

For Hope congregation consideration

Background:

As you know, Hope, via the Congregational Vitality Team (CVT), has been participating in the Southern Ohio Synod's Collaborative since October of 2019. During the most recent session of the Collaborative, Hope was tasked with drafting a purpose statement. This purpose statement is not intended to replace Hope's mission, vision or core values statements but be in addition to. Our purpose statement is to be a representation of the information we have gathered during each phase of this process. That includes identifying:

- What is God's calling for Hope – what is God calling us to do
- What are Hope's gifts – our members, our space
- What are community needs – interviews with neighbors and community leaders
- What are Hope's core convictions – who we are

To that end, the CVT, with the help of council, has developed three purpose statements for your consideration. We ask that you vote for one.

Hope's Purpose:

1. To share the grace of God by embracing all people and being present in our community
2. Sharing God's grace, hope, and love to our community through service, hospitality, compassion, and prayer.
3. Welcoming all to know the love of Christ through worship, prayer, serving, and sharing.

Thank you to all of you who have participated in the process along the way. Whether you attended a workshop, filled out a survey or conducted a community interview, everything you did was extremely helpful and we are grateful for your support. There is one more Collaborative session this fall that will wrap up the learning phase. We will then, as a congregation, decide where God is calling us.

Thank you for your help!

Jen, PC, Lana, Carmen