

ALIVE in Transition Update

January 3, 2021

Greetings and blessings in this New Year! We, the ALIVE Team, are excited and hopeful at all this year may bring as we reflect on the past. As previously shared, the purpose of the ALIVE ministry team is to explore the next phase of ministry at Mountain View by engaging in Active Listening, Imagination, Vision and Empowerment with the congregation. Our work is to complete the Ministry Site Profile, a document describing our congregation that is required by the ELCA and SWWA Synod of all congregations seeking to call a pastor.

To complete the first phase of this work, we have conducted 20 group interviews, offered survey opportunities online, and made follow-up calls. We are thrilled that 201 unique individuals have chosen to be part of the process. Thank you to all who offered their thoughts and voices!

ALIVE is now meeting regularly to synthesize and analyze the information received from you. Many thanks to Hannah Johnsrud, who has patiently tabulated the response and grouped them by subject. This second phase of work will end with the completion of the Ministry Site Profile. The document is quite involved, so we are still several weeks away from a completed draft. It would have taken a couple of long Saturday mornings, pre-COVID, to complete - but like everything, it is going to take longer now.

Once the Ministry Site Profile is created, it will be reviewed for input by church leadership. In the meantime, the Council will be provided a report on themes heard in the comments, and ultimately a transcript of each and every comment shared organized by topic. All identifying information attaching you to what you shared has been removed. All your comments have been and will be read and considered in identifying possible future directions for our life together.

Finally, we will share with you a version of the report compiled from your responses, so that you can know what others are thinking and feeling. The report will include discussion and reflection questions, analysis, graphs, and charts.

Again, thank you for your participation in this process! Please continue to hold us in your prayers and begin (if you have not already) to pray for the Spirit to work within us and our yet unknown future lead pastor. In the meantime, if you have questions or comments about the process, you can reach out to us. The best way to do so is by email to bgjohnsrud@comcast.net.

In peace,

Barry and Gretchen Johnsrud

The ALIVE Team (Megan Hutton, Terry Jensen, Connie McCrossin, Mary Quinn, Karen Quandt, Chris Schaefer, Kim Soeder, and Murphey Thompson)