

Understanding the Architecture of the Draft Mission Statement

The Mission Statement was developed as a result of congregational Visioning Workshops and several successive sessions to distill, pray and percolate the details. First a uniqueness statement was formed that served to summarize the Vision Framework. From that the draft mission statement was composed.

"We Grow Together"

- Reflects a Joshua Process observation that our committees themselves have created "many" churches. We must grow together all of our committees, groups and teams in mission.
- Pastoral Transition creates natural and expected division in the church community. We must grow together as we move forward.
- "Grow" is a metaphorical term used and referenced throughout Scripture in reference to seeds, roots, branches, etc.
- Growing together is visual and catalytic.
- "Grow" has a botanical feel that serves to mirror the physical setting of our church among the trees, as well as reflecting the growth in our neighboring community.
- Our growth together is an internally focused phrase that serves to promote our community's focus on scripture, worship, music, education and fellowship.

"In Christ"

- Biblically-oriented term for Jesus that bridges both the New and Old Testament.
- Christ is literally and intentionally placed at the center of the mission statement itself.



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"To Love and Serve All People"

- "All People" is inclusive and serves to promote our attention to all people in need regardless of their location, status, health, gender, age, ethnicity, orientation, faith, etc.
- "Serve" reflects the commitment of our many committees engaged in outreach, education and wellness. It also promotes our building itself as a community focal point as a safe place for service.
- The phrase is aspirational and challenging...it's difficult to ever completely fulfill.
- It's external (beyond our walls) and commits us to both local and global mission.

Other Aspects of the Mission Statement

- Consistent with aspects and phrasing promoted by the uniqueness statement.
- Mission statement is delivered in three parts, symbolic of the Trinity.
- Initial impression that the mission statement is "generic" and could be applied to any church. This important as it actually serves to promote and distinguish SALC as a leading congregation in the NW Synod. We are a model in mission.