

GNW Church M.I.L.E. Assessment 2026

Below, you are asked to reflect on the M.I.L.E. as it is expressed through your ministry setting. Your thoughtful responses are greatly appreciated! If you don't have a copy of your 2025 M.I.L.E. Assessment, you can get a copy from your district administrator.

How to use this assessment: Assign members of your Leadership Team/Council to take on distinct parts of these questions that relate to their ministry areas. For example, the Ministry that Matters section might be filled out by general members of the Council, while Itineracy and Location might be filled out by the SPRC and Pastor. The assessment should be completed in a collaborative conversation. It should not be a compilation of individual responses.

If a question doesn't apply to you, please put NA in the blank field.

Name of Church or Ministry Setting: _____

Name of Pastoral Leader(s) or Lay Led Core Team Members: _____

Date: _____

Please list the participants in this assessment process and conversation:

Ministry that Matters Questions:

1. Describe who you believe your neighbors are and tell us what God is currently doing with and through them (your neighbors) that is transforming your community.
2. Tell us about your new neighbors or the new connections you have made in your community in the last year.
3. As a congregation, where do you believe you have already been invited or are now being invited to be a partner with God in making an impact in this transformative work in your neighborhood/community?

4. What key partnerships (outside of your local church) do you currently have or would like to have? Describe the partnerships.
5. If we were to ask for two letters of reference from those impacted by your ministries, who would we hear from, and what might they say?
6. What role has your pastoral leader played in enabling the congregation to see and speak into this invitation and your community partnerships?
7. What role(s) have the Laity played in your ministry that matters?

Itineracy and Location Questions:

This section aims to identify two things: the fit of the pastor's gifts to this particular ministry and what supports the pastor needs in order to deepen their vocation. Lay Led Congregations can skip this section.

1. Describe your pastoral leader's current ministry with your congregation.
2. How has your pastoral leader intentionally helped to lead the M.I.L.E.?
3. What are the gifts in your pastoral leader that best serve the mission of the congregation? The needs of the community? Why? How?

4. Indicate your agreement with this statement: Our church's ministry priorities and the pastoral leader's gifts fit well.

Strongly agree

Agree

Undecided

Disagree

Strongly Disagree

Tell us more.

Lay Ministry Enhancement Questions:

1. Describe the ministries of the church that are lay-initiated and/or lay-led.
2. Tell us how your church is inviting and raising disciples who can either begin new or lead existing ministries of the church.
3. How has your pastoral leader helped you in this work of raising disciples?
4. Can you identify at least 1 to 2 laity you want to invite to lead or participate in a particular ministry opportunity next year? Why them? Which ministry opportunity? How?
5. For the names you lifted last year, how are those people involved in ministry now?
6. Identify 2-3 laity who you believe are called and/or gifted to lead beyond the local church (perhaps at the district or conference level) as a means of participating in our connection. Where might these gifts be best used? (Example: Disaster Response Ministries, Conference Board of Pensions, etc.) *We utilize this information in District and Conference nominations.*

Elimination of Racism Questions:

1. Describe the efforts you have already made in the elimination of racism in your Congregation, as well as areas you still need to work on.
2. How are you presently seeking to eliminate racism in your church and community?
3. How has your pastoral leader helped you in this work?
4. What partners (outside your local church) do you already have for this work?

Resources:

1. Here are the resources we have:
2. We may be missing some resources that you and your community have found helpful in your journey with the M.I.L.E. Please share them here: *We are in this work together, and we are grateful for your contributions to our shared resource library.*

Ministry Priority Areas

The Greater Northwest Area, the Alaska Conference, the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference, and the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference claimed Ministry Priority Areas.

GNW Priorities: lessening *housing, hunger, and health disparities, young people's ministry development, training for lay leadership, securing preferred and in-common vendors, and supporting information technology and tech for local ministry teams*

Alaska Conference Ministry Priorities: *Youth/Young People, Hunger/Health, Native Ministry/Equity/Inclusion, Discipleship/Education, Connection*

1. Which of the priority areas does your church excel in and offer leadership in?
2. Which of the priority areas does your church struggle with and need some assistance with?
3. Which of the priority areas does your church want to learn more about?
4. Which of the priority areas does your church have questions about?