## **Thank You!**

## An Invitation to Freedom

# God was going to keep doing what God has always done.

### They longed to return to greatness

In other words, they were hoping for a bailout and instead... they got Jesus!

God IS NOT the Candyman He forgives my sins! He cures me when I'm sick! He fixes my broken relationships! He helps me sell my house in a bad market! He finds me parking spots in those crowded shopping mall lots!

### Jesus comes with something better...

## Follow Me

### This Means...

### You are loved!

You are set free from worrying that you are not!

You are free from sin, death, shame, self-doubt, and anything else that might prevent you from loving God and serving your neighbor.

## **Mission Alignment**

### **Clarity of Mission**

**Tools to help us achieve our Strategic Intent** 

**Focused Action Steps** 

## **Coming to Terms with History**

Tell the church's story clearly and forthrightly,

The good news and the less than good news;

To identify patterns and recurring themes;

To celebrate its gifts, rejoice in its faithfulness and remember its servants;

### To confess its darker moments, seeking healing for any abiding wounds;

### To address its unfinished business;

To laugh and weep in the remembering;

## To tap its strengths and claim its trajectory toward the future.

An exploration best done joyfully, appreciatively, and with a sense of humor.

## Discover a **New Identity**

### In continuity with its history and "watching for the new thing" God desires.

### What qualities and characteristics as a church do we affirm and appreciate?

What new way of being and doing is God calling us to embrace?

How is our community changing – chance to refocus our basic identity?

## Allowing and

## **Empowering New Leaders**

A time to help the congregation explore how decisions are made, how power and influence are exercised, how leaders are chosen and how leaders lead.

A time to affirm and appreciate those who have given leadership across time, and to encourage, welcome and equip new leaders.

A time to surface and address inevitable frictions, competitions, even resentments that may occur in this time of leadership transition.

## **Renewing Linkages** with Synod

**Knowing that the church may have as** trained, even conflicted relationship with our synod, a time to gently but firmly encourage a warmer, more mutual, more partnership-based relationship, nurtured by inviting and welcoming synod staff to visit, by encouraging service on synod committees, by disseminating print-media materials from synod and the national church.

## **Commitment** to New Pastoral Leadership and

a New Future

### I will lead and assist the church as we move into a new future.

#### **Coming to Terms with History**

#### **Discovering a New Identity**

#### **Allowing and Empowering New Leaders**

#### **Renewing Linkages with Synod**

#### **Commitment to New Pastoral Leadership and a New Future**