HOME IS... A Vision for Home Moravian Church

How is God calling me?

To what is God calling me?

How is God calling US?

To what is God calling US?

Key questions: how is God calling us as a congregation?

Today:

we'll quickly review the journey we've been on since August 2018;

We'll provide an overview of key "Home Is..." observations

We'll present the "Vision Statement"

We'll share our Recommendations.

We'll participate in a table group activity to start thinking about how we each can plug into the Vision

We'll provide you with a Booklet containing this information and more: ideas that bubbled up during the congregational gatherings; questions for you to think about as we move forward together.

We hope you walk away intrigued, inspired, curious....maybe with as many questions (or even more) than you walked in with, with a passion to be part of asking and answering new questions!

The Process: Home Church engaged throughout

September 2018: What Brought Us Together

November 2018: Community Forum

February 2019: Our Assets

March 2019: World Cafe: starting to put it all together

Note: a lot of information from these meetings is on our Home Church website!

After reviewing all the conversations and information collected, the Visioning Team made 5 Key Observations

Home is: Vitalizing worship

Worship is beloved by our congregation and is an indispensable ingredient in our life together

Home Is: Deepening relationships with God

We long for ongoing spiritual renewal.

Home is: Deepening relationships with each other

We want to know each other better.

Home is: Deepening relationships with people beyond our doors

We desire meaningful relationships with our neighbors near and far.

Home Is: Service

We are called to serve with love, compassion and respect.

Out of all the information, conversations and prayer, we developed the Vision Statement

Vision Statement

A church engaged

A community healed

A world transformed

The Team has 6 Recommendations for bringing this vision to life.

We recommend that the church promote "Engaging, Healing, Transforming" as a framework for guiding the establishment, execution, and evaluation of our ministries and activities

We recommend that Home Church unleash its potential by empowering individuals and small groups to develop and implement bold, innovative ministry initiatives.

We recommend the creation of new spiritual growth opportunities.

We recommend intentional self-assessment of all ministries, using an "Action-Reflection" model.

We recommend that the pastoral staff, core committees and ministry teams reflect at least annually on the list of assets developed in February 2019 as a resource for current and developing ministries.

We recommend that the Board of Elders create a team, accountable to the Board, to implement these recommendations and to oversee, nurture and ensure self-evaluation of each ministry initiative.

Action Reflection Model: an example

Table Group Activity:

Engaging, Healing, Transforming Vision Organizer

Activity: Engaging

ENGAGE: to move into position so as to come into operation

Synonyms: interconnect, mesh, fit together

Activity: Healing

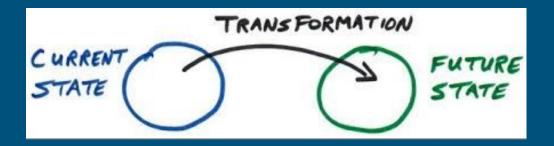
HEAL: to cure or alleviate a person's distress or anguish

"But there is a difference between curing and healing, and I believe the church is called to the slow and difficult work of healing. We are called to enter into one another's pain, anoint it as holy, and stick around no matter the outcome."

-Rachel Held Evans, Searching for Sunday-

Activity: Transforming

TRANSFORM: to make a thorough or dramatic change in form or appearance



NEXT STEPS

Next steps/wrap up:

- 1. Hand out booklets
 - a. Booklets detail what you've heard today
 - b. Booklets have more ideas for potential steps---and questions for your own reflection and action
- 2. Elders will be appointing a Vision Implementation group
- 3. Between now and Ash Wednesday, weekly emails/bulletin inserts with reflections by Vision Team members
- 4. Prayer (on slides, inside back cover of booklet)

Prayer (see inside back cover of booklet)

Gracious and Loving God,

<u>You are always at work in the world.</u> With every sunrise, you shine light on your beautiful creation. We give you thanks for colorful flowers, for rain and snow showers, and for every creature great and small.

Lord, you are always at work in our church. In every moment of worship, fellowship, mission, and play, you are there. We give you thanks for our beloved Home Moravian congregation and how you call us into community to share your love with others.

Prayer, continued (see inside back cover of booklet)

<u>God, you are always at work in us</u>. You equip and enable us to do wonderful things in your name. We give you thanks for the many gifts you entrust to us and for your hand always in ours.

Lord, we know you hear our prayers. We come together as a congregation to seek you and to discern how we can fulfill your vision for us of a church engaged, a community healed, and a world transformed.

Prayer, continued (see inside back cover of booklet)

Plant this vision in us, O God. Keep our eyes, ears, hands, and hearts open: open to listening, to understanding, to learning, to being willing to take risks and try new things as we work alongside and walk with one another in Your name.

May we be strengthened and united, knowing that as we seek to follow You, we are always embraced and held by the open arms and hands of Your son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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