

VISION STATEMENT

Rationale and Process:

1. The Envisioning Team gathered to create a draft of the vision statement for the consolidation documents.
2. The E-team used the following definition as our starting guide for a vision statement. **“A one-sentence statement describing the clear and inspirational long-term desired change resulting from a congregation’s work.”**
3. The E-team used the following definition for our future mission statement. **“A mission statement answers three questions about why a congregation exists— what it does, who it does it for, and how it does what it does.”**
4. We had a lengthy discussion— and agreed that we wanted the vision statement to be quite short, memorable, and broad enough to include all the ways we want to serve.

The discussion time focused on several key words for the vision statement: community, Christ, One-ness/unity, welcoming, faithfulness and service.

Our final draft recommendation is **SERVING GOD, LOVING ALL.**

ENVISIONING UPDATE

Over the last several months the Envisioning Team has invited the congregation into conversation for listening and dreaming sessions. Throughout this time our group continued to grow in numbers and depth of sharing. We learned several things about who we already are and who we want to be as a new faith community.

Those who participated in this process identified areas of community life on which they want to focus: **children/youth, adult education, hunger, homebound/visitation, and inclusivity.**

Those who participated in this process also identified areas of community life that are not being addressed or would be considered “gaps”: **education and fellowship opportunities that are sensitive to work and family schedules, deeper knowledge and connections among members, more opportunities to be in worship together, expanding leadership with goal of including new ideas, welcoming those who do not look like the majority of the present congregation.**

As we move forward together, it is our hope that the envisioning process will continue to expand. After community discernment, prayer and study— we will form a mission statement that will assist in directing our decisions, our budget priorities, and our areas of mission focus. We are excited about how God will lead us on a new path together.

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