Fresh Expressions
Revisioning For Mission in the Greater Milwaukee Synod

Community Interviews

God speaks to us in many and various ways – through the Biblical story, the mutual consolation of the brethren, the Sacraments, the voice of the "other," etc. And God has something to say to us today! Part of identifying our Assets, Wows, and Needs (from the P.A.W.N. Analysis) for the sake of discerning God's direction for our synod is intentionally listening to voices "outside" of the community of faith. Synod leaders are being asked to spend time interviewing at least 5 people in their community as a part of our synodical revisioning process. Congregational leaders *may* also want to do this in order to be sure that voices from their communities are heard in this process. If you are going to conduct community interviews, consider talking with government officials, school board members, community leaders, nonprofit executives, social service workers. But also include those people who aren't often heard by those in power: the poor, homeless, members of minority communities, young people, etc. Do NOT ask community members to answer these questions in writing. INTERVIEW them face to face or over the phone. Write down what you hear and bring your answers to the cluster meeting in your area and/or send them into the synod office. Use the questions below in your interviews:

a. What do you see happening in our city or your neighborhood that you think might be breaking God's heart? In other words, what are the BIG NEEDS we are facing in our life together?

b. What are the GOOD THINGS happening where you live and work that we should know about…and who is doing them?

c. How could the Greater Milwaukee Synod partner with you to make a difference in and for the sake of our city, towns, and neighborhoods?

d. What do you think we could or should do together, as a synod, that none of our congregations could do alone that would be really helpful in our community?

Name of the person interviewed: _____

Position of the person interviewed, if any: _____

Name of interviewer: _____

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