

October 28, 2018

Dear Members of St. Michael's Lutheran Church,

A call is one element in the Church's seeking and following God's movement into the future. The Lutheran call process is unique because it is an effort to discern what God wants for the local church in order that the Gospel may be proclaimed and the sacraments administered in accordance with the Gospel.

The call of a new pastor is a critical event in the life of a congregation. It is a time of making a choice about the congregation's collective future. This moment provides an important opportunity for the congregation to share in assessing who they are and where they see themselves going. This survey is designed to assist in this task.

The information gathered from this survey will become part of a self study document that will go back to the Missouri Eastern District. It also will be something shared with any potential pastoral candidate in the final stages of the call process.

If you have any questions about the survey or the call process, feel free to contact (in person or via email): Rob Willadsen ([rwillads@gmail.com](mailto:rwillads@gmail.com)) or Dale Pafk ([pafkdale@yahoo.com](mailto:pafkdale@yahoo.com)), who together co-chair the Call Committee.

Please return the completed survey to the church (table in hall, by bulletin board), OR via post mail in provided envelope.

ALL CONFIRMED MEMBERS OF ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ARE ENCOURAGED TO COMPLETE A SURVEY. You may choose to complete this as a household (couple/family), or feel free to make copies if you prefer to do separately. You can call our church (716—542-2886) and leave a message if you need us to mail you another copy.

**Please complete and return survey BY November 11, 2018.**

Rob Willadsen/Dale Pafk, Call Committee Co-Chairmen

Deb Arlington, Committee Secretary

Vanessa Jones

Kim Murray

Melanie Tetrault

Gordon Smith

Rob Mietz

# St. Michael's Lutheran Church

Pastoral Call Survey

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***An opportunity to reflect on who we are and who we want to  
be as a Congregation***

# PASTORAL CALL SURVEY

## Evangelism

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In thinking about what ORIGINALLY attracted you to this congregation, select from the list below (X) those reasons that best match your reasons for coming. You may select more than one.

The Pastor	
My friends and family are here	
The church's reputation	
Adult Bible Class	
Children's programs (Sunday School)	
The music	
The social outreach	
The worship style	
The denominational ties	
Baptism	
Other (please specify)	

In thinking about what KEEPS you as part of this congregation, select from the list below those reasons that best match your reasons for coming. You may select more than one.

My friends and family are here	
The church's reputation	
Adult Bible Class	
Children's programs (Sunday School)	
The music	
The social outreach	
The worship style	
The denominational ties	
Personal spiritual growth	
Other (please specify)	

Comments:

# PASTORAL CALL SURVEY

In your judgement, how high or low a priority would you like each of the following to be for the pastor of St. Michael's? It is worth remembering that not every task can be highest priority, and that in reality, only 3-4 probably can be. You may want to read the entire list, then go back and make your priority rankings. Keep in mind, also, that our church is planning on a part time pastoral position, so not all tasks at high priority are possible. Also note that the list is not in any particular sequence of importance; you should consider all as you make your selection.

Tasks of the Pastor	Very High Priority	High Priority	Moderate Priority	Low Priority
1-Providing administrative leadership for the congregation's ministry.				
2-Actively and visibly supporting the church's stewardship program.				
3-Directly involving members of the congregation in the planning and leadership of church programs and events.				
4-Planning and leading a program of new member recruitment.				
5-Participating in local community activities, issues and problems.				
6-Planning and leading worship sensitive to the needs of the congregation.				
7-Emphasizing the spiritual development of members.				
8-Visiting the sick, shut-ins and bereaved.				
9-Visiting congregation members at their homes.				
10-Pastoral counseling of members having personal, family and/or work-related problems.				
11-Developing and supporting religious education programs for children and youth				
12-Developing and leading adult education programs.				
13-Supporting the community mission of the church.				
14-Supporting the world mission of the church.				
15-Participating in denominational activities beyond the local church, that is, at regional or national level.				
16-Preparing and preaching inspiring sermons.				

Which one of these tasks do you feel is most important for the pastor to fulfill? \_\_\_\_\_

Which one of these tasks do you feel is least important? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

# PASTORAL CALL SURVEY

Listed below are a number of tasks that a church is likely to perform. Please respond to each item by indicating where you feel St. Michael's needs to give it more emphasis, whether you are very or generally satisfied with the church's current performance of the task; or whether you feel the task currently receives too much emphasis.

Tasks of the Church	Needs more emphasis	Receives adequate emphasis	Receives too much emphasis
1-Offering worship that provides a meaningful experience of God and the Christian tradition.			
2-Providing worship that expresses the Gospel in contemporary language and forms.			
3-Providing Christian education for children and youth.			
4-Providing Christian education programs for young adults (confirmed and older).			
5-Providing Christian education programs for adults.			
6-Helping members deepen their personal, spiritual relationship with God.			
7-Sharing the good news of the Gospel with the unchurched.			
8-Engaging in acts of charity and service to those in need.			
9-Encouraging members to act on the relationship of the Christian faith to social, political, and economic issues.			
10-Providing a caring ministry for the sick, shut-ins and the bereaved.			
11-Providing pastoral counseling to help members deal with personal problems.			
12-Providing fellowship opportunities for members.			
13-Helping members understand their use of money, time and talents as expressions of Christian stewardship.			
14-Supporting the community/global mission of the church/denomination.			
15-Helping members discover their own gifts for ministry and service within the church and beyond.			
16-Participating in activities and programs with other local religious groups.			
17-Expressing our denominational heritage/tradition as Lutherans..			
18-Offering St. Michael's facilities to the community.			

Overall, which ONE task does St. Michael's do best (currently)? \_\_\_\_\_

Which ONE task would you most like to see strengthened? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

# PASTORAL CALL SURVEY

For you, personally, how important are each of the following in the mix of qualities that make a good WORSHIP SERVICE?

WORSHIP	Needs more emphasis	Generally Satisfied	Receives too much emphasis
Providing time for members to greet one another.			
Providing worship that is emotionally moving.			
Attention given to sacraments.			
Lay participation in leading worship.			
Use of creeds or statements of faith.			
Silent prayer/meditation.			
Having parts of the worship especially for children.			
Use of new or unfamiliar hymns.			
Use of classic Lutheran hymns.			
Prayer in which the entire congregation participates.			
Providing worship at times other than Sunday morning.			
Providing a contemporary service.			
Providing a traditional service.			
Use of other types of music for services.			

Comments:

# PASTORAL CALL SURVEY

For you, personally, how important are each of the following in the mix of qualities that make a good SERMON?

WORSHIP/SERMON	Essential	Moderately Essential	Not very important
Sets forth a clear faith position as a guide for making decisions and living a faithful life.			
Based on a clear, unambiguous religious authority.			
Touches directly on my everyday life.			
Contains scholarly or literary illustrations.			
Is biblically based and illustrated.			
Makes me reflect on issues and events that go beyond my personal life and local community.			
Is challenging and thought-provoking.			
Obviously flows from the depth of the pastor's own personal faith and spiritual convictions.			
Is comforting and reassuring.			
Is carefully composed and skillfully delivered.			
Is spiritually moving and inspirational.			
Sets forth various sides of an issue without advocating one position as the only Christian position.			

Comments:

Thank you for providing the information necessary to complete the important task facing St. Michael's.

Please take a few final minutes to share any information that was not covered in the survey, that would be valuable for the Call Committee to consider during the call process. Feel free to share your dreams, desires and wishes for St. Michael's future.

Final Comments: