

READINESS ASSESSMENT FOR CHURCH CLOSURE

Is your church a good candidate for closure?

Take the survey then score your church's candidacy for closure using a scale of 1 to 5. (1=no, not at all, 5=yes, strongly so). Estimate your score on each of the questions below, add up the tally. The higher your total, the stronger your church is nearing closure.

1. Preserving the past is more attractive than visioning the future
2. There is no real sense of mission and purpose
3. Church cares more about itself than the people it is called to reach
4. The money is inwardly focused, not tied to the mission. Funds are expended to keep the lights on and/or to meet the preferences of the members
5. There has been a numerical decline for four or more years
6. The church does not look like the community in which it is located
7. The congregation is mostly comprised of senior adults
8. The focus is on the past, not the future
9. The members are intensely preference-driven - more concerned about their music style, their programs, their facilities than reaching others with God's love
10. There are sacred cows that are held tightly
11. Any type of change is met with fierce resistance
12. Members are tired and have no energy for continued mission
13. Members are frustrated with younger generations

Remember, closure is not the end. With closing the church purposefully the church can gift and leave a legacy to benefit the community and the world, becoming a resurrection church as its ministry is reborn in a new way.