

LET'S CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION!

Via Zoom on Sunday, November 15, immediately following Worship

Please join Epiphany's Visioning Committee to discuss:

- **Results of the Visioning Survey**
- **Draft Vision Statement and Core Values**

As Epiphany discerns its options for the future, an important part of the process is to affirm our congregation's vision statement and core values.

The Visioning Committee has drafted a vision statement and core values (found later in this document), by building on member responses in the Visioning Survey. *Thank you to all who participated in the survey!*

The Visioning Committee seeks your feedback about the draft Vision Statement and Core Values. Please review this document to prepare for the discussion.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Purpose of Vision, Mission and Values:

More than just a goal, a vision is the embodiment of Epiphany's hopes and dreams; the picture of what has not yet happened, but what the future may hold in five and ten years from now. A vision for Epiphany is important as we make decisions about how we will develop sustainable ministry models. The vision statement will provide a focal point for goal-setting and decision-making.

Core values describe "how" the vision will be implemented. They define what Epiphany believes and will guide our attitudes and actions.

A mission statement describes "what" a congregation does. The mission flows from the vision statement.

Epiphany's Current Mission Statement:

To serve: Not only as an edifice to worship and glorify God, but also as a living community;

To become: A haven for the troubled and lost, as well as home for all those seeking the peace and safety only found through and with Him.

To strive: In unity, for an expression of Christ's love to one another and the world, with patience, charity and thanksgiving, in ways to make them worthy of His grace.

Some of the Visioning Survey Results:

Epiphany is:	Strongly Agree/Agree	Could do more
Looking outward to community and social issues	62%	52%
Inclusive and welcoming	91%	41%
Loving, actively proclaiming God's grace and love	100%	40%

Epiphany is:	Strongly Agree/Agree	Could do more
Actively trying new ways to reach people who don't currently attend church	37%	59%

Members' ideas for a new vision:

- Vibrant; light in the community
- A welcoming place for all
- Sustainable
- Focus on one or two societal issues which might appeal to a younger crowd, such as environmental stewardship or indigenous community
- Contribute to the wider community
- Being accepting and cared for; feeling needed
- Partner to build a new facility that will serve a variety of needs
- Express love
- Amalgamate with another congregation

As Epiphany's vision is realized over the years, members see:

1. Epiphany's impact/outcomes:
 1. Growing with more young people
 2. Sustainability
 3. Being seen as a spiritual community
 4. Becoming a more active participant in the community; more diverse offering online as well as in person; safe place for diverse groups
 5. Being a beacon in the community that is known for its welcoming community spirit and social responsiveness; all in the name of our endlessly loving Lord
 6. Remaining inclusive; more diverse
 7. Being a beacon to those less fortunate; help the elderly, hungry and homeless
 8. Being a safe and welcoming place for anyone to learn about and share God's love
2. Epiphany's uniqueness:
 1. Welcoming, open
 2. Caring
 3. Bi-lingual
 4. Meeting the needs of older adults
3. Both the congregation and the community will feel:
 1. Welcomed and that they belong
 2. Safe as they explore their faith
 3. Spiritually fed
 4. Supported
 5. Faithful
 6. Energized
 7. Secure (the church will be there for them in the future)

PROPOSED VISION STATEMENT

A caring Christian community, working to make a difference in our neighbourhood. We nurture the community of Christ through prayer, worship and open engagement.

As you review the draft vision statement above, please consider the following:

- Is it imaginable? Can you paint a picture in your mind what the world will be like if the vision is attained?
- Is it inspirational? Does it address Epiphany's long-term interests? Could more powerful words be used?
- Is it feasible and attainable?
- Is it focused? Does it provide enough clarity and alignment to guide Epiphany's decisions?
- Is it flexible enough to provide sufficient direction to guide, but not enough to restrict initiative?
- Is it easy to communicate? Is it understandable and short enough to remember?

PROPOSED CORE VALUES

- Being welcoming
- Accepting new people and ideas
- Love
- Social justice
- Grace
- Faithfulness
- Stewardship

Is anything missing? Do the core values support the culture that will enable fulfillment of the vision?

NEXT STEPS

You can share your feedback about the Vision Statement and Core Values in three ways:

1. During the Zoom discussion on November 15;
2. In person with members of Epiphany's Visioning Committee following November 15;
3. By contacting the Visioning Committee Liaison, Gordon Vollmer at (416) 268-4643, or gpvollmer1@hotmail.ca

The Visioning Committee will refine the Vision Statement and Core Values based on your feedback. The final version will be presented to the congregation in the coming weeks — date to be determined.

With gratitude from your Visioning Committee,

Gordon Vollmer, Ron Heino, Geoff Crewe, James Dennis and Pastor Rasma, members of the Visioning Committee

