any other clergy colleagues, as a great number of participants will provide robust knowledge of clergy resilience. Thank you for taking the time to consider my request. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clarke, Ph.D. (Candidate)
mac558@mail.usask.ca

P.S. Details related to consent to participate in this study are on the first page of survey.