Is Your NWC Ready to Become an Organized Congregation?

Here are some questions you may want to ask to consider readiness to organize:

1. Has the NWC been worshiping regularly for at least 1 year?
2. What is the strategy for financial sustainability?
3. Has the organizing pastor (or other spiritual leader) has been in place for at least 1 year?
4. Have potential elders been trained by the presbytery in leadership and church governance?
5. Has the presbytery been effectively providing appropriate care and accountability for the NWC?
6. Have church membership qualifications and processes have been developed?
7. Does the community hold appropriate liability insurance?
8. Are healthy, effective financial procedures in place and operating effectively?
9. Has the pastor/leader received ethical training by the presbytery?
10. Have all leaders had appropriate background checks?
11. Is the community incorporated as a non-profit organization?
12. Has the NWC shown evidence of consistently setting and reaching benchmarks?
13. Have bylaws been created?
14. Has a PIN number been obtained from PCUSA?
15. If it is to be a union church (connected to more than one denomination) has a plan of union been approved by mid-councils?
16. Has the community elected officers?
17. Has the community obtained EIN# from IRS using form SS-4, *Application for Employer Identification Number?*
18. Has a pastor been called by the congregation (if appropriate)?