

**Congregational Status / Pastor Needs**  
**Peace, Otsego, MI**  
**Meeting Date: April 22, 2026**

THE CONGREGATION:

Souls:	169	Communicants:	140	Voters:	
LES:	n/a	own:		Sister Cong:	
Preschool:	n/a	own:		Sister Cong:	
Day Care:	n/a	Own:		Sister Cong:	
Attending Synodical Schools:	0		Attending Area Lutheran HS		0
Year Congregation founded:	1951		Average age of members:		55, but average age of attendees on Sunday is 50

Status of Congregation: **Self-supporting** / Mission /

1. List what you think are the real strengths of your congregation:

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.

2. List areas in which you think your congregation needs to make better use of its resources and opportunities for doing the Lord's work:

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.

3. How would you complete this sentence: "The word or phrase that would best describe the current mood/spirit/personality of our congregation is \_\_\_\_\_."

4. What comments and thoughts do you have about your congregation in the following areas?

Unity / cohesiveness -
Mission-mindedness -
Communication -
Financial stewardship -
CMO - Congregational Mission Offering -
Support of her Lutheran Elementary School -
Congregational structure (Constitutional / Bylaw organizational set up) -
Use of congregational structure -
Members confidence in / satisfaction with their lay leaders -
Long range planning -
Member involvement in and/or support of congregation work, special projects, programs -
Member commitment to and involvement in evangelism efforts that are:
formal - organized by and reported to the congregation -
informal - talking to friends, relatives and neighbors -
Carrying out church discipline - correcting, regaining & excommunicating -
Being open / willing to change -
Harmony between congregation and called workers -
The work of Bible Class teaching / planning -
The need for working with the young people of the congregation -
Your sense of the need for pastoral counseling skills -
Your sense of the administrative abilities within your congregation -
Sensitivity to tradition in worship forms and congregational policies -
Thoughts on the use of music in the worship service -

5. How would you complete these sentences:

- a. If I could add or change just one thing to improve my congregation's service to its Savior and / or its attitude it would be:
- b. Two things for which our congregation MOST needs a pastor in addition to faithful preaching and teaching of God's word are:
  - 1.
  - 2.

6. The greatest challenge that the Lord has helped us through as a congregation in the past year is:

7. The greatest challenge that we face in the coming year (besides being blessed with another pastor) is:

PASTORAL NEEDS:  
Gifts and Abilities:

Recognizing that extending a divine call is not like choosing items at a smorgasbord, list what you think are very desirable abilities or gifts for your next pastor to have:

a.	
b.	
c.	
d.	
e.	

Other considerations:

1. Which is the more important consideration for your congregation as you consider calling a new man to serve as your pastor:

- His age or
- His gifts and abilities?

If you believe his age to be more important, remember that as a rule, a man with five years of pastor ministry experience is about 30 years old, a man with 15 years of experience is about 40 years old. This is tempered today by the number of second-career men who are training for and entering the public ministry.

\_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ years

2. How would you complete this sentence: The two things to which I think a pastor of this congregation should give top priority each week after preparations for preaching and teaching are:

- 1.
- 2.

3. What other comments or information would you think is helpful as I draw up a Divine Call list for you?