

### **World Changing Idea: Connect 4 Care**

We will help people feel known and cared for by offering ministries which NURTURE fellowship and community within our congregation, pastoral care and partnership in times of crisis or need and support for navigating life's circumstances.

#### **1. Build Connection within the Congregation.**

**Desired Outcome:** Create a ministry of fellowship, support, growth and witness through onsite activities and through networks to ensure the intimate connection within a large congregation.

##### **Goals by 2016:**

- 60% of worshipping congregation is divided into cluster groups based on choice of demographics, geography or affinity for the purpose of communication, connection, care and spiritual growth.
- Worship attendances, small groups attendance and other tools will be utilized to connect with those who have been missing from St. Luke's repeatedly during a quarter.
- Congregational connection will be a first step for newcomers to be connected with a vital mentor or group of people and seek to engage the current congregation beyond worship to change the culture to seeking connection before crisis hits. Higher percentage of congregation needing pastoral care who are already connected in a cluster, small group or fellowship community.

**Who is responsible?** Congregational Connection staff and team, collaboration with Reach and Guide

##### **2012 Major Focus:**

Find a staff person to lead this area of congregational connection (maybe shared with reach strategy number 3). Study and research other churches and seek feedback from current congregation: *what keeps you from connecting with a group within the church?* Build a lay team that crosses all the age levels and ministry areas to create an organizational strategy for Events and Administration.

#### **2. Amplify Nurture Ministries to Specifically Targeted Communities**

**Desired Outcome:** Focus support offered to specifically underserved communities within our congregation to offer a centralized network of support and care, partnering with other organizations and faith communities.

##### **Goals by 2016**

- Care Leadership Team gives umbrella structure to 2-3 Care Ministry Teams and partners with Community organizations for regular board meetings for assessment, advocacy and reevaluation.
- Focused ministries to specific populations where St. Luke's fills in the gap in a sustainable way and networks with other organizations to be a conduit of resources for people seeking support.
- Begin plans to partner with community to help facilitate long range plans for a Community Care center.

**Who is Responsible?** Congregational Care leadership and teams

##### **2012 Major Focus:**

Develop Care Leadership teams to research best practices, analyze and prioritize 3-4 focus over 5 year plan. Choose first year focus and build care lay team to begin organization ministry structure.

### **3. Broaden Ministry of Healing and Care**

**Desired Outcome:** Offer Specialized training for Stephens Ministry and Counseling Center to address particular issues of healing, support and reconciliation for populations are strategies are seeking to reach, as well as helping congregation become a model of reconciliation and community building

#### **Goals by 2016**

- Stephens Ministers trained at St. Luke's and throughout community to offer specialized care giving for those dealing with certain issues facing populations our 4D strategies will be reaching: LGBT, Unemployment, Youth and Young Adults, Special Needs, Recovery, Elder Care etc.
- Counseling Center offering education and training to congregation and servant ministers preparing us to build community, strengthen reconciliation, deal with conflict in order to best serve others. .

**Who is Responsible?** Congregational Care Pastor, Stephens Ministry, Counseling Center Director

#### **Major Focus for 2012**

Research best practices from other churches and communities. Create a Team who will involve themselves in understanding other strategies seeking to reach specific populations to glean information from a caring standpoint to bring back to group for planning and prioritization.