



For such a time as this...

2013-2023 Strategic Plan



Mission Statement:

Marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are claimed, gathered and sent for the sake of the world.

Vision Statement:

Claimed: by God's grace for the sake of the world, we are a new creation through God's living Word by the power of the Holy Spirit;

Gathered: by God's grace for the sake of the world, we will live among God's faithful people, hear God's Word and share Christ's supper;

Sent: by God's grace for the sake of the world, we will proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, serve all people following the example of our Lord Jesus and strive for justice and peace in the world.



Claimed

The objective of the Claimed Strategy is to help people grow in their faith through interaction and engagement with the Lutheran Tradition.

The three areas of focus will be:

Communication

– share a clear, concise, compelling message of the Lutheran identity through a variety of methods and medias.

Connection

– provide a variety of opportunities for individuals and families to participate in the network of Lutheran ministries.

Commitment

– challenge people to grow deeper in their faith through the development of new and renewed initiatives.

The Synod Council Executive Committee will commission a Claimed Strategy Committee to develop this strategy and make recommendations back to the Synod Council Executive Committee.



Gathered

The objective of the Gathered Strategy is to ensure that Word and Sacrament ministry is provided in the metropolitan New York area.

The three areas of focus will be:

Locations

– determine congregations and church facilities needed to meet the objective of this strategy.

Leadership – recruit, equip and support pastors and lay leaders to execute this strategy.

Ministries – develop new and renewed ministries to enhance this strategy.

The Synod Council Executive Committee will commission a Gathered Strategy Committee to develop this strategy and make recommendations back to the Synod Council Executive Committee.



Sent

The objective of the Sent Strategy is to network congregations, ministries, and leaders to proclaim the Gospel while responding to specific societal needs and issues.

The three areas of focus will be:

Services – develop and deliver programs in our communities that help people in words and deeds.

Partnerships – determine organizations and ministries to support.

Advocacy – speak on specific justice and peace issues.

The Synod Council Executive Committee will commission a Sent Strategy Committee to develop this strategy and make recommendations back to the Synod Council Executive Committee.

Strategy Enablers

Unity & Diversity

As on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13), the Holy Spirit still empowers God's diverse people to be together and to understand each other, and share in proclaiming God's deeds of power with a united voice in a diverse world. To help us so to preach the Gospel, the Metropolitan New York Synod will nurture racial, ethnic and cultural awareness and sensitivity in the hearts, minds, souls and behavior of all of God's people in our synod and synodical programs, policies and procedures.

Finance

The bishop will continue to appoint a Financial Management Committee. The Synod Council is responsible for the allocation and stewardship of assets. Using this direction, the Financial Management Committee will:

- Manage assets from all sources.
- Develop a budget with a priority on enabling key strategies.
- Allocate 100% of the net proceeds from the sales of synod owned property to the Synod Restricted Funds to support the key strategies as directed by the Synod Council.

Leadership

- The current constitutional governance system of Synod Assembly, Synod Council, Executive Committee, Conferences and Deans remains in place.
- The Synod Council Executive Committee is charged to direct and coordinate the key strategies. The Executive Committee receives input from the Conferences and Deans and reports to the Synod Council, which reports to the Synod Assembly.
- Other committees of the Synod Council include:
 - Claimed Strategy Committee
 - Gathered Strategy Committee
 - Sent Strategy Committee
 - Financial Management Committee
- The bishop will be charged with execution of the key strategies and working with the Synod Council Executive Committee. Other synod staff positions will be created, filled, developed and evaluated based on the key strategies.
- Synod offices, technology, and other support will be evaluated based on the key strategies.

Financial Development

The Synod Council will establish a financial development plan to secure resources for key strategies.

