



Advent Lutheran Church

March 5, 2017 – Special Congregational Meeting



Agenda

- Advent's Visioning Process
- Bequest
- Closing Prayer



Visioning Process Background

- ▶ Started in November of 2015
- ▶ Rev. Larry Crowell (CEO of LSS), Council, Representative of each Ministry Team and Congregation Members at large
 - ▶ 20 to 30 members per session.
 - ▶ Broke into small groups per area of interest
 - ▶ Reconvened to compare findings
 - ▶ Drafted a visioning plan
 - ▶ Final review and acceptance



Advent's Mission Statement

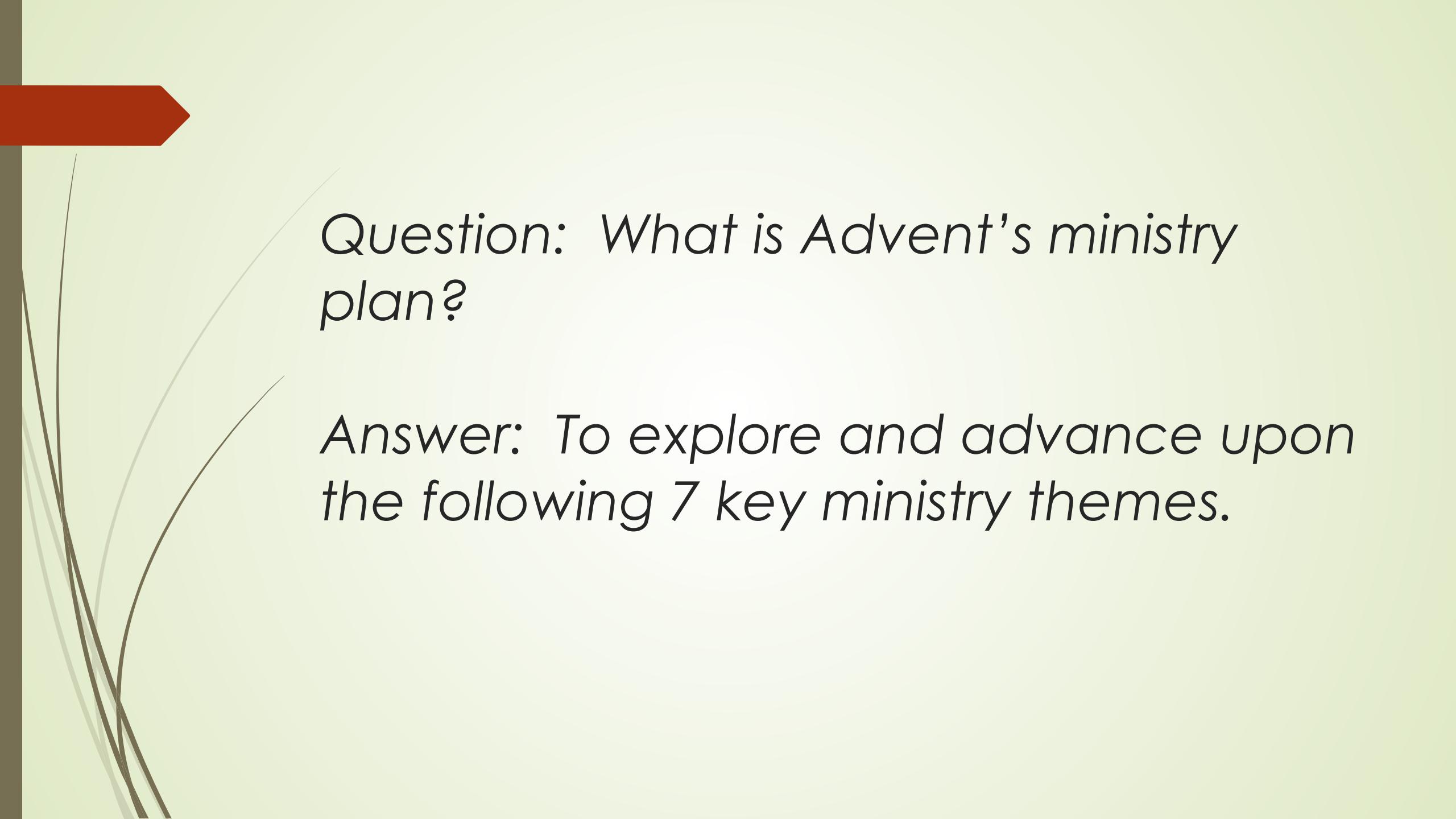
We welcome all to worship and follow Jesus by serving others and living the Good News.

Advent's Core Values

- ▶ Worship. By God's grace we engage in Spirit-filled worship centered on Christ. Word and Sacrament; fed and forgiven, we go to serve and live the Good News.
- ▶ Service. In love and service to God and being led by the Spirit, we share our gifts with the congregation, the community, and the world. We celebrate all these gifts, knowing that in giving we also receive and live out the call to do God's work.
- ▶ Fellowship. We are a family of faith in which all are welcome. We foster vibrant relationships deepened through spending time together in worship, ministry, social engagement, and walking with one another in times of personal sorrow and joy.

Advent's Core Values

- ▶ Growing in Faith. We are intentional in our life-long and active pursuit of spiritual maturity through prayer, worship, studying the Scriptures, hearing God's Word, receiving the Sacraments, and serving others to grow more and more into the image and likeness of Christ.
- ▶ Welcoming. Responding to our Lord's call to "love one another," we invite and embrace all into the family of God so that they may encounter the risen and living Christ.
- ▶ Stewardship. All that we are and all that we have belong to God. We each strive to become faithful stewards by offering our "time, talent and treasure" – our very selves – for the building up of God's Kingdom on earth.

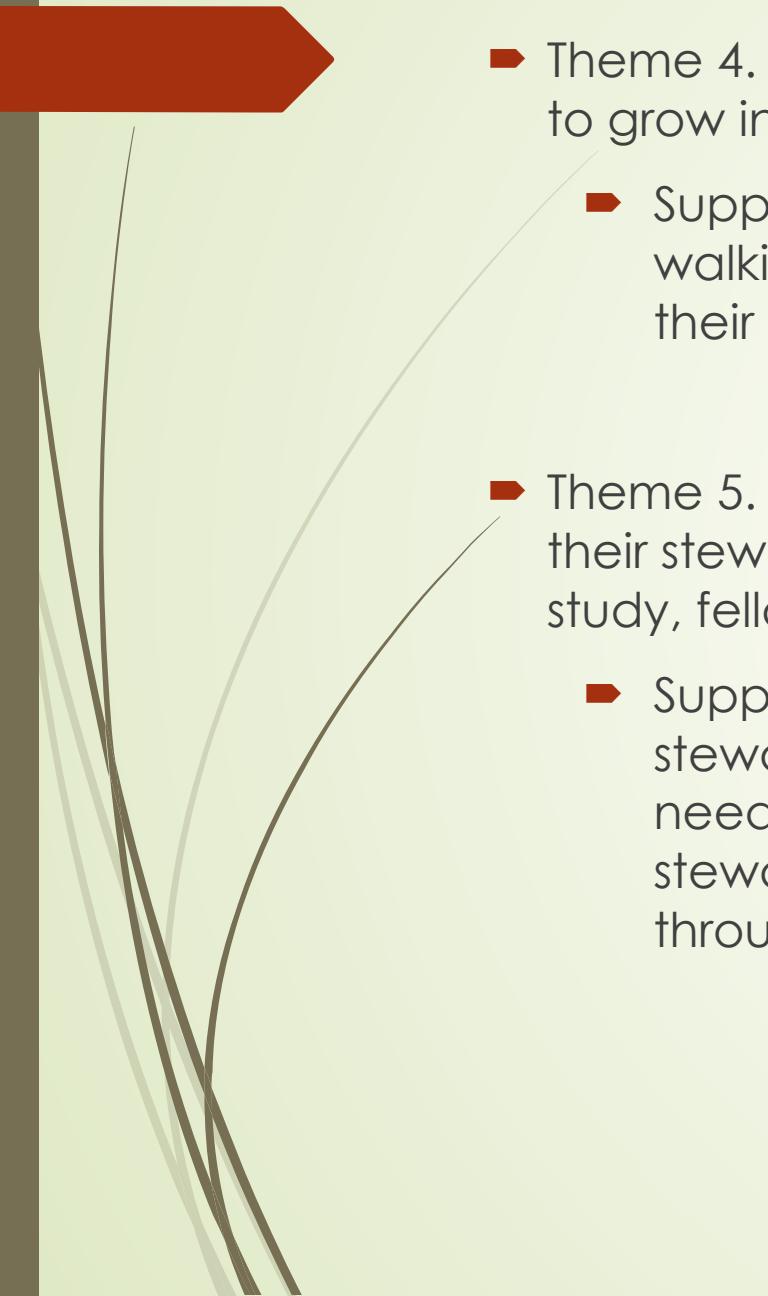


Question: What is Advent's ministry plan?

Answer: To explore and advance upon the following 7 key ministry themes.



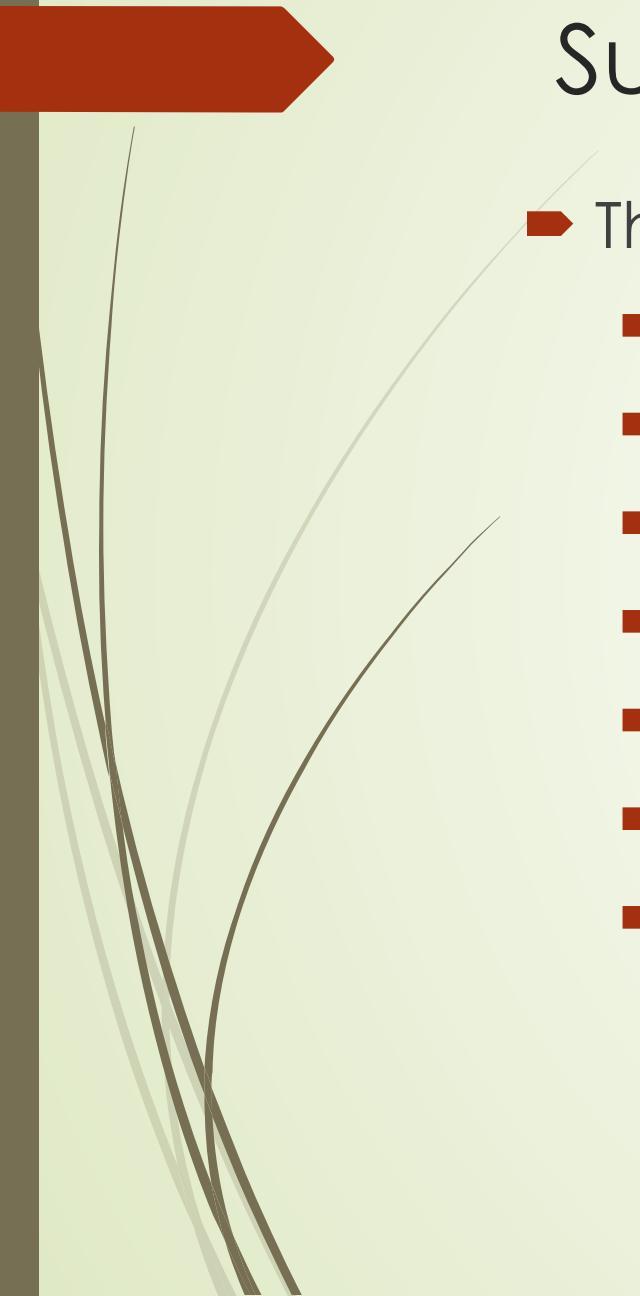
- ▶ Theme 1. Grow in faith through liturgy that invites the worshipper into a deeper encounter and relationship with the living God.
 - ▶ *Supporting Initiatives.* Explore a variety of musical styles, liturgical forms and other worship opportunities. Development of lay worship leaders.
- ▶ Theme 2. Actively educate, inspire and engage our parishioners to positively impact our community and the world through service to others.
 - ▶ *Supporting Initiatives.* Complete an environmental scan, both external and internal, to assess and identify unmet community needs and in turn, capacity (current and future) to respond. Help parishioners with the discovery of their spiritual gifts and matching them up with service opportunities.
- ▶ Theme 3. Strengthen fellowship through social and recreational opportunities that will enrich and expand the sense of community.
 - ▶ *Supporting Initiatives.* Promote a variety of events throughout the year. Use these events to help incorporate all members into the life of the church. Explore affinity groups for unique fellowship opportunities and inter-generational activities.



- ▶ Theme 4. Together, nurture and support life-long learning that enables members to grow in their knowledge and love of God.
 - ▶ Supporting Initiatives. Design programming that results in every member walking an intentional faith growth pathway. Encourage every member in their personal prayer life.
- ▶ Theme 5. Involve all members in the life of Advent by helping them fully exercise their stewardship – helping them to apply their gifts within the mission of worship, study, fellowship and service.
 - ▶ Supporting Initiatives. Provide year round communication of financial stewardship opportunities for growth in giving to local, regional and global needs. Connect every member to Advent's ministries so they can offer their stewardship of time and talent. Pace opportunities for involvement throughout the church year.



- ▶ Theme 6. Extend friendship and hospitality to visitors and newcomers, drawing them into the larger life of Advent.
 - ▶ Supporting Initiatives. Establish a welcome ministry and instill a congregation-wide culture of hospitality and welcoming.
- ▶ Theme 7. Go into the world to intentionally share the Christian faith with others, inviting them to encounter the risen and living Christ.
 - ▶ Supporting Initiatives. Prepare and equip the congregation to claim their faith story so they may proclaim Christ to others.



Supporting Objectives and Tasks

► Theme 1 Supporting Objectives and Tasks

- Inclusive bulletins
- Announcements prior to start of the service
- Array of creative and special worship services
- Quarterly consolidated/single Sunday service
- Offer periodic instructional service
- Lay preaching
- Lay Eucharistic ministry (laity taking Communion to shut-ins)

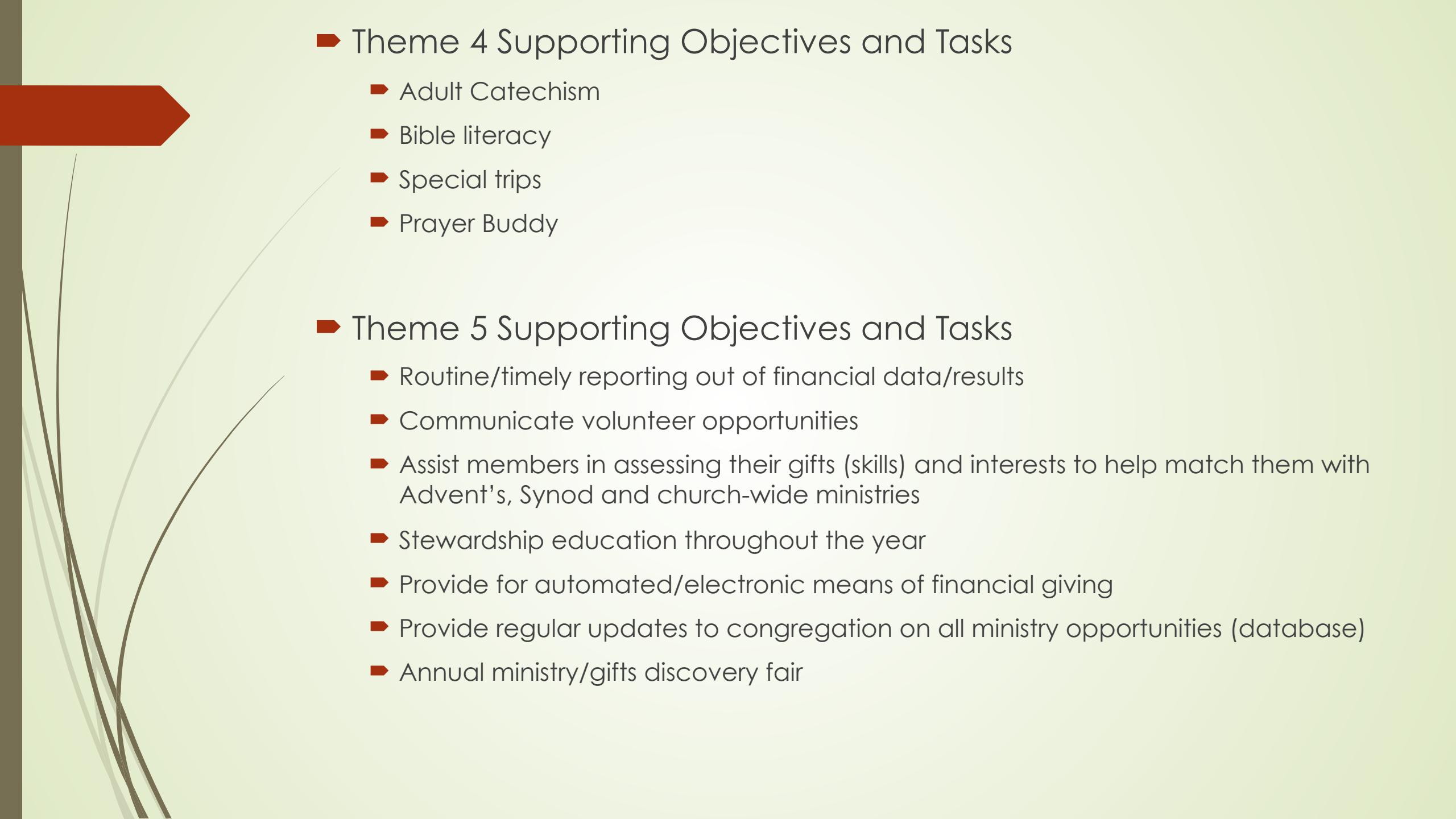


► Theme 2 Supporting Objectives and Tasks

- Collaborative programming
- Spiritual Gifts Discovery
- Provide activity directory
- Expansion of the Care Team
- Explore Stephen's Ministry

► Theme 3 Supporting Objectives and Tasks

- Mix It Up Sunday after worship opportunity for fellowship
- Explore small groups events



► Theme 4 Supporting Objectives and Tasks

- Adult Catechism
- Bible literacy
- Special trips
- Prayer Buddy

► Theme 5 Supporting Objectives and Tasks

- Routine/timely reporting out of financial data/results
- Communicate volunteer opportunities
- Assist members in assessing their gifts (skills) and interests to help match them with Advent's, Synod and church-wide ministries
- Stewardship education throughout the year
- Provide for automated/electronic means of financial giving
- Provide regular updates to congregation on all ministry opportunities (database)
- Annual ministry/gifts discovery fair



► Theme 6 Supporting Objectives and Tasks

- Special theme Sundays to get to know each other and invite others
- Share information about Advent
- Informational packets
- Support website design
- Training programs

► Theme 7 Supporting Objectives and Tasks

- Ongoing support, encouragement and training in discipling opportunities
- Explore Alpha Program



Where are we now?

- ▶ Council is reviewing the Ministry Themes & Supporting Tasks for:
 - ▶ To see how they fit within our existing Ministry Teams
 - ▶ Do we need to create new Ministry Teams or Task Forces
 - ▶ Priority Level of the Tasks & Initiatives
 - ▶ Establish a Score Card to track our progress
- ▶ Put the Plan in Action
- ▶ Review the Plan



Hinton Bequest



Hinton Bequest Task Force

- ▶ Asked to make recommendations of how to best utilize the gift of \$223,379.00
- ▶ Report to Council
- ▶ Council has final approval over funds
- ▶ Monies **cannot** be used for operational expenses

Recommendations

► Endowment	► \$75,000
► Parking Lot	► \$50,000
► Benevolence	► \$22,379
► Youth Gathering	► \$15,000
► Lutheran Camping (Youth & Adult)	► \$10,000
► Pew Bibles	► \$3,000
► Live Nativity	► \$4,000
► Sound Equipment Upgrade	► \$10,000
► New Music	► \$2,000
► Special Project	► \$10,000
► Total	► \$201,379

Balance of \$22,000.00 will be put in a special designated fund to be used for future Council approved projects. (Not to be used for Operational)