

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2025

Please check ONE statement below that most accurately describes how you presently feel

1. "Highly distressed; personal faith and congregational life feels compromised; continued membership in doubt."
2. "Very distressed; I'll have to wait and see."
3. "Feel very distressed: am participating in this process to help myself and our congregation with the healing that needs to be done."
4. "Am moderately distressed about events at our church, yet..."
5. "Am still somewhat upset, need healing time, but will continue to participate."
6. "Am okay but will need time with new leadership."
7. "Am okay about things and look forward to new leadership and mission."
8. "Doing quite well, thank you, and looking with excitement to our future mission."

The purpose of having this filled out is to check the "emotional temperature" of the congregation.

What is an "emotional temperature"? It's basically an assessment of a group's anxiety level. If the anxiety level is high (#s 1-3), good work would be difficult, as people have a hard time hearing each other, planning, working together. If the anxiety level is medium (#s 4-6), proceed with caution. Good work can happen, but problems are not uncommon. If the anxiety level is low (#s 7-8), people are open to new ideas, interested in hearing what others have to say, and are unguarded about assessments of the system (even self-assessments). In other words? Good work can be done.

Results of 48 1-1s at Prince of Peace, July 9 through September 3

#s 1-3, **4%**

#s 4-6, **16%**

#s 7-8, **80%**

1-1 Conversations

Listed below are responses to questions where at least 5 expressed the same opinion. As you can imagine, there were many singular answers, but below are the places where numerous people came together in agreement

1) Strengths of Prince of Peace

- a) Community (friendly, open, welcoming, etc)
- b) Music
- c) Outreach
- d) Social Justice
- e) Generosity

2) Concern during interim time

- a) That “we won’t find the right one”
- b) That we might move too quickly, not allow healing that hasn’t necessarily been acknowledged and needs to take place
- c) Keep wide range of ages involved
- d) That giving and membership might suffer
- e) That we won’t make a clear decision on Sacred Settlement expansion

3) Needs to be accomplished to welcome in the next pastor

- a) Get more people involved (80/20 rule)
- b) See that search process is “God led”
- c) All members need to be invited to participate in decision-making processes

4) What does PoP need to improve on or do better?

- a) Communication (not just “informing,” but “involving”)
- b) Bringing in and retaining younger members
- c) Broadening and not “recycling” leadership
- d) Nothing really

5) How do you feel about PoP future?

- a) Concerned about age of congregation
- b) Good/Confident
- c) Hopeful if we reach out to our neighbors (elderly)

6) What your friends would say is the Mission/Vision of congregation

- a) Long pause
- b) Don’t know
- c) Sacred Settlement
- d) Outreach/Social Justice

7) Trends, negative or positive, since beginning of interim

- a) None, really
- b) More worshipers in summer months