

Calvary United Methodist Church



Vision Team

Update to congregation

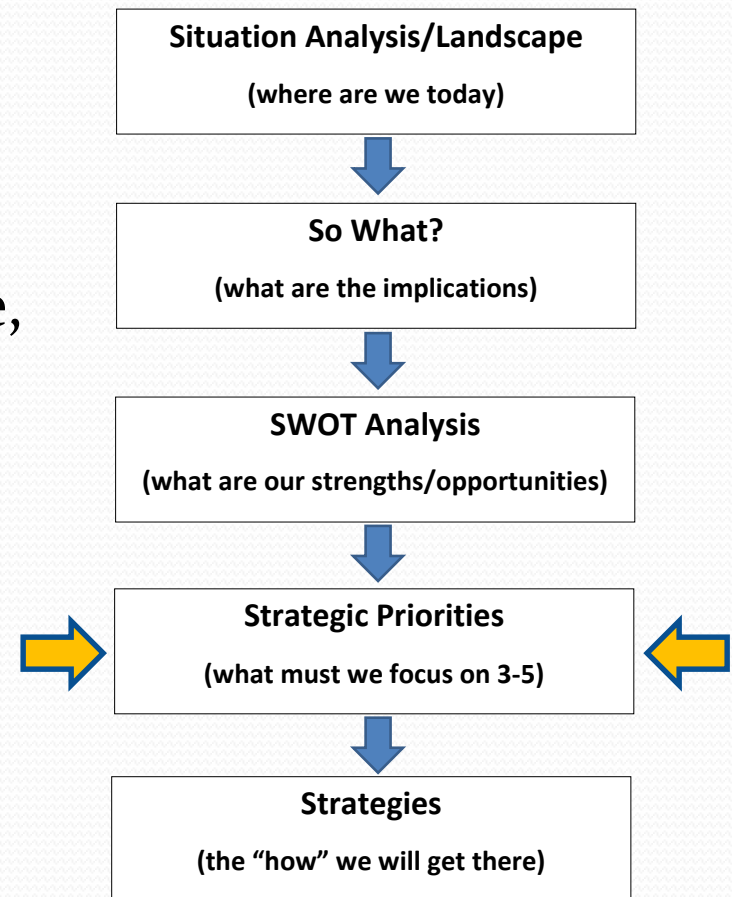
June 18 and 25, 2017

Vision Team Update - Background

- **The Team:** Rev. Steve Larsen, Pat Herber, Pat Staggs, Angela Mayer, Zan Fleming, Bonnie Strine, Dean Calcagni, Kent Willetts
- **The Assignment:** *“The Vision Team is to work through a process of research, discussion, prayer and discernment...will provide updates and a final Strategic Plan including findings and recommendations...”*
- **The Process:** Utilized the book “Holy Conversations - Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice..” as our guide.

Vision Team Update - Status

- Team has met 8 times.
- Completed process through Strategic Priorities.
- Reviewed internal data (membership, worship attendance, demographics, assessment tool, surveys, etc...)
- Reviewed external data(pop. growth, household growth, demographics, etc...)
- Completed SWOT analysis
- Drafted Strategic Priorities



Vision Team Update – Key Learnings

- From the church assessment tool & 100+ surveys...we should focus on:
 - **Reaching people outside the church** for the purpose of serving Christ (evangelism, sharing our faith enthusiastically with those who are not currently members)
 - **Worship** that connects people with God (inspiring, fresh, vital, moving). Message, music, format and setting all contributing factors.
 - **Welcome, hospitality** throughout the church that forms and feeds relationships
 - **Connections.** Intentionally creating new occasions and settings that make it possible for people to connect. (For example, creating new small groups, offering learning events, outreach events, extending invitations to WDS families, etc..)
 - **Growth** by bringing in new members as the current membership grows older

Vision Team Update – SWOT Learnings

- **Strengths:**

- Strong, inspiring music program
- Facilities, beautiful sanctuary
- Location – visible, vibrant and central location
- Strong mission programs (outreach and mission to community and beyond)
- Week Day School reputations and outreach
- VBS
- “Big Tent” acceptance of different ideas and perspectives
- Existing small group culture.
- Improvement with website, social media
- Family life activities involvement
- Nursery and children’s church

Vision Team Update – SWOT Learnings

- **Weaknesses:**

- Parking
- Aging/Declining Membership/ Attendance
- Identifying, welcoming and follow up with visitors is inconsistent
- Members may not be friendly with other members, lack of warmth and friendliness with those outside our current circle.
- Lack of success with volunteers (recruitment, participation)
- No clear vision or strategic plan
- Unclear cooperative parish arrangement
- Limited number of social interactions
- No “non-traditional” worship/study/fellowship opportunities offered (the main choice is the time)
- Can seem to be stuck....Resistant to change, reluctant to do things differently
- Communication doesn't always take place for everyone

Vision Team Update – Strategic Priorities

- **CUMC Mission:** *“To seek and invite all to become disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and our world”.*
- **Strategic Priorities:**
 1. Become great at seeking, inviting and welcoming people
 2. Build community and connections within the church with small groups of various kinds
 3. Leverage facility to seek and promote community
 4. Help people grow in discipleship through clear pathways
 5. Develop an attitude of continuous learning and improvement. We might be doing something well...but there are always ways to make things better. Foster a spirit of courage to leverage our strengths, chart a course, and stick to it with perseverance. Engage head, heart and hands to accomplish our mission.

Vision Team Update – Next Steps

- Get Church Council feedback/approval on strategic priorities. – *May 22*
- Update congregation on status and get feedback – *June – Aug*
- Develop strategy recommendations for Ad. Council – *Aug/Sep*
- Recommendation to Ad. Council for implementing/tracking progress against the plan – *Aug/Sep*
- Strategic Plan presented - *Sep*