

Program Ministry Report
Pastor James Aalgaard

James' Goal One: **Alignment** (our use of language about our ministry, nurturing leadership relationships...)

Celebrations - Touched on use of language during a few of our program ministry annual reviews. Practicing even in small ways to talk about the "why" of our ministry. Watched a webinar June 21 (Vibrant Faith) reporting on youth ministry conversations, learned that ministry in today's world has most to do with what they call "developmental relationships."

Next 30 days - Begin to talk with staff and ministry team leaders about how their goals can look for next year. Firm up plans for Jim LaDoux to be onsite in September to continue coaching. Settle on a simple ministry vision for "year A" lectionary year.

James' Goal Two: **BeFriender** Ministry

Celebrations - Training sessions complete by the end of June. Starting a "BeFriender Info-byte" for the church's publications to help people embrace the idea of BeFrienders. Have begun to incorporate our BeFriender Mission in writings and conversation.

Next 30 days - Assign receivers to our new BeFrienders who can help them practice during the time of "internship". Continue to study admin resources and get questions to the head office whenever I need.

James' Goal Three: **Deeper Life** catechumenate

Celebrations - Nothing new since last report

Next 30 days - Firm up some dates for Inquirers for fall 2016. Discern who to invite into leadership for the next Deeper Life. Get moving on publications for the next process and for the training event (late April 2017).

James' Goal Four: Work toward an overall **faith formation** plan for all ages at Grace

Celebrations - Settled on a fall Sunday morning schedule. Wrote a discussion sheet draft for the youth/ed team to use for interviews with young families.

Next 30 days - Be in conversation with formation leaders about the interviews and what they learned. Establish a plan for how the conversation continues with target dates for implementing at least some new concepts.

Possible goals for next year: "Alignment" – I can tell this has much to do with nurturing relationships, being in prayerful discernment with people about the direction of ministry, and communicating and planning with thoughtfulness. My vision for this next lectionary year is "Called by Christ to Bless" "Caring/Reconciling Culture" – BeFrienders fits into this, as well as efforts that are outward focused (includes a strategy for recognizing the diversity that exists in our community). "Lifelong Learning/Formation" – Begin to implement practices and other new ideas to highlight the intergenerational, lifelong formation that God intends for us (Deeper Life included). "Young Adult emphasis" – Fellowship, learning and service in the approx. 18-25 age group.

Reflection question: "How would I like to see the language at GLC": I want people to be bold to tell their own stories of God's presence in their lives, for their stories to be honored as part of the fabric of the congregation. In light of the lectionary year coming up (Matthew), I would like people to use the language of being called to **bles**s as part of how they see our life together at Grace.

Beth Smallbeck
2016 Goals Monthly Report

2015-16 Goals in review

#1 Sabbatical – I will be reporting on my sabbatical on June 26.

#2 Leadership Strategy – leadership is being built in, with, and around Summer of Service, confirmation small groups and youth groups.

#3 Summer of Service – we are on the road!

#4 Faith formation – This goal has been absorbed into my new #1 & #2 goals.

This past month has been spent preparing for the summer of service, celebrating graduates and doing preliminary work for our week of VBS.

Side note: We have planned for some special needs children to attend VBS day camp this year and I am very excited about this opportunity. We have two one on one para-educators (besides Rich) that will be volunteering with us the week of VBS.

Language around Grace: I would love to hear the people of Grace talk about their faith and their faith education as a priority in their live, and to hear excitement and invitation in those conversations.

Possible Goals for 2016-17

Goal #1 Redefine the **confirmation program/curriculum**

Current action step: Pastor James, Bethany and I will be meeting to sort through the curriculum that was written 5-6 years ago and try to enhance it.

Goal #2 Continue to discover what **lifelong learning** is about for our members.

Upcoming action step(s): I would like to research the possibility of working towards a more collaborative learning, birth to death, than individual classes.

Goal #3 I plan to be more intentional about **time off and general health**.

Current action step: Scheduling vacation time and continuing my goal of 10,000 steps a day.

Jameson Varpness, Director of Music Ministries

June 2016

Goals: Incorporate **hymnals** into the life of the church as a tool for worship and faith formation.

Celebrations: - Use of hymnals in Wednesday worship – ELW Vespers liturgy

Plans: - From this point, this goal becomes more of a constant process of reinforcement and exploration, continuing to support the congregation as we discover how the ELW resources can affect our worship and formation

Develop consistent music ministry **outreach** projects.

Plans: - This goal will be further developed and integrated into my goals for 2016-17

Renew and build the **youth's vital role** in Grace's music ministry.

Celebrations: - Combined Chancel Schola and HS Youth trip to Seattle for Compline at St. Mark's with the hope that this may become a regular experience that we offer

Plans: - Plan over the summer to make any alterations for success in the coming program year (includes possible rehearsal schedule change for Elementary music)

Create a **Compline** worship opportunity.

Celebrations: - Feeling energized after attending Compline at St. Mark's - Having a completed order and pattern for Compline

Plans: - Solidify methods of advertising and making this opportunity known in the community -

Recruiting for the Compline Choir to begin with a healthy, well-prepared start. Determining and committing to a start date

Possible New Goals: Establish music events that reach beyond our walls. (a choral festival, handbell festival, hymn festival, liturgical worship conference, etc.) Encourage intergenerational experiences inside of the music ministry. (choral events, combined choirs, intergenerational instrumental opportunities) Develop higher worship literacy and ownership within the congregation. (what do we believe, what do we do, and why – this is meant to be in collaboration with overall formation)

Grace's Language: I would hope that the people of Grace would speak about worship and formation as inherently valuable and as processes, continually developing expressions of our lives together in Christ. I would like to expect compassion, tenderness, and vitality in their words. I would like to hear Grace's people being engaged in speaking of and seeking the living, active presence of God in their lives and in our community.