HELPING PC(USA) CHURCHES NAVIGATE THEIR ECONOMIC FUTURE

HOW TO END WELL

A GUIDE TO HELP CONGREGATIONS NAVIGATE ENDINGS WELL

ROOTED GOOD™

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

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RootedGood worked with a diverse range of stakeholders to create this tool, and with leaders from the PC(USA) denomination to modify this tool, so it is oriented to the particular polity, constitution and ethos of PC(USA).

Endings are best shared, and reflected on together. We built this tool with our collaborators from:

TEXAS METHODIST FOUNDATION

WESLEYAN IMPACT PARTNERS

TRINITY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Chapelwood

FA V7 06/26

INTRODUCTION

This tool is designed to accompany you as you design the ending of something related to your congregation. This could be a ministry, a project, a building, an activity, a worship service—anything connected to your congregation. In some instances, this might involve considering the ending of the congregation in its current form.

Rooted in the Reformed conviction that the church is reformed and always reforming, this tool understands faithful endings as an act of discernment, trusting that God continues to shape and renew the church through both what we release and what emerges next.

Endings are important, and ending something well can both acknowledge and affirm what has been, and make space for something new to grow. This tool provides a process, a way to facilitate an engaging conversation to help you design a meaningful ending.

This will involve:

- ★ Articulating your hopes and fears
- ★ Understanding what impact this ending will have
- ★ Describing what a 'good' ending looks like in your context
- ★ Unpacking the six ingredients to ending well: storytelling, grief, celebration, care, communication, and logistics
- ★ Making a plan.

This tool is designed to facilitate a conversation between a small group of people, often a mix of clergy and lay leaders. As you might expect, this conversation can surface deep emotions, and differences in opinion. Therefore, we recommend paying attention to who is invited to participate, and the level of trust and safety that group will have. Also, where and when the conversation takes place are important to consider.

A FEW THINGS TO CONSIDER

Ending well presents a unique challenge. As such, there are some parameters below to keep in mind as you work through the process, in order to get the best out of it.

EVERY INGREDIENT IS IMPORTANT

This tool will introduce six ingredients for ending well. Pay attention to every ingredient, even if it does not initially appear important. While there are unique characteristics to every context, ending something well has a common pattern. In the same way that flour and salt are both essential to a bread recipe, expect to use every ingredient in this tool.

RESIST REVISITING YOUR DECISION

As you consider how to end well, and as you share the joys and struggles of your experiences, you might be tempted to revisit your ending decision. While there is a tendency to do this, it is nearly always unhelpful to revisit past decisions. Stick with your decision, and remember that ending something creates new possibilities.

THE PROCESS IS NOT LINEAR

While this tool has a sequence, the process of ending well is not a linear one. For example, while you might pay attention to grief and lament at a specific part of the process, be aware that it will also emerge in different places and at different times. This is why we use the metaphor of ingredients, as opposed to steps.

BE AWARE OF TIME

The conversations this tool facilitates might generate a mix of creativity, insight, emotion and reflection. These things take time! There is a tension between giving these conversations the time they need, and moving forward faithfully and well to complete the tool. Be aware of the tension and the need to sometimes move on, even if there is more that could be said. This tool could be completed in one longer meeting (about two hours) or two meetings (each taking between 60 and 90 minutes).

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THE ART OF THE RITUAL

Ending well is both an art and a practice. It's about pausing long enough to recognize what has been accomplished, to honor the people and moments that made it possible, and to create space for what comes next.

Within this tool, you'll find examples of rituals connected to each ingredient of ending well. There is also space for you to document your own rituals for reflection and renewal.

WHAT IS A RITUAL?

It is a specific practice that marks important transitions, such as birthdays, baptisms, funerals and graduations. Done intentionally, rituals are a sacred threshold, giving space for reflection, helping us to end one era with intention and open another with hope.

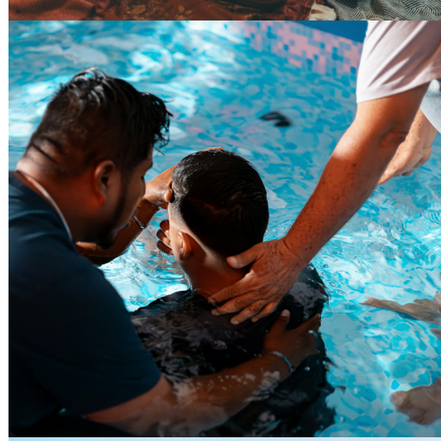
RITUALS CREATE CONTAINERS FOR EMOTION

When something ends—whether a project, a season, or a relationship—there are always feelings to process. Rituals give us that space, allowing communities, partners, and congregations to breathe, reflect, and move forward.

RITUALS OPEN PATHWAYS TO POSSIBILITY

When we acknowledge endings with care, we naturally make room for new beginnings. Marking an ending allows us to step into the future with clarity, gratitude, and renewed purpose.

WHAT IS A RITUAL THAT HAS HAD A MEANINGFUL IMPACT ON YOU, AND WHY?



PARTNERING WITH YOUR PRESBYTERY

In the PC(USA) property is "held in trust... for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)" G-4.02. As a congregation, you need to partner with your presbytery in any significant agreement or change related to your buildings and land.

For example, any time a congregation wants to modify their property, enter into lease agreements longer than five years, modify their boundary, or enter into any debt encumbering the property, the presbytery must approve it.

This is because the presbytery are partners that will share the risk and/or benefit of this agreement or change.

Therefore, at the beginning of any process that might modify the property and its use, congregations should reach out to the presbytery to engage them in the process.

Who a congregation reaches out to in your presbytery will depend on that particular presbytery. It might be the executive or stated clerk, it might be a finance committee chairperson, it might be a commission on ministry liaison, or it might be the moderator.

Early on in your conversations about your property, reach out and discover who you need to engage in this process.

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YOUR ENDING STARTS HERE

In using this guide, clarity about your decision to end something is important. This is not a time to revisit the decision you have already made. Name the ending, sit with the why, and write it down.

In her book *Dare to Lead** Brené Brown says that "clarity is kindness". Being clear on the ending and naming why it is ending will give direction and focus throughout the process of ending well.

WHAT IS ENDING?

WHY IS IT ENDING?

*Brown, B. (2018). *Dare to Lead: Brave Work. Tough Conversations. Whole Hearts.* United Kingdom: Random House Publishing Group.

ACTIVITY: HOPES AND FEARS

Ending is rarely linear. It often stirs up lots of feelings, both positive and negative. Reflect on and discuss what you are bringing into this process, noting hopes in the clouds, and fears in the pebble shapes.

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WHAT IMPACT WILL THIS ENDING HAVE?

Ending a program, activity, congregation or something else will impact different people and places in different ways. That impact will ripple out to a wider circle. The impact could be positive or negative.

ACTIVITY

Consider the ways in which the ending you are working on will affect the following people, places, or others not on this list (add your own at the bottom). Also, think about how ending well could improve the impact on each of these people and places.

EXAMPLE #1

Ending our congregation will impact the following people and places:

✓	PEOPLE/ PLACE	HOW WILL THEY BE AFFECTED?	HOW CAN YOU IMPROVE THE IMPACT BY ENDING WELL?
☑	Congregants	Will no longer worship with this church but will be sent out to worship as part of other congregations.	Help them say goodbye well and feel blessed to be a significant part of new communities.
☑	Neighbors nearby	New uses of the church property could benefit neighborhood.	Determining how to sell or repurpose the property well will provide new space for neighborhood benefit.
☐	Volunteers		
☐	Recipients/ Users		
☑	Organizations in partnership/ using building	The other church that meets in our sanctuary will have to find a new place to meet.	Giving them at least 6 months notice that we are closing will help them have time to find a new place.
☐	Donors		
☑	Building(s)/ property	Building has lived it life and is ready to be torn down.	Working through options for the property could give new life to our building so it can be a blessing to others for future generations.
☑	Plants/other non-human living things	The 100 year old oak tree in front of the sanctuary might not survive the re-purposing of the property.	Consider how the tree can be part of a new use of this property.
☐	Other:		
☐	Other:		
☐	Other:		

EXAMPLE #2

Ending our confirmation program will impact the following people and places:

✓	PEOPLE/ PLACE	HOW WILL THEY BE AFFECTED?	HOW CAN YOU IMPROVE THE IMPACT BY ENDING WELL?
☑	Congregants	There will be grief to acknowledge that confirmation model of the past doesn't work anymore.	Good rituals to celebrate the way confirmation was meaningful in the past and laying it down.
☐	Neighbors nearby		
☑	Volunteers	Volunteers who have spent a lot of energy on confirmation will now have some space and energy for other activities.	Affirming the contribution these volunteers have made might help encourage them to invest in a different ministry.
☑	Recipients/ Users	The few youth that do show up won't have the option for traditional confirmation.	Developing a plan for mentorship instead of confirmation in order to support them.
☐	Organizations in partnership/ using building		
☐	Donors		
☐	Building(s)/ property		
☐	Plants/other non-human living things		
☐	Other:		
☐	Other:		
☐	Other:		

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ACTIVITY: IMPACT REFLECTIONS

Ending _____ will impact the following people and places:

✓	PEOPLE/ PLACE	HOW WILL THEY BE AFFECTED?	HOW CAN YOU IMPROVE THE IMPACT BY ENDING WELL?
☐	Congregants		
☐	Neighbors nearby		
☐	Volunteers		
☐	Recipients/ Users		
☐	Organizations in partnership/ using building		
☐	Donors		
☐	Building(s)		
☐	Plants/other non-human living things		
☐	Other:		
☐	Other:		
☐	Other:		

LETTERS FROM THE FUTURE

ATTACH LETTERS HERE

You may wish to read them back next year!

This is a creative exercise, which will help you articulate what a 'good' ending looks like in your context. After you have each read out your letters, take some time to notice the key themes and values that emerged.

GRAB SOME PAPER

SECTION ONE: LETTER WRITING

Distribute pens and paper to your group. This is an imaginative exercise where you will individually write a letter from the future, from the perspective of someone positively impacted by how this ending happened. Each of you should take the role of someone impacted by this ending (for example, a congregation member, a neighbor, a pastor, etc).

Write a letter from that person back to this group from a year in the future, thanking you for ending well. What is their experience a year on? What are they reflecting on positively? Is there something that helped them feel cared for and seen in the process?

SECTION TWO: THEMES AND VALUES

Read your letters aloud, note the key themes and values that emerge. Refer back to them throughout the process to guide key decisions.

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INGREDIENTS FOR ENDING WELL

Our guide to ending well includes six essential ingredients. While none should be omitted, the order in which they are used can vary depending on the context and may be adjusted to fit the needs of the congregation.

COMMUNICATION

GRIEF

CELEBRATION

CARE

LOGISTICS

STORY TELLING

KNOWING YOUR STORY

Our stories are situated in a bigger story that began long before us and will continue long after us. God's faithfulness extends as a through line throughout all of creation and time.

The stories we remember and tell about the thing we are ending are important. Ending well includes telling the story of what is ending, where God was at work, and how people have been transformed by what is now ending.

GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN WITH US

GOD'S STORY IS BIGGER THAN WE CAN IMAGINE

GOD IS WITH US

GOD IS FAITHFUL

OUR STORY: A CHAPTER IN GOD'S STORY

GOD WILL BE WITH US

WE ARE LOVED BY GOD

OUR STORY

WE ARE ENDING:

THESE PEOPLE HELPED MAKE IT HAPPEN:

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TRANSFORMED BY THIS IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

GOD HAS MET US AND OTHERS BY:

WE FACED SOME CHALLENGES:

ONE OF THE BEST THINGS THAT CAME OUT OF IT WAS:

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SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE

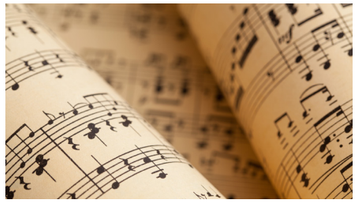
Our story of faith is always held within a larger story of God's goodness and presence. Recounting the ways God has been with us throughout history allows us to move forward trusting that God's not through with us yet.

MARK 5:19; PSALM 66:16

USING METAPHORS

Scripture is full of stories of endings and beginnings, planting and harvest, death and resurrection. In storytelling, metaphors often help us connect more deeply. Read Ecclesiastes 3:1–8 and consider the metaphors below.

SALMON SPAWNING

Salmon journey upstream to spawn, then die—but their bodies feed rivers, forests, and future life. What seems like death becomes a holy offering to what comes next.

MUSICAL RESTS

In music, a rest isn't empty; it gives meaning to the notes around it and the melody breathes. The rest isn't an ending but a sacred pause, preparing the way for the next movement to begin.

HARVEST AND FALLOW FIELD

Farmers know that constant planting exhausts the land; renewal requires pause. What seems like an ending is God preparing the ground for life to begin again.

IS THERE A METAPHOR THAT IS HELPFUL FOR YOU IN THIS END?

MARK YOUR STORY

Think about rituals that could help you mark the way God worked, and is working, through your story. It will likely also cause grief to say goodbye to this chapter in the story.

RITUAL IDEAS

- Create a video telling the story of the thing you are ending
- Write a liturgy or song to mark this end and how it fits within God's story
- Write your own:

GRIEVING THE ENDING

Every ending brings loss, even good endings; changes that are inevitable, the closures we're prepared for. It's important to create space for grieving, and to hear all the voices grief speaks in. To listen to them is not a distraction from the work of ending well; it is the work. It's how we let grief do its work in us.

Use this tool to name your community's losses. It's also an invitation to exercise your empathy muscles. Who else might experience loss in the changes ahead?

NAMING OUR LOSSES

WHO HAVE WE BEEN?

WHO WILL WE BE AFTER?

WHAT EXPECTATIONS AND HOPES WERE NOT REALIZED?

WHAT REMAINS UNDONE?

WHAT FEELS UNFINISHED?

WHAT DOES THIS ENDING SAY ABOUT US?

NAMING OTHERS' LOSSES

WHO ELSE WILL EXPERIENCE THIS LOSS?

WHO ELSE MUST WE SIT WITH?

TO WHOM WILL THIS ENDING BOND US AND HOW?

FROM WHOM WILL IT ISOLATE US?

WHO REMAINS UNSERVED?

WHAT DOES THIS ENDING SAY TO THEM?

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ACTIVITY: LAMENT IS SACRED GRIEF

The psalmists cried out, sometimes individually, sometimes as a community. Read the psalm then create your own using the fourfold form.

SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE

When our hearts are heavy and spirits crushed God is near. Holding space for our sorrow, for every tear and shout and whisper, and groan. Reminding us that even in our grief God is with us.

PSALM 34:18

EXAMPLE: PSALM 25, SELECTED VERSES

Address to God:
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust,
Do not let me be ashamed;

Description of complaint:
Turn to me and be gracious to me,
For I am lonely and afflicted.
The troubles of my heart are enlarged;

Request for God's help:
Bring me out of my distresses.
Look upon my affliction
and my trouble,
And forgive all my sins.
Guard my soul and deliver me;

Expression of trust in God:
Do not let me be ashamed,
for I take refuge in you.
Let integrity and uprightness
preserve me,
For I wait for you.

YOUR PSALM

CREATIVE PRACTICES

Process beauty in the brokenness using:

RITUAL IDEAS

- Create a playlist of songs of grief
- Breath prayer: Inhale "I won't carry it alone", Exhale "God is with me"
- Write your own:

CELEBRATING THE ENDING

In the sacred space of ending, we pause to remember God's faithfulness and to rejoice in what has been. Celebration is not an afterthought, nor a selfish need, but an act of worship—a recognition of our growth, God's grace, and the good gifts that have brought us here.

Use these pages to plan a celebration, or celebrations, that mark the ending with gratitude, joy, and trust in God, who continues to make all things new.

WHO NEEDS TO BE INVOLVED

INVITEE	WHAT WE WANT THEM TO THINK	WHAT WE WANT THEM TO FEEL	WHAT WE WANT THEM TO SAY
E.g: Former Pastor	The history has been considered well	Honored, included	This is the right way and the right time to end this

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SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE

Even in an ending there is much to celebrate. There is joy in recognizing that God has worked through you. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

MATTHEW 25:21-23; 2 KINGS 2:13

IDEAS FOR CELEBRATING ENDING

Use the thought starters and circles here to explore ideas for your celebration.

Sharing our stories
e.g. in person, by video, written testimony

Food and drink

Honoring leaders

Liturgy/ practices

One event, or multiple?

Commemorative items/keepsakes
e.g. memory wall, photo book

Symbolic acts/ moments of gratitude
e.g. planting seeds, lighting candles

End with the Doxology

ENDING WITH CARE

We all experience endings differently. However, they always disrupt and this is often very difficult for groups and individuals to navigate. Careful consideration of how to care for those affected by this ending will help lead you to your goal of ending well.

Use these pages to help you identify and plan ways to provide care in a way that honors the loss and gives hope for the future.

People who need care and should be considered:

- ★ Leadership
- ★ Partners
- ★ Congregation
- ★ Wider community

You may want to review page 11 to see if those impacted need care.

WHO IS THIS FOR?

WHO IS DOING THIS?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

WHY ARE THEY DOING IT?

WHO IS THIS FOR?

WHO IS DOING THIS?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

WHY ARE THEY DOING IT?

WHO IS THIS FOR?

WHO IS DOING THIS?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

WHY ARE THEY DOING IT?

WHO IS THIS FOR?

WHO IS DOING THIS?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

WHY ARE THEY DOING IT?

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SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE

God gives us companions for the journey and emphasizes the importance of unity and community throughout scripture.

GALATIANS 6:2; 1 THESSALONIANS 5:11

EXAMPLE

WHO IS THIS FOR?
Leadership

WHO IS DOING THIS?
Myself (the pastor)

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
Weekend retreat at a guest house

WHY ARE THEY DOING IT?
Space for rest and reflection
To hear how God is leading

WHO IS THIS FOR?

WHO IS DOING THIS?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

WHY ARE THEY DOING IT?

WHO IS THIS FOR?

WHO IS DOING THIS?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

WHY ARE THEY DOING IT?

WHO IS THIS FOR?

WHO IS DOING THIS?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

WHY ARE THEY DOING IT?

RITUAL IDEAS

- Set up prayer partnerships
- Communal exercise: write burdens on stones, toss into a body of water
- Write your own:

BUILDING A COMMS PLAN

Building a communications plan requires identifying all players and their unique needs. When something ends, everyone must know. Consider who to inform, how often, what to say, appropriate tone, and the medium of communication.

Poor communication risks confusion, misalignment, and damaged relationships across diverse involved groups.

KEY THINGS WE NEED TO COMMUNICATE ABOUT ENDING _____ ARE:

1.
2.
3.

CONGREGATION

The most invested audience, close to decision-making. Require the most timely and frequent communication through a personal medium.

FREQUENCY + DURATION

METHOD OF CONTACT

LEVEL OF DETAIL

TONE

WHAT ARE WE TELLING THEM?

PARTNERS

May be highly impacted by changes, but less invested than congregation. Require timely and complete info; medium depends on content shared.

FREQUENCY + DURATION

METHOD OF CONTACT

LEVEL OF DETAIL

TONE

WHAT ARE WE TELLING THEM?

COMMUNITY

Least invested, but still valuable constituents. Require less frequent communication with key updates and summary information via general formats.

FREQUENCY + DURATION

METHOD OF CONTACT

LEVEL OF DETAIL

TONE

WHAT ARE WE TELLING THEM?

SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE

Even in the midst of the ending, God is still at work. Whether a new vision is on the horizon, a pause, or a different beginning, God is faithful. God will finish the work started in, with, and through you.

PHILLIPANS 1:6

RITUAL IDEAS

- Capture an image to remember and share with those impacted
- Set apart spaces for silence and reflection
- Write your own: _____

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How can we be generous in this moment?

Could we use our property or funds to create something new for the community?

What has been revealed to us in this ending?

Our new dreams are:

We now have the freedom to:

How could we use this moment for justice or repair?
(e.g. give land back to Indigenous peoples)

What else is possible?

WHAT'S POSSIBLE NOW?

When something ends, there are usually still things that remain and may be new possibilities for what is next.

What spirit from this ending will continue into the future? Pause here to consider what is possible now that wouldn't have otherwise been possible without this ending.

What might be possible now?

How will needs be met now that this is ending?

What remains that can be handed off to someone else?

How will the remnant be cared for?

Are there obligations we have that remain even after this ending?

What intangible things can be carried forward?

What else remains?

What new connections might be formed by ending well?

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THE LOGISTICS OF ENDING WELL

SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE

Thoughtful and intentional attention to practical logistics is not separate from ministry but a part of ministry. God is present in the details as well as in the big picture. You work in this area can be a spiritual discipline.

COLOSSIANS 2:23

Ending something will likely require attending to some practical logistics at some point along the way. Some of these logistics may need to be dealt with before an ending and others will take place after an ending. Below are some practical questions to consider as you end. Some of these may or may not be applicable to you and your specific situation.

• TOP •
Grab your "Letters From the Future" for this section
• TIP •

Before you consider these questions, re-read your letters from the future. Think about how handling these logistics well can help you end well and carry forward the spirit of what is ending.

PROPERTY AND SPACE

- ★ Does this ending have implications for property?
- ★ Will you be selling all or part of your buildings or land at this ending?
- ★ Is this the end for a building that is being replaced?
- ★ How will space that was used for what you are ending be used now?

PROPERTY IN THE PC(USA)

In the PC(USA) property is "held in trust... for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)" G-4.02. As a congregation, you need to partner with your presbytery in any significant agreement or change related to your buildings and land.

RESOURCES THAT COULD HELP YOU WITH NEXT STEPS FOR PROPERTY:

How to Rent Well: A practical guide that helps congregations thoughtfully discern, plan, and carry out the rental of parts of their church property in ways that honor their mission, steward resources wisely, and make a positive difference in their community.

How to Develop Well: A step-by-step guide that helps congregations clarify their goals, prepare for partnerships, and navigate the development process so that any project on their property aligns with their mission, values, and vision for community impact.

Scan the QR codes to access these how-to guides

☐ **Yes, we need to take some steps with our building(s) or land as a result of this ending. We need to:**

FINANCIAL

- ★ Does this ending have financial implications?
- ★ Are there accounts that need to close?
- ★ Are there remaining funds that we need to find a new, good use for?
- ★ Are there partners that will lose financial stability as a result of this ending?
- ★ Is there an endowed gift related to this ending that needs to be re-purposed?

Thinking carefully about what happens with money at the end can make all the difference between ending poorly and ending well. Keep in mind that remaining funds cannot go to individual members and you may have to contact your presbytery to determine who decides where money will go.

At the beginning of any process that might modify the property and its use, congregations should reach out to the presbytery to engage them in the process. The presbytery wants to see congregations and new expressions of the church thrive in ministry and can be a fantastic partner in these significant next steps.

☐ **Yes, we need to take some steps related to money due to this ending. We need to:**

INFORMATION AND RECORDS

- ★ Are there records that need to be moved somewhere (baptism, membership, etc.).
- ★ Are there records that need to be saved or destroyed (employment, tax, donor, etc.)
- ★ How will you account for sensitive information that should be protected (social security numbers, addresses, etc.)
- ★ Keep in mind that there may be local laws or presbytery and denominational guidelines about what must be kept, how long, where, etc.

☐ **Yes, we need to deal with information and records related to this ending. We need to:**

PHYSICAL ITEMS

- ★ Are there physical items (hymnals, an organ, art, etc) that need to be re-homed or disposed of as a result of this ending?
- ★ Can new congregations use Bibles and hymnals?
- ★ Can congregants use art and objects to remember the church?

Your presbytery may have guidance around what to do with church items that are no longer being used or are inside of a church that is being closed/sold.

☐ **Yes, we need to take some steps with physical items as a result of this ending. We need to:**

As your congregation completes its ministry, its records will bear witness for generations to come. Consult the **Presbyterian Historical Society**, the national archives of the PC(USA), for help. Contact us at **refdesk@history.pcusa.org**

Partners for Sacred Places has specific guidance about historic or artistic items in their guide.

PRIOR COMMITMENTS

(Tenants, Users, Partners)

- ★ What impact will this ending have on people or organizations that you have prior commitments to/with?
- ★ Who needs to be consulted in this ending?
- ★ How will you communicate with or engage prior commitments in this ending?
- ★ If you have legal agreements or leases you may need to think about how to end those (see legal consideration below).

The "**How to Partner Well**" resource could be helpful as you consider partnerships and prior commitments.

☐ **Yes, we need to respect and respond to prior commitments as a result of this ending. We need to:**

LEGAL

- ★ Are there legal steps you need to take in this ending?
- ★ Does a legal entity need to be formally closed or merged?
- ★ Is there paperwork that needs to be filed with the IRS, your state, your presbytery, etc. to formalize this ending?
- ★ Is there a lease or other property related agreement that needs to be ended?
- ★ Seek legal counsel on these questions if they are relevant in your context.

☐ **Yes, we need to take some legal steps as a result of this ending. We need to:**

PRESBYTERY

- ★ Do you need to let your presbytery or leaders know about this ending?
- ★ What information do you need to give them?
- ★ Are there approvals or support you need from your presbytery?

Start early in communicating with your presbytery if that is needed in this ending.

☐ **Yes, we need to communicate with our presbytery as part of this ending. We need to:**

For the how-to guides mentioned in this section, scan the QR code

RITUAL IDEAS

Go together as a group to take anything you are giving away

Allow people to take bricks or parts of a building (if relevant)

Write your own:

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PLANNING TOOL

Let's put all the ingredients together here so you have a plan for how to end well. Review the work you've done on the ingredients in the previous pages and write down what you are going to do related to that ingredient, when you intend to do that, and who will lead it.

Put a star wherever you plan to include a ritual in the plan.

FINAL REVIEW

- ★ Are you missing any essential ingredients?
- ★ Does this look like a realistic plan?
- ★ Do you have good rituals planned to help you end well?

	PRE-ENDING		END POINT	POST-ENDING
STORY TELLING	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO .....
GRIEF	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO .....
CELEBRATION	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO .....
CARE	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO .....
COMMUNICATION	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO .....
LOGISTICS	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO	WHAT ..... WHEN ..... WHO .....

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NOTES

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This tool is one in a series of resources designed in partnership between PC(USA) and RootedGood to help congregations discern their future economic models.

THE GOOD FUTURES ACCELERATOR

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Give us your feedback!

We are always learning and improving our resources.

Scan the code to tell us how this tool worked for you and what changes or improvements you'd like to see in it.

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