

## Pastoral Transition Update - August, 2019

The past nine months have been wonderful in reflecting on our church history, celebrating milestones in missions, and continually growing in our trust in our Gracious God. The church has welcomed new staff and their gifts that strengthen our ministries. We have new partners in ministry, who work with our finances and cleaning the church. Building needs were identified; an Exploratory Team is working to get bids for the N.E.W. OFLC. Now, Our Father's Lutheran Church is moving forward with God's faith, love, and hope with the pastoral transition journey.

In July, the Transition Team was created! Please share your gratitude to and prayers for Liz, Mike, Ken, Amy, and Ruth. God has blessed them with gifts of faith, joy, creativity, and hope that will lead us through this season of discovery. The energy level is high and they are hitting the ground running! Final interviews with strategic planning/capital campaign consultants are being completed by mid-August.

In September, the Transition Team will meet with the Strategic Planning Consultant to create a plan for Ministry Listening Posts with the congregation. This is a vital step as we work together in completing the Minneapolis Area Synod's Ministry Site Profile. This document, MSP, describes Our Father's mission, ministries and the pastoral gifts that will help us strengthen and expand our ministries. The Synod uses this document to connect Our Father's with pastoral candidates to be interviewed by the Call Committee. The goal is to submit the Ministry Site Profile by November so the Call Committee can be created and ready for interviews yet this year. We breathe in God's grace to trust His promises and accept the Lord's comfort through the changes. We boldly proclaim our faith in the Lord our Redeemer, as described in Isaiah 48:17, **"I am the Lord your God, who teaches you for your own good, who leads you in the way you should go."**