

Visioning Small Group
 Wednesday, October 14, 2009
 Jenkins Home

Attendees: Steve Baker, John Glavin & Phyllis Jenkins. Don Sutherland could not attend, but he called me to share some thoughts.

Facilitator: Jim Jenkins

We started out with conversation; moved on to an explanation of the process; and finished with the attendees writing down their thoughts and dreams for St. Marks – their comments are below.

Category	Idea
Worship—Service	Open scope of services, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) More varied music 2) More sermons by subject experts 3) Service alternatives for teens 4) Extra services for major church events (Christmas, Easter)
Mission and Outreach	Have Clarity on our M & O activities, as measured by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What segment of St. Mark's activity supports the activity 2) What is the measurable outcome of the activity 3) How does the activity align with others in the community 4) How Can it find synergy with them
Mission and Outreach	Explore if the parish would hold a benefit, i.e. silent auction, to support St. Gregory School in Chicago. At the very least, make it a tradition to annually budget support for St. Gregory School's need for school supplies.
Mission and Outreach	Focus on three or four missions
The Episcopal Church and the Chicago Diocese	Develop awareness and promote the mission of Bishop Anderson House (this includes a lay chaplaincy program similar to Stephen Ministry, but within the Episcopal Church).
Education	Develop means to promote and expand Biblical Literacy for adults and children – not only at church but at home.

Category	Idea
Education—Youth	Strong youth program – more middle school events such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Lock-Ins 2) LaserQuest 3) Camping Out 4) Breakfast-Out before service
Finances	Promote fiscal openness as demonstrated by regular detailed communication, an measured by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Weekly Plate vs. Expected Plate 2) Detailed Footnotes in annual report 3) Quarterly account summary
Staff	Hire part-time PR/Communications
General - Direction	Continue where we are headed...