Rev. Deb Stehlin,

Director for Evangelical Mission

Minneapolis Area Synod, ELCA

# 5 MARKS OF A VITAL CONGREGATION AND 2 QUESTIONS NOT TO ASK

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# COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP IN A NEW ERA OF MISSION

What's it like to be a congregation leader these days?

# TWO QUESTIONS NOT TO ASK

How can we get more money?

How can we get more members?

# I DON'T WANT TO GO TO THOSE MEETINGS ANYMORE

GRAPH BY SEAN LOCKE

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# DO YOU THINK JESUS HAD SOMETHING ELSE IN MIND FOR US?

# FIVE MARKS OF A CONGREGATION THAT'S ALIVE

1. Clear sense of God's unique purpose for us
2. Focus on learning to follow Jesus
3. Direct relevance to the community
4. Ability to mobilize resources for mission
5. Pay attention to where the Holy Spirit energy is

Tree of Life,
North Loop,
Downtown
Minneapolis

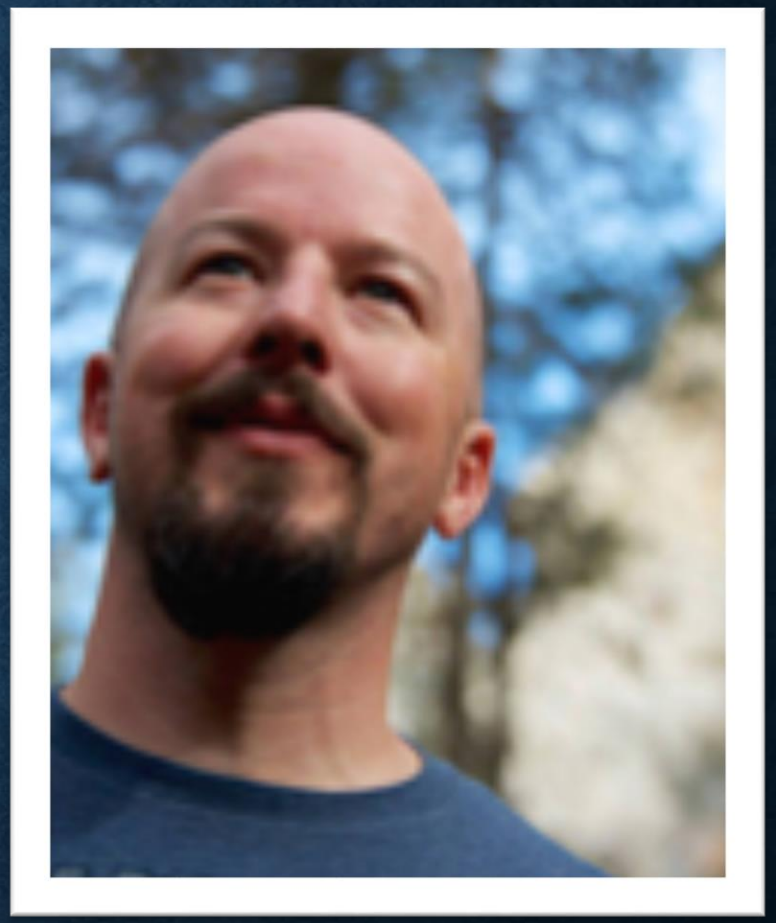
TREE of LIFE
LUTHERAN

# CLEAR SENSE OF GOD'S PURPOSE FOR US (AND OPERATE OUT OF THAT CLARITY)

# FOCUS ON MAKING DISCIPLES/DEEPENING FAITH

Spirit of Joy! Lutheran Church,

Houston, TX



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# DIRECT RELEVANCE TO THE COMMUNITY

# ABILITY TO MOBILIZE RESOURCES FOR MISSION

PEOPLE

SPACE

MONEY

# PAY ATTENTION TO THE ENERGY (HOLY SPIRIT)

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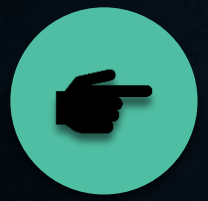
# DOES YOUR CONGREGATION HAVE A STORY?



Clear sense of God's unique purpose for you

Focus on making disciples/deepenig faith in Jesus Christ

Direct relevance to the community

Ability to mobilize resources for mission

Pay attention to the Holy Spirit energy

# WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

A WILLINGNESS TO CHANGE

DESIRE TO LISTEN TO GOD AND COMMUNITY

INTENTIONAL LETTING GO

# WHAT IF THIS IS GOD FREEING US?

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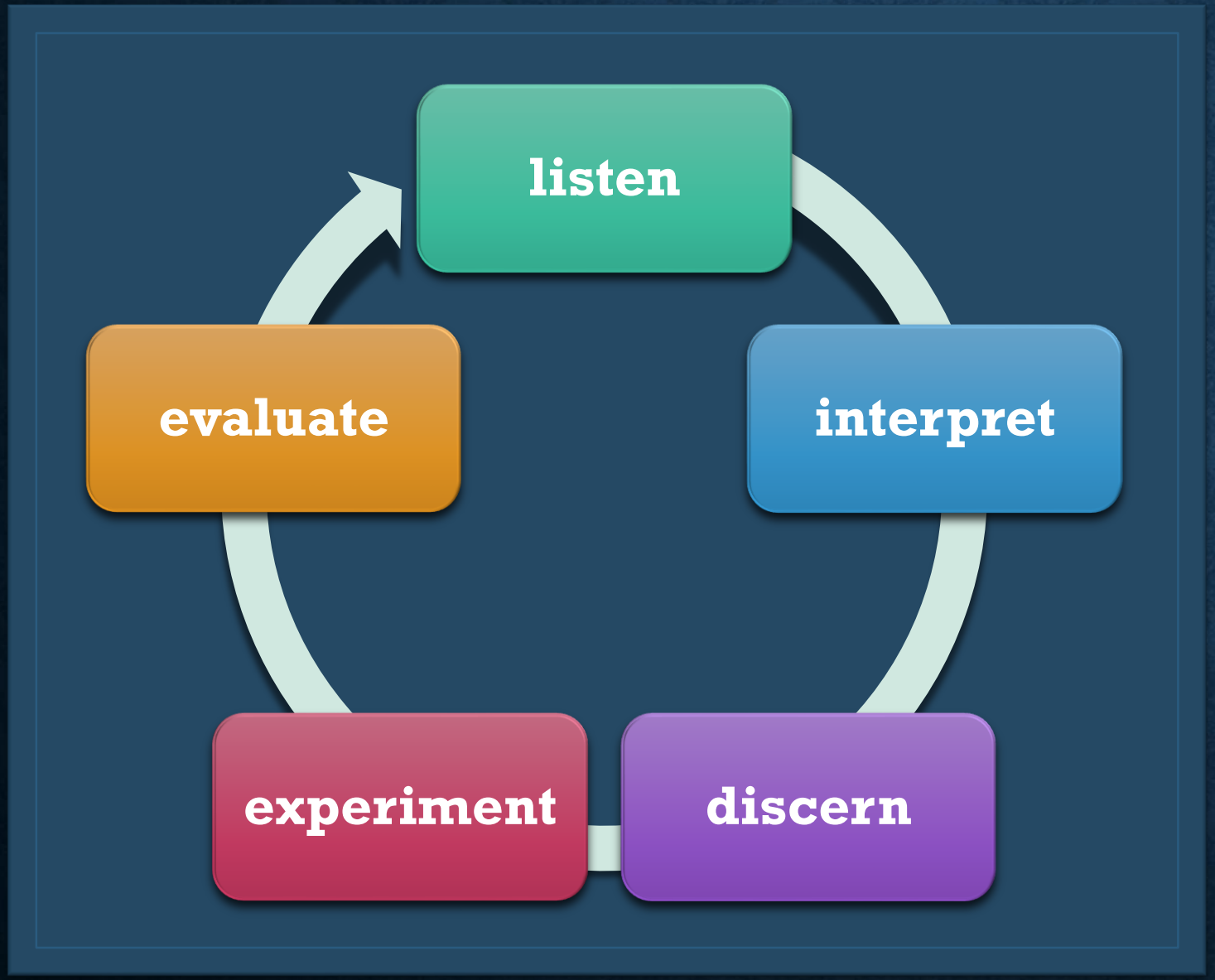
# WHAT'S YOUR RESPONSE?

## WHAT WOULD YOUR PEOPLE BE BUSY DOING? NOT DOING?

## HOW WOULD A COUNCIL MEETING BE DIFFERENT IF YOU FOCUSED ON THESE FIVE THINGS?

## HOW WOULD YOU STRUCTURE LEADERSHIP AROUND THIS?




# HOW WOULD YOU START?

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# WHAT WOULD YOU NEED?

01

What gave you energy?

02

Where did you experience tension?

03

What will you take away from this?

# EVALUATION

# TWO QUESTIONS NOT TO ASK

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How can we get more members?

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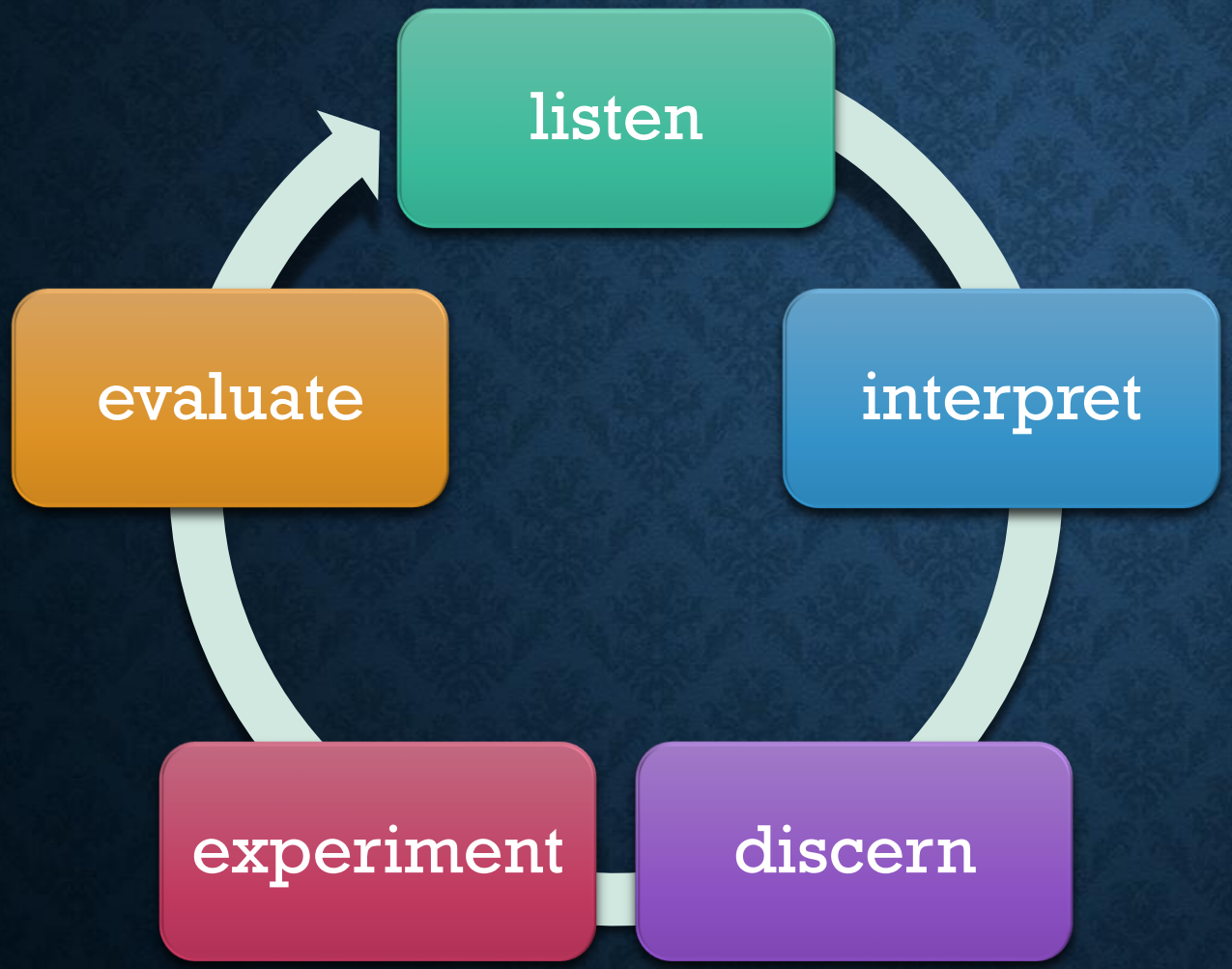


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