Lutheran Church of the Cross
3787 Cedar Hill Road, Victoria, BC V8P 3Z4
T- 250-477-6222 lutheranchurchofthecross@shaw.ca www.lutheranvictoria.ca

Lutheran Church of the Cross
Vision and Priorities
2026 – 2030

In November 2025, Lutheran Church of the Cross ("LCC") dreamed about what LCC could look and feel like in 20 years (in 2045!). We broke into small groups, and each group drew or wrote what they *saw* when they thought of LCC in 2045, and what they thought it would *feel like*. Through this exercise, the following vision of LCC emerged:

Living in response to God's grace and unconditional love, we strive to be an intergenerational, diverse and thriving community, which is constantly reforming, and is a place of learning, connection, and radical love.

Everyone then walked around to view each group's drawings, and reflected on:

1) What resonated the most with them;
2) What was common across all drawings; and
3) What was unexpected across all drawings.

From these reflections, 4 themes emerged. These 4 themes were identified as LCC's priorities in implementing our vision. They represent how we want to work toward our long-term vision, throughout the next 5 years. In working toward our 2045 vision, we are:

Fostering Community

We want to foster community at LCC, by being a place that is fun, welcoming, inclusive, and where people can find connection. We will do this by providing clear communication, involving as many people as possible in planning events, and by connecting in person. Over the next 5 years, we will focus on:

1) Providing opportunities to learn together. Some ideas include:
    a. Creating a little library;
    b. Hosting theology classes;
    c. Focusing on faith formation; and
    d. Ensuring that the sacred story and our theology of grace is at the centre of our learning.
2) Supporting families. Some ideas include:
    a. Continuing to support our Sunday School teachers, youth, and young adults;
    b. Hosting community family events; and
    c. Exploring the creation of an after school group.

3) Supporting our existing LCC community and connecting to the larger community. Some ideas include:
    a. Hosting events with or for neighbours;
    b. Hosting small neighbourhood groups;
    c. Intentionally inviting neighbours to Sunday services, mid-week services, and soup suppers; and
    d. Writing Christmas cards to community members.

Building a Longer Table

We will intentionally invite, welcome and care for, those from all backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, ethnicities, races, socio-economic classes, abilities, and ages, to and at our table. Over the next 5 years, we will focus on:

1) Making LCC more accessible. Some ideas include:
    a. Exploring the option of updating sound and video equipment, including looking at the possibility of two-way livestreaming;
    b. Exploring options to support the deaf and hard of hearing, including looking at the possibility of signing or live transcription services; and
    c. Reducing physical barriers within LCC's building.
2) Ensuring that we offer programming for all who are part of LCC, such as:
    a. Continuing existing programming which support seniors;
    b. Providing intergenerational programming which connect the young and old;
    c. Providing programming for children and young families in addition to Sunday School;
    d. Providing programming for students, youth, and young adults, at times that are accessible (such as during evenings or weekends);
    e. Providing programming for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community;
    f. Providing programming for Indigenous, and racialized, individuals;
    g. Inviting Luther Court residents to participate in LCC programming.

Becoming a Hub

We want to be a leader and a hub within our local community. Over the next 5 years, we will focus on:

1) Strengthening our relationships to groups and organizations within our local community. Some ideas include:
    a. Continuing our relationship with the University of Victoria, St. Luke's Anglican Church, and the Shelbourne Community Kitchen;
    b. Hosting youth events with other churches;
    c. Reaching out and partnering with Indigenous organizations;
    d. Becoming involved in efforts to increase low-income and community housing;

    e. Building more relationships with non-profit and service-oriented community groups;
    f. Continuing our work to support refugees;
    g. Exploring the Canada Summer Jobs Program; and
    h. Becoming a hub for music in our local area.
2) Meeting the needs of our local community. Some ideas include:
    a. Creating a Community Board where the needs of local individuals or organizations can be communicated and responded to;
    b. Providing necessities to low-income individuals;
    c. Providing physical space for University of Victoria clubs and other community groups for meetings; and
    d. Consider undertaking a needs assessment of the larger community to see how LCC can respond to identified needs.

Doing New Things

We are a creative community, which is constantly reforming and thinking of new ways to do things. Over the next 5 years we will focus on:

1) Trying new ways of doing church. Some ideas include:
    a. Focusing on having intentional presence in spaces outside of the church building;
    b. Hosting church outside;
    c. Offering a third place for meeting/community that is open for everyone;
    d. Hosting events such as movie nights, community coffee times, and doing random acts of kindness as a group.
2) Making an impact on our global community. Some ideas include:
    a. Continuing our efforts to take action and discuss climate change;
    b. Exploring playing a public policy advocacy role; and
    c. Exploring providing programming or education focused on mental health support.
3) Strengthening our music ministry. Some ideas include:
    a. Continuing to build on our existing relationship with the University of Victoria music program;
    b. Exploring starting an El Sistema inspired music program, which encourages positive social change through culturally responsive music education for young people;
    c. Exploring providing music programming for older adults with dementia;
    d. Exploring establishing music programming in partnership with Luther Court; and
    e. Exploring establishing intergenerational music programming, including a children's choir.