

# Being the Church in a Changing World

St. Luke's United Methodist Church  
2023-2025  
Some Big Ideas



## Love our City | Radiate Christian Leadership into Our Communities

*But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." ... And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke them and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd.*  
Luke 9:13,16

**We will develop leaders and send them into their communities to lead transformational change.**

- Grow and strengthen **Christian leadership development** opportunities, including
  - » **Working faith:** to integrate faith and work for those in the career phase of their lives.
  - » **Rooted:** to grow Christ followers of all life stages, equipping them to lead like Jesus and transform their families, their community and Houston.
- Launch a **coalition of Christ-centered non-profit and church outreach partners** for training, volunteers, community needs assessment, and spiritual support.
- Develop a holistic transformational **community for youth in Gulfton/Sharpstown** at our youth center.
- Initiate the **"Love our City challenge"**, inviting people to identify and commit to how they use their spiritual gifts to Love our City.

## Expand our Table | Invite New People to Join our Mission

*Then the master said to the slave, "Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled."* Luke 14:23

**We will embrace an inclusive and invitational posture to engage new people.**

- Develop **branches** to be a model of an invitational and inclusive culture and community, both for St. Luke's and for our city.
- Create a **series of attractional events** and speakers to encourage an invitational culture among congregants.
- Contract with outside resources to develop a **comprehensive communications plan for telling St. Luke's story** to our community, leveraging our strong ministries (children, student, discipleship, outreach, worship, music and fine arts, caring) to reach new people.
- Cultivate relationships and discipleship through **online ministry and engagement**.

## Strengthen our Foundation | Reinforce Key Processes and Effectiveness

*Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives.... From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required, and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.* Luke 12:38,43

**We will develop the human, financial, and technological resources necessary for the growth of the church and the success of current and future ministries.**

- Identify, call, equip, and deploy **leaders for teams and groups** in all ministries.
- Clarify and implement **clear processes and playbooks** to love and disciple the people of our congregation, engaging them in ministry, and inviting them to take their best next step.
- Develop new conversations with the congregation around **generosity**, including planned giving, SMART and targeted giving, and congregational education and transparency.
- Invest in **appropriate technology** to achieve our goals.