



Our Goals, Hopes, and Dreams

Saint Paul Lutheran Church, Wyoming, MN

At our Annual Church Council Retreat on Sunday, June 9, 2024, held at the home of Deb and Steve Cowing, the following goals, hopes, and dreams were discussed and decided on as we move forward as a congregation.

These goals, hopes, and dreams are listed in no particular order and can be achieved as able, as the Spirit leads/provides, and within no particular timeframe.

Our hopes, goals, and dreams for the next 2-5 years (in no particular order):

Children, Youth & Family Opportunities

- Sr. High Mission trips - make plans and coordinate sr. high mission trip opportunities beginning in Summer 2025.
- Continue to promote and support Summer Bible Camp involvement
- Expanded variety of worship music for all ages (particularly youth) (including brass, orchestra, percussion, etc.)

Restore, Revive and Renew Church Spaces:

- Upon LADC adding current Youth Room to Discovery Center space, we will relocate Youth Space to the two available Sunday School rooms. Will seek out youth involvement in creating these spaces.
- Reimagine our current library into more of a multi-purpose Library Resource/Media Center including a public use computer/printer and more functional/multi-purpose furniture.
- Add wired (or wireless) speakers in narthex for any worshipers needing to step out of sanctuary during worship and/or for overflow worship seating as needed.
- Reimagine the current Cry Room in sanctuary into a Prayer Room (for Prayer Team use, weekly individual meditative prayer space, pastoral prayer/counseling space, etc.)

Create Action Teams:

- Hospitality Team - marketing & visitor acknowledgement (includes coordinating Stagecoach Days involvement, use of weekly/optional name tags, creating visitor welcoming protocol, cards, handouts at church & in community, bringing in new members, etc.)
- Redefine Global Missions Team to include both local *and* global missions (Mobile Food Truck, Homeless Kits, Tanzania/Bega Kwa Bega, ongoing Missions of the Month, etc.)
- Create Congregational Care Team to include and combine visitation, prayer shawl ministry, card ministry, prayer team, individual/group spiritual direction, faith integrated yoga (Yogadevotion), etc.

- Land Exploration Team - Utilize “green” space, What to do with the land..., Columbarium, Pollinator Garden, Labyrinth, Pickle Ball court, kickball, wiffleball.

Fundraising:

- 3 Fundraising events each year (Ideas include: 5K walk/run, Stagecoach Days - booth & float, Wild game dinner with silent auction, Plant sale (continued), LefsaFest!)
- Paying off mortgage perhaps with a special appeal after Bridge the Gap - end of 2026
- End of Bridge the Gap - 9/2025. Expand or elongate BTG as there will be 15 months until mortgage pay off (potentially less w/special appeal) - will need to plan and prepare fiscally for this time period.

Ongoing

- Renew, create, and engage in local **ecumenical shared ministry opportunities and experiences.** (Combined Thanksgiving/Holy Week worship services, etc.)
- Build on, increase, and promote local **Community Service opportunities and ministries** (Feed My Starving Lakes Area Mobile Food Pack event, The Sandwich Project, etc. Look at possible ways to share our building space with other groups in need (voting site, Lion’s Spring Fling, etc.) (First Responder Care Packages in October, Red Cross Blood Drives in May/Nov.)
- **Continue to build a Senior High (9-12 grade) Youth Program** (to include learning, service, and fellowship opportunities. Intentional about maintaining involvement/engagement after getting confirmed.)
- Provide ongoing **Congregational (intergenerational) Community Building opportunities.** (The Table, game nights, congregational picnics/potlucks, “Bread Breakers” ministry, Vacation Bible School volunteerism, etc.)
- Continued intentional and consistent **Children, Youth, and Family involvement in worship leading.** (ENGAGE/Prayground/Children’s Offering/Passing of Peace stickers)
- Renew and increase ongoing **worship and music ministry opportunities** (create a Children’s Vocal Choir, expand musical worship leader team, expanded technical/audio/visual team)
- **Replace church sign on Wyoming Trail.** Look at ways to raise funds and/or supplement with savings to pay for it.