

# THE FOOTPATH

The monthly newsletter of

## Followers of Christ Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

12357 S 248th Ave, Plainfield, IL 60585-6701

Phone: 815-439-0700

Brad Haugen, Pastor

[Followersofchrist3@yahoo.com](mailto:Followersofchrist3@yahoo.com)

[www.followersofchristelca.com](http://www.followersofchristelca.com)



## September 2018

Dear Followers of Christ,

One of the things we will be doing this fall is thinking about the ministry of our congregation. What are our strengths in the ministry that we do as a congregation? What are we good at? And at the same time, what can we improve on? In what areas of our ministry can we grow?

To address these questions we will be taking a survey, provided by the Synod, called the Congregational Vitality Survey. After worship on one of the Sundays in October (date TBD), everyone will be invited to stay for 30 minutes or so and complete the survey. The survey will be a valuable opportunity for each of us individually to reflect on the role of this congregation – as we see it – in our own lives, the wider church, and the world. We'll see ways that God is already at work through our congregation, blessing the lives of our members and our community. And we'll also see opportunities that Followers has to improve our ministries and more effectively engage our community.

As a result of taking the Congregational Vitality Survey we will be challenged and inspired by both who we are, and by who we might become, at God's leading. All congregations have opportunities to grow and improve their ministries, no matter who they are. Therefore, our areas of ministry in need of growth and improvement, as revealed by the survey, shouldn't leave us feeling discouraged. They're meant instead to help give us a more complete picture of how we see ourselves as a church at this point in time.

Before we develop a vision of what God's future is for our congregation, and we do some strategic planning, we need a clearer picture of our congregation's identity and mission right now. The survey will be a valuable tool to get us started. We will be promoting the survey throughout the month of September as we celebrate Rally Day and the beginning of our fall programs. I look forward to how God will continue to lead all of us together.

In gratitude,

Pastor Brad