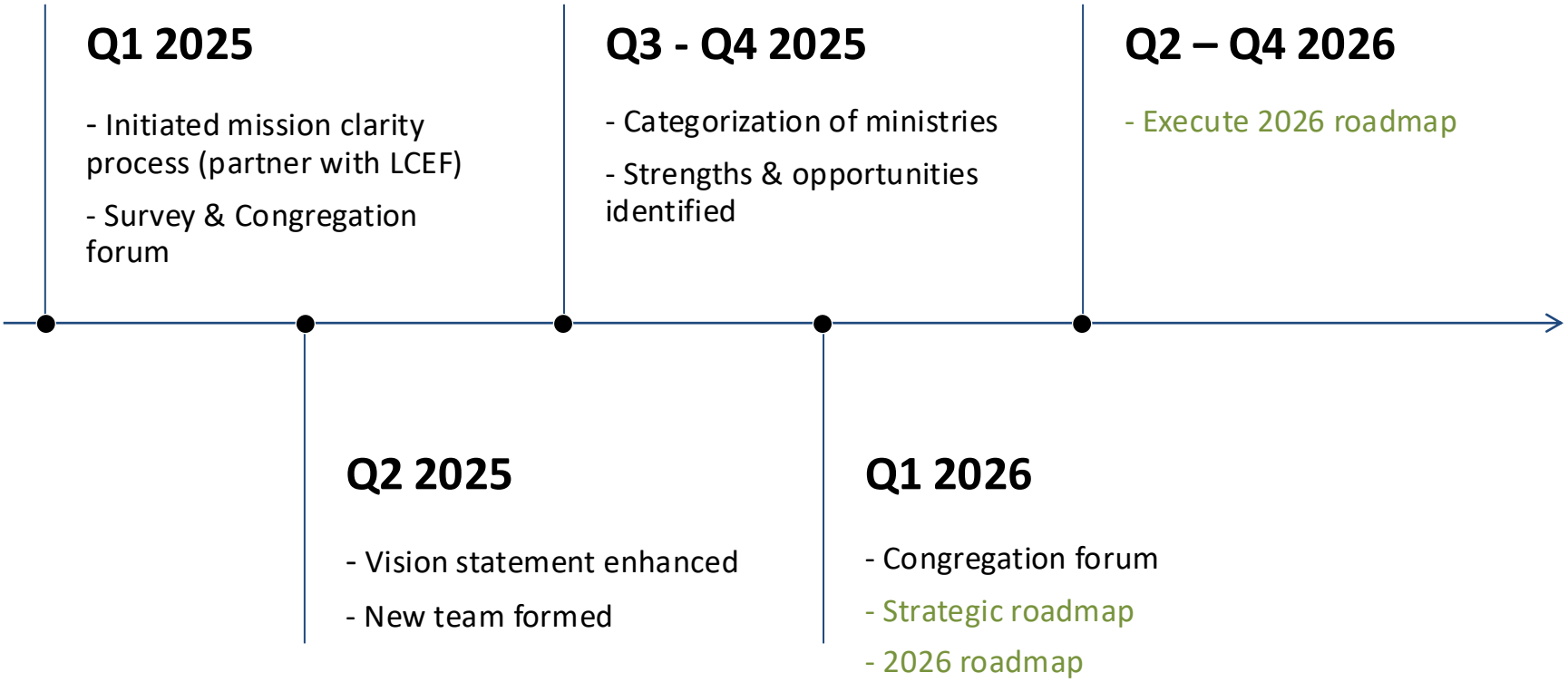
ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

Mission Clarity

2026



Timeline

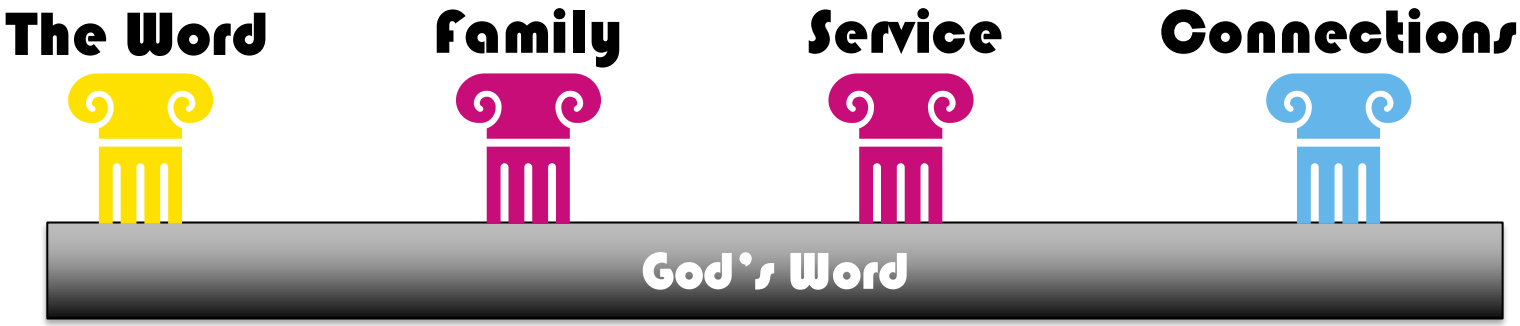

Q1 2025
- Initiated mission clarity process (partner with LCEF)
- Survey & Congregation forum
Q2 2025
- Vision statement enhanced
- New team formed
Q3 - Q4 2025
- Categorization of ministries
- Strengths & opportunities identified
Q1 2026
- Congregation forum
- Strategic roadmap
- 2026 roadmap
Q2 – Q4 2026
- Execute 2026 roadmap

Grow upward. Grow deeper. Reach further.

Ministry Clarity Accomplishments

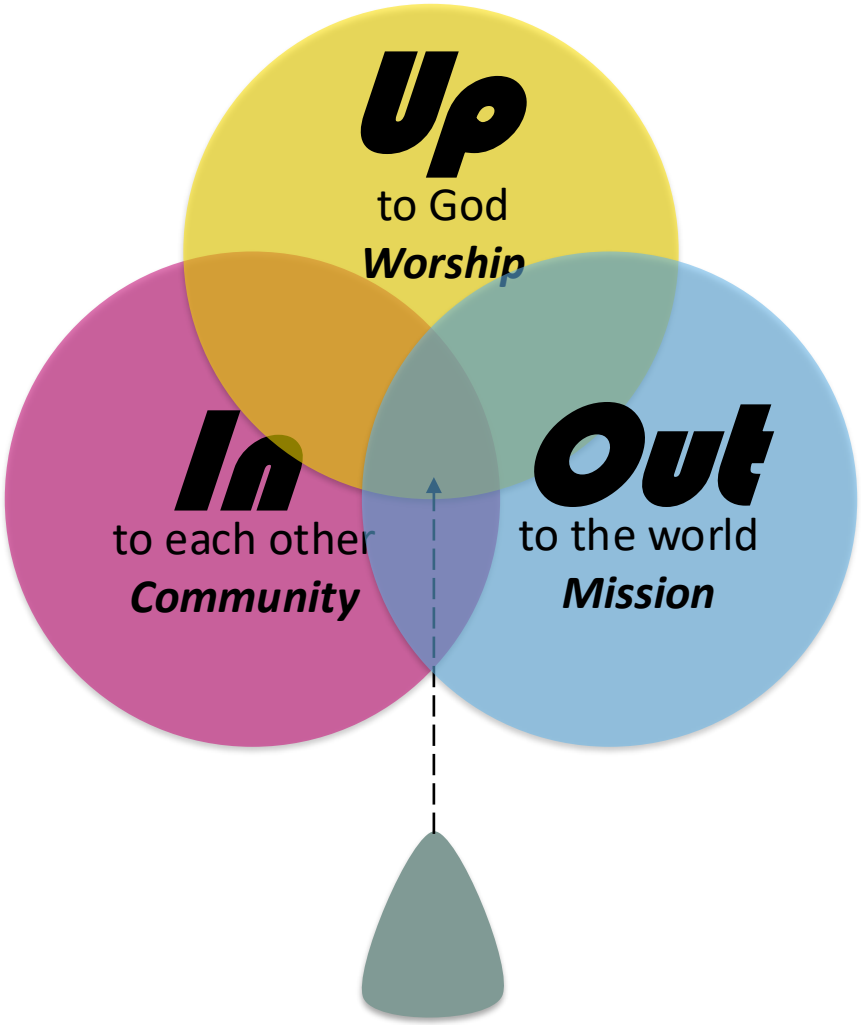
- Enhanced Vision Statement

- Identified **67+ active ministries** across four categories:
  - The Word
  - Family
  - Service
  - Community Connections



“Go and make disciples…”

- Matthew 28:19



3-Dimensional Christians =
Being Disciples + Making Disciples

St. Mark Lutheran Church

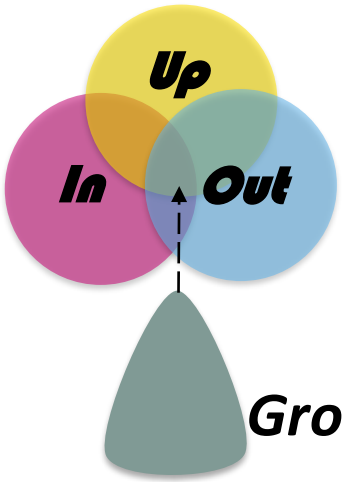
Mission

"Go and make disciples of all nations…"

- Matthew 28:19

Vision

Empowered by God's Word and Sacraments, the St. Mark fellowship makes Christ-like, caring connections with our community and beyond.

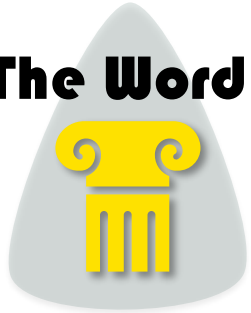


Grow upward. Grow deeper. Reach further.

Up
to God
Worship

Grow Upward

The Word



Strengths

- Word & Sacraments (worship)
- Bible Studies (education)
- Official Acts (baptisms, funerals, weddings)
- Library
- Music Ministry

Aspirational Targets

- Increased worship attendance with existing & new members
- Greater age diversity in worship
- Increased attendance in Bible Studies

Questions

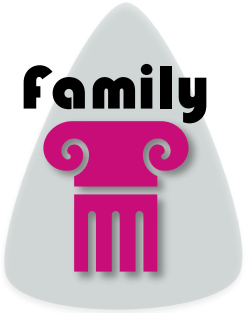
- How do we encourage families to attend our services & studies?
- How do we enable/enhance experience for homebound?
- What else should we be talking about in this category?

In
to each other
Community

Grow Deeper

Strengths

- Prayer Partners
- Prayer Chain / Prayer Group
- Preschool
- Social / Fellowship events



Aspirational Targets

- Young families attend events

Questions

- How do we equip, support, hold accountable families to live faith-filled lives at home?
- How do we support our congregants in their life-stages (young families, families with teens, aging, grieving)
- What else should we be talking about in this category?

In
to each other
Community

Grow Deeper



Strengths

- Serving Opportunities
  (funeral lunches, altar guild, ushers, greeters,…)
- Elders
- Church Staff
- Women's League

Aspirational Targets

- Volunteer training & support
- Drifting members return to St. Mark
- Stronger connections to elderly congregants
- Outreach training & support opportunities

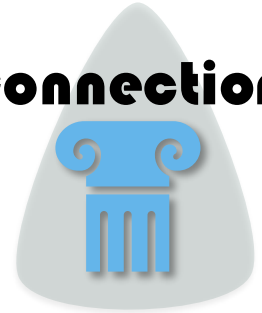
Questions

- How do we grow our volunteer pool?
- How do we encourage drifting members to return?
- How do we strengthen connections to our homebound & elderly?
- How do we encourage the spiritual growth of our church leaders?
- What else should we be talking about in this category?

Out
to the world
Mission

Reach further

Connections



Strengths

- Community Lunch
- Souper Bowl
- Blood Drive
- LWML
- Ministry in Mission
- Trinity, Ohio City
- Caring & Sharing
- Da Crew

Aspirational Targets

- Improved communication systems
- New community connections

Questions

- How do you (and how might you) receive communications from St. Mark?
- Are there any community groups (e.g. schools) that we should consider reaching out to?
- How can we improve our visibility and availability in the communities we draw from?
- In what ways might we increase our community involvement?
- What else should we be talking about in this category?