

## **Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church Strategic Objectives - January 2008**

In working to carry out Christ's Great Commission and to live out our Mission, Vision, and Values, Divine Shepherd seeks to be passionately and strategically committed to:

- Word and Sacrament ministry – developing mature Christians.
- our community - dedicated to walk alongside it.
- outreach - bringing the lost to Christ.

In moving Forward in Mission, we have identified the following strategic objectives and priorities for Divine Shepherd.

- I. Short-term Strategic Objectives and Priorities (next 1 to 3 years)
  - a. Grow deeper in our prayer ministry.
  - b. Provide a greater focus on the breadth and the overall excellence of our Christian education programs. Specifically develop a strategy and program that integrates the educational needs of every generation and every level of Christian maturity and that trains and enables our families to carry out their Christian education responsibilities.
  - c. Continue to strive for excellence in all of our forms of worship.
  - d. Call, affirm, and support the Senior Pastor, Associate Pastor(s), and staff that God has planned for us; those that are here and those yet to come.
  - e. Deliberately work to mobilize and involve more people in service to His church (e.g., worship + 2). Encourage and lead our members to recognize and utilize to the fullest extent their time, talent, and treasure.
  - f. Develop a more consistent and effective communications strategy so that all members of the congregation feel connected, informed, and relevant.
  - g. Develop a lay leadership program that identifies and cultivates our next generation of lay leadership.
  - h. Maintain unity of vision, mission and strategic direction within and among the staff, lay leadership, and congregation. Develop an ongoing strategic planning process.
  - i. Develop and implement end-to-end management processes that include goals, objectives, metrics, and performance reviews for each ministry and operational area.
  - j. Identify and commit to the resources and infrastructure needed to achieve these objectives.
  - k. Continue to build on the enormous momentum of our existing Outreach programs.
  
- II. Long-term Strategic Objectives and Priorities (next 5 to 10 years)
  - a. Develop at least one “high-impact” partnership at each of the following levels that enables Divine Shepherd to best use its time, talent, and treasure outside its walls
    - i. Local (Omaha area)
    - ii. National
    - iii. International
  - b. Fully utilize our campus, including
    - i. Original sanctuary
    - ii. Christian Life Center
    - iii. Educational space
  - c. Become both a model and a resource center for other Lutheran congregations and other Christian ministries in terms of:
    - i. Educational excellence
    - ii. Worship and music excellence
    - iii. Outreach and mission excellence

d. Go from “good to great” as a “Family Life” congregation.