

## Mission and Vision, Constitution and Bylaws

Congregational Council Annual Report, November 24, 2009

Charles Lane

The Mission/Vision efforts of the Congregational Council have been focused in two areas this year: (1) Revisiting/revising the Mission and Vision statements of Ascension Lutheran Church (ALC), and (2) Preparing the Constitution and Bylaws of ALC. Subsidiary functions have been in assisting other operational areas of the Council with establishing new operating structures and processes (e.g., creation of the new Faith Formation (*nee* Education) subcommittee).

Work began in late spring on the re-visioning process for ALC. Two congregational forums held during the summer were critical to the creation of Mission and Vision statements aligned with those of the Oregon Synod-ELCA, and with the ELCA church-wide. Upon completion of those public forums (late July), the Mission and Vision statements were put in draft form and made available on-line and as hard copy through the church office. The Mission and Vision statements were addressed in two subsequent congregational forums in early November; final edits were made and the document presented to the Congregational Council (November 24, 2009) for final presentation to the congregation on December 13, 2009.

Work continued through 2009 on the Constitution and Bylaws. In late spring, I joined the Constitution Committee of Naurine McCormick (Chair), Gerry Andersen, and Pastor Zane Wilson. The Committee worked through the summer and early fall in order to produce a draft version of the Constitution and Bylaws for review beginning in September. The draft version has been available online and as hardcopy at the church office since that time. In early November, the Constitution Committee hosted two congregational forums for review and discussion on the proposed Constitution and Bylaws. Upon completion of those forums, the process of final revision began with final edits before the Congregational Council on November 24, 2009 for presentation to the congregation on December 13, 2009.