

Survey # 3 Results

Who are we & why are we here?

In this survey, we asked you to look at our mission and our purpose. The questions were:

- 1) How does our congregation understand its purpose? Who are we? Why are we here?
- 2) If we weren't here, who would notice and what would be missing?

Here is a summary of the congregation's responses:

The congregation understands its mission and purpose and tries to fulfill the mission in the following ways.

The congregation is a community of God's loving people of Christian believers and friends, who work and worship together. We know that we are flawed but we are trying our best to serve. We believe in the resurrection and that Jesus died for our sins and we are free. We are the church. We are Lutherans. We are here to share the gospel of God's love. We are here to worship, praise, love and honor God. We study His word and are here to receive God's blessings of worshipping and working with other believers. We are here to serve, to care, to support, to encourage, and to love one another.

If we weren't here God would be disappointed. There would be no Christian fellowship, no house of worship, no place to marry, to baptize or to have funerals. All of our outreach and ministry recipients would miss us: Mary's Table, Seafarers, Ronald McDonald House, our Shut-ins, the recipients and participants in the WELCA sponsored activities, Central City Lutheran Mission, our Missionary John Lunn, Cursillo, and Pacifica Synod. The community groups who use our facilities would miss us.

Lutheran Church of Our Savior

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Our Mission: "To Live in Faith, Share the Gospel, and Bring God's Healing and Hope to All People."

Transition Team

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Survey # 4 Results What are our gifts?

In this survey, we asked you to look at our mission and our gifts. The questions were:

Read our Mission Statement: "To live in faith, share the Gospel, and Bring God's healing and Hope to All People."

In light of our Mission Statement:

- A) What do you think are the congregation's top 3 gifts/resources?
- B) What do you think are the congregation's top 3 assets?
- C) What are the obstacles that must be overcome to be able to use these gifts to accomplish the mission?

Here is a summary of the congregation's responses:

Our gifts include faithful members who contribute time, talents, and financial resources in support of the LCOS mission. Many volunteers work together to plan, organize, implement, and participate in the activities of the church and outreach to the community. The gift of worship helps us grow in faith with the opportunity to share and celebrate with others. Our worship includes a traditional liturgical service and a contemporary service with opportunity for all to join in the singing at both services.

Our top three assets are: (1) the physical facility, (2) member talents and abilities, and (3) member commitment and participation. The recently renovated facility includes a sanctuary with pipe organ, other musical accompaniment options, audiovisual system, parish hall with adjacent kitchen, multi-use meeting rooms of varying size, ample parking, handicapped access, and expansion land. While the sanctuary is used for worship services, the parish hall and meeting rooms are available for use by local community groups. Our members use their talents and abilities as they involve themselves in the various organizations and small groups within the church and the community outside the church.

Our obstacles include a declining membership accompanied by reduced revenue, a lack of younger families with children, an aging population, and a shrinking volunteer pool. The gift of opportunity is available with many unchurched in our local area. Strong, dynamic leadership is needed to develop ways to overcome the obstacles associated with reaching out and welcoming the unchurched neighborhood into our church.

Thank you for your participation!