

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

“Forward Steps”

The past twenty four months have been spent honoring the past, anchoring the present and preparing ourselves to launch the future. The “future” is not yet upon us. However, it is time we take steps in that direction.

I see **four steps** for us to take over the next twelve months.

Step number one. Recover a sense of God’s vision and mission for St. Timothy. Having a clarity about what we are to be and the central act that will get us there is crucial. When these two principles (vision and mission) are clearly identified and mutually embraced, there is no limit to what can be achieved. In the case of a church, there is no limit to what can be achieved for God’s deepest desire.

Step number two. Strive to embody more fully every aspect of our name:

St. Timothy - A young and vibrant disciple of Christ.

Evangelical - Centered in the gospel of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Lutheran - Rooted in the scriptures and the historic Christian faith. Theologically gathered around law and gospel, justification by grace through faith, theology of the cross and the two kingdoms.

Church - The people summoned out by God for the work of Christ. Called together in Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit to be the organ by which Christ is present and active in the world during the interval between his resurrection and his coming again.

Grand Island, New York - Located in the real world of real people with real joys and real sadness, real hopes and real dreams. Local, yet part of a larger world. Where God has placed us.

Step number three. Taylor our organization to be more suited to the times and present realities. Implement the current provisional re-organization with modifications so as to achieve better lines of authority and accountability and to improve effectiveness in the years to come.

Step number four. Institutionalize the internal financial controls currently in place.

Love, Pastor Dean