

The Ministry of
**ST. JOHN
LUTHERAN**



CHURCH • SCHOOL • CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



A Letter From PASTOR

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ of St. John Lutheran Church,

What a joy it is to be the Family of Faith that gathers in this place to be fed with the gifts of God in Word and Sacrament! Since 1877, this Family of Faith has grown in God’s grace and has been moved to share the love of Jesus Christ with one another, the Seward community, and beyond.

Over those 146 years, much has changed—the realities of the day, the size and composition of the community, and the lives of families. At the same time, one thing has remained constant—the need in everyone’s life for the love of God in Christ that brings the assurance of eternal life.

With this being the reality, the congregation has once again spent time in God’s Word, in prayer, and in conversation, working to best chart the course in order to share the love of Christ in these current times. That time spent in the past year has produced what is before you—The Ministry Plan for The Ministry of St. John Lutheran.

This Ministry Plan flows from our new Vision Statement: We are His for All. That Vision Statement is our present reminder of why we carry out our Mission Statement: To proclaim and practice the love of Christ. I pray that the vision and mission will help us all focus our work together as we move forward into the future with faith in Christ.

Now is the time to celebrate! Now is the time to give thanks! Now is the time to embark on this mission, praying that God will guide us in this journey as He has done in the past.

In Christ’s love,
Pastor Scott D. Bruick
Pastoral Leader



Our TARGETS

OPERATIONS

St. John understands and directs its resources of time, talent, and treasure toward intentional ministry goals.

FACILITIES

St. John creates spaces to welcome people and support its growing ministries.

ENGAGEMENT

St. John intentionally guides people into deeper relationships with Jesus, one another, and the ministry of the congregation.

YOUTH

St. John intentionally guides our 7th-12th grade youth into Christian adulthood.

OPERATIONS

St. John understands and directs its resources of time, talent, and treasure toward intentional ministry goals.



GOAL 01:

Authorize the Strategic Ministry Plan (hereafter SMP) Governance Team to study and propose an effective governance model for St. John to adopt and implement by January 2025.

Responsible: Governance Team
Start Date: November 2023

GOAL 02:

Establish an annual SMP Review Process by which Lay Leadership tracks and reports progress toward Targets and Goals, including a revision of the SMP every three years.

Responsible: Lay Leadership
Start Date: June 2024

GOAL 03:

Use Discipleship Process (Goal E1) to review, unify, align, and refocus congregational ministries, communications, and staffing.

Responsible: Shepherding Staff and Lay Leaders
Start Date: Summer 2024

GOAL 04:

Enhance Church Office administration, membership roster, and volunteer resource list through expanded use of ACS Technologies software (e.g., Time, Talent, Treasure Inventory; Pictorial Directory; etc.).

Responsible: Church Office Staff, Director of Membership, Engagement Coordinator
Start Date: January 2024

GOAL 05:

Celebrate an existing St. John ministry each month, highlighting for the congregation its purpose, impact, and needs.

Responsible: Stewardship Ministry Board
Start Date: April 2024

FACILITIES

St. John creates spaces to welcome people and support its growing ministries.

GOAL F1:

Authorize the SMP Facilities Team to conduct a facilities-needs analysis.

Responsible: SMP Facilities Team
Start Date: November 2023

GOAL F2:

Hire a capital campaign firm to guide the congregation through the funding of a building project.

Responsible: Coordinating Council
Start Date: Spring 2024

GOAL F3:

Establish a Building Committee to commence a building project.

Responsible: Lay Leadership, Voters Assembly
Committee Start Date: Spring 2024



We are **HIS** for all.

YOUTH

St. John intentionally guides our 7th-12th grade youth into Christian adulthood.

ENGAGEMENT

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GOAL E1:

Develop a Discipleship Process to provide a clear and simple path for all members and guests to engage each ministry pillar (Worship, Study, Fellowship, Service).

Responsible: Pastoral Team
Start Date: January 2024

GOAL E2:

Develop a congregation-wide, sermon-based small group ministry as a second step in the Discipleship Process.

Responsible: Pastoral Team
Start Date: Summer 2024
Launch Date: Spring 2025

GOAL E3:

Hire Engagement Coordinator to develop and oversee member and guest engagement in the Discipleship Process.

Responsible: Personnel Committee and Pastoral Team
Hiring Process Start Date: August 2024

GOAL Y1:

Hire Youth Director to recruit, equip, train, and support youth leaders and volunteers (Godparents, Dare2B, etc.).

Responsible: Personnel Committee,
Youth Board, Pastoral Team
Hiring Process Start Date: November 2023

GOAL Y2:

Include dedicated youth space in Goal F1.

Responsible: Youth Board, Building Committee
Start Date: November 2023

GOAL Y3:

Incorporate vocational awareness, fellowship opportunities, and service into existing youth programming.

Responsible: Youth Board, Youth Director, Engagement Coordinator
Start Date: November 2023

GOAL Y4:

Request regular youth and parent feedback concerning engagement and spiritual growth to direct ministry programming.

Responsible: Youth Board and Youth Director
Start Date: Spring 2024

GOAL Y5:

Design opportunities for youth to develop intergenerational relationships with congregation members.

Responsible: Youth Board and Youth Director
Start Date: Spring 2024





ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

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