

Discovering Approaches to Mission: _____ Lutheran Church

1. Mission (basic purpose, why a church exists; from Latin *mittere*, to send)

<Put guiding statements here: mission statement, values, etc.>

Bible verses to consider related to mission (important to ask: is this *God's Mission?*):

Matthew 28:18-20 Matthew 25 (live expectantly, as faithful stewards, with compassion)

Acts 1:8 Luke 4:16-21 (good news to poor, release to captives...)

To a fair extent, the mission of your congregation is similar to many other Christian churches.

2. Apply Mission to Context

Here the mission becomes much more unique: what is the particular place where the people of this congregation are planted: live, work, go to school, act as neighbors, serve?

What activities go on in the 3 mile radius around the church building's location?
(Or if not by radius, then in the "parish" served by the congregation using zip code areas)

Study the demographics, but also go out and listen to the people to hear where they find life already, and where they long for life more abundantly.

How do you apply the mission outlined in #1 to this very specific context?

3. What picture of the future does #1 applied to #2 create? (Vision)

If God were in charge, how would the situation within this context look different from how it looks now? Talk in pairs; write down 2 things you "see".

Vision 1: _____

Vision 2: _____

4. Mission "approaches" or "strategies" are specific actions to help "Your" Lutheran Church move from where it is now toward the Vision it has for the future.

Mission Strategy #1: _____

Mission Strategy #2 _____

*To develop and implement your strategies, consider an asset-mapping or gift-based process as your starting point. Also, who could be partners with you in this mission?
REPEAT this 4-step process as needed (it's meant to be on-going and adaptable).*