

How will success would be measured spiritually and missionally (rather than institutionally)?

1. Increased Participation and Engagement

- Success would be seen if members and pastors are as active—or even more so—than before the merger. This includes higher attendance at gatherings, more involvement in mission trips, and greater engagement in presbytery-wide activities.
 - *Example (March 3 Sioux City):* "Will members and pastors in the presbytery be as active (or even more so)?"

2. Enhanced Support and Care for Pastors and Congregations

- Spiritually, success means pastors feel supported and congregations experience genuine care, regardless of size or location. This includes equitable access to resources, mentoring, and encouragement for both leaders and members.
 - *Example (March 3 Sioux City):* "Will pastors feel supported?"

3. Growth in Mission and Witness

- Missionally, success is measured by increased mission activity, more collaborative outreach, and a stronger witness in local communities. This could be seen in more joint mission projects, ecumenical efforts, and visible impact on community needs.
 - *Example (Feb 3 Denison):* "Would mission and witness increase with increasing the total number of members in a merged presbytery?"

4. Spiritual Renewal and Vibrancy

- Success is reflected in spiritual renewal—churches and individuals deepening their faith, experiencing revitalization, and being inspired to serve. This includes fostering environments where people "are the church" rather than just attending church.
 - *Example (Feb 3 Denison):* "Noted that the issue wasn't 'getting kids to come to church but be the church.'"

5. Effective Communication and Shared Vision

- Spiritually and missionally, success involves clear communication of vision and purpose, so that all congregations feel included and inspired by the presbytery's direction.
 - *Example (Feb 3 Denison):* "Questioned if the Presbytery really sold our 'vision'?"

6. Equitable Support for Small and Rural Churches

- Ensuring that small and rural congregations are not left behind, but instead receive the support and resources they need to thrive, is a key spiritual and missional measure of success.
 - *Example (March 3 Sioux City):* "There is a need for equity for small churches."

Summary Table: Spiritual and Missional Success Measures

Measure	Description/Example
Participation & Engagement	More active members and pastors, vibrant gatherings

Measure	Description/Example
Support & Care	Pastors/congregations feel supported and cared for
Mission & Witness	Increased mission activity and community impact
Spiritual Renewal	Churches/individuals deepening faith and service
Shared Vision & Communication	Clear, inspiring vision communicated to all
Equity for Small Churches	Small/rural churches receive needed support

In summary, spiritual and missional success would be measured by the vitality, engagement, and faithfulness of congregations and leaders, the depth of care and support provided, and the visible impact of mission and witness in the wider community.