

St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Sun Valley, Idaho  
Strategic Vision Update  
Goals and Strategies for 2018-2019

*In the summer of 2018, the vestry reviewed the strategic vision developed in 2017-2018 and updated the goals and strategies as follows. Implementation teams for each value will be appointed in the fall of 2018.*

Core Value 1: Worship that calls all into deeper communion with God

Proposed Goal

- Invite the church community into a deeper practice of prayer

Proposed Strategies

- Make the church community aware of the various opportunities for prayer at St. Thomas Church (e.g. weekly worship, Taize, labyrinth, etc.), encourage deeper participation, and consider new opportunities;
  - Hold an adult education forum on the varieties of prayer and the importance of individual and communal practice;
  - Increase opportunities for lay leadership in prayer and find ways to share the impact that prayer is having on individuals and the community.
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Core Value 2: Welcome, inclusion, and ongoing care of one another

Proposed Goal

- Improve how we welcome and incorporate members

Proposed Strategies

- Form a welcome team that reviews how we welcome and incorporate members and suggests improvements based on best practices in the larger Church;
  - After completing the above process, educate parish leaders and members about the role they play in the welcome and incorporation process.
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Core Value 3: Community engagement and service

Proposed Goal

- Increase and improve ways that parishioners can serve in the community in the name of St. Thomas Church.

Proposed Strategies

- Form an Outreach Team that studies how the church is currently involved in community service, evaluate the effectiveness of those activities, and create new opportunities that are sponsored by

St. Thomas Church and grounded in Christ's call to serve our neighbor, especially those in greatest need.

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Core Value 4: Ministry to equip young people for lives of value, faith, and meaning

Proposed Goal One

- Hire a part-time Children's Ministry Coordinator

Proposed Strategies for Goal One

- Sara Gorby and Father Ken will revise the job description, publicize the job opening, and interview candidates, with assistance from current Sunday school leaders.
- When a preferred candidate has been selected, Father Ken will conduct a background check, make a job offer, and inform parish leaders and members as soon as possible.

Proposed Goal Two

- Increase parent and family involvement in St. Thomas Church

Proposed Strategies for Goal Two

- Create opportunities for parents to learn, connect, and support each other around relevant family issues.
  - Hold Family Ministry Potluck Dinners in parishioner homes (2-3 times per year, including the parish picnic)
  - Increase parent volunteerism by encouraging parents to volunteer in the Family Ministry Program at least once per quarter.
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Core Value 5: A culture of generosity

Proposed Goal

- Revitalize the planned giving program

Proposed Strategies

- Review and refresh the membership of the Core Value 5 Team, ensuring the commitment and skills necessary to accomplish this goal;
- Identify a graphic designer/printer to design and produce a new brochure
- Distribute the brochure and encourage participation
- Track participation by encouraging the congregation to let us know when they have remembered St. Thomas in their estate plan
- Thank participants with an annual event