



Visioning 2.0: A Vision for St. Mark's

Small Group Meetings Summary

We're almost done with the series of small group visioning meetings. Here is a brief summary of all of the excellent ideas that have been generated so far. They are listed in no particular order and we invite your feedback. Thanks to everyone who has participated.

Mission and Outreach

- Involvement in the arts. Festival of Faith and Art. Art gallery. Drama/improv events.
- Homeless services. Shelter. Food. Counseling. Become a PADS shelter.
- Faith-based speakers.
- Community prayer center.
- Tutoring for St. Gregory's.
- Mission activities in the local community. In conjunction with other parishes.
- St. Mark's computer lab.
- Mission training, speakers etc.
- Speakers program.
- Develop a Stephen's ministry.
- Strengthen relationships in Mexico. Sponsor San Marcos kids to Glen Ellyn.
- Stronger connection to the Diocese and National Church.
- Adopt an inner-city parish or school.
- Habitat For Humanity.
- Local mission trips.
- Outreach programs to other religions.

Worship

- Expanded music offerings. Different styles. More instruments. Soloists. Music education programs.
- Record/make available music on CD, online.
- Complete organ installation.
- Expand/grow choir - both adult and youth.
- Additional services. Saturday/Sunday evening services. Weekday Eucharist.
- Restore Compline.

- Morning prayer for some Sunday services

Education/Youth

- St. Mark's preschool-serving a unique niche in the community. Possibly extended through early primary grades.
- Youth activities recognized in the community. More teen activities.
- More high school aged programs.
- Build on excellent Adult Ed programs
- Full-time youth minister.
- Tutoring, mentoring programs.
- Youth service projects/opportunities.
- Christian studies program, theological studies.

Parish Life

- Focus on programs to grow the parish.
- Leadership development.
- Transportation help for parishioners.
- More active newcomers programs.
- Grieving programs/support.
- Sports activities. Softball team etc.
- More social events.
- Expanded affinity programs: women's, men's, couples, parents, singles etc.
- Lehman parlor as St. Mark's Starbucks/Caribou-gathering place.
- Have all parishioners involved in at least one ministry.

Parish Operations

- Expanded office coverage-paid staff.
- More transparency of finances, vestry operations.
- Expand marketing/communications budget, staff and activities.
- Expand/improve website. More social media, blogging, discussion groups.
- Redesign/upgrade church aesthetics. Sanctuary, Narthex, Mahon Hall etc.
- Sell the rectory.
- Expand the library.
- Address parking issues. Bike rack.
- Reduce/eliminate the debt
- Periodic review of vision and attainment.