Desired Outcomes

At the heart, this process is grounded in the belief that God has provided everything a congregation needs to carry out the ministry God intends for it.

Through the work of God’s Spirit, congregational members will become energized about the Good News of Jesus Christ and passionate about sharing and living the Gospel.

Teams learn the basic principles of congregational health and renewal and develop an action plan for moving forward toward God’s promised future.

Re-Rooting in God’s Mission: Growing In Up and Out

How it Works

Getting Started: Church council and pastor make a decision to participate, assemble a team and arrange for congregational support by establishing a “Re-Rooting in God’s Mission Covenant” provided by the synod’s Renewal Team.

Registration: Submit names and contact information for the team by March 7 to Pastor Keith Zeh at keith.zeh@elca.org or by mail to NW MN Synod, Concordia College, 901 8th St S, Moorhead, MN 56562.

Schedule for March 21: Training begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. A detailed schedule for the day will be provided to registered teams.

Cost: $25 per person covers materials, lunch and refreshments. Any expense related travel for the team’s coach during the first six months is also the responsibility of the congregation (phone or video conferencing can reduce cost).

Training leaders: The training and process will be facilitated by our Synod’s Renewal Team, who are experienced and trained in our ELCA’s Transformation Ministry 2.0 process for congregations.

More information: Contact Pr. Keith Zeh at keith.zeh@elca.org or 218-790-1764.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! 
2 Corinthians 5:17
Re-Rooting in God’s Mission: Growing In Up and Out

What It’s About

+ Renewing your congregation – getting it growing and going again with the gifts that God has given you
+ Celebrating and using what you have, rather than lamenting and obsessing about what you don’t have
+ Finding energy, purpose and direction using God’s work, prayer, the conversation of the saints and faith practices
+ Navigating change calmly, confidently and effectively

What You’ll Learn and Experience

+ Telling your story: Discover how God’s story and your story reshape community.
+ Discovering gifts and assets: Congregations discover and cherish their God-given gifts as they use them to serve neighbor and follow Jesus.
+ Leading through change: Change is hard, but essential for the church to grow. Learn how to lead through change.
+ Action planning: Teams learn the basic principles of congregational renewal and develop a faith action plan accordingly.
+ Building teams: Teams from participating congregations develop into well-formed and effective equippers and encouragers for their congregations who know where to find support for the faith action plans they live out.

The Journey and Process

It’s grounded in Bible study, prayer, conversation and action reflection focused on helping the congregation recognize their God-given gifts and how those gifts can be used to live out the Gospel in word and deed.

+ Each congregation has a coach who walks with them during the process, actively listening and asking good questions to keep the process on track.
+ Prior to the first training day, a congregational renewal team is named and blessed. This team will consist of the pastor and at least 4-5 lay leaders whose commitments and caring for the congregation are well demonstrated.
+ There will be two one-day training events, approximately six months apart.