

IMPLEMENTATION
SANTA CLARA VALLEY LUTHERAN PARISH MISSION STRATEGY

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. To the Bishop and the Synod Council of the Sierra Pacific Synod:
1. That this report be adopted.
 2. That this report be utilized by the Synod Council as the basis for its planning and decision making affecting the Santa Clara Valley.
 3. That the Synod Council present this report to its divisions, commissions, committees, and other program units for their use in working with the congregations and the special ministries in Santa Clara County.
 4. That the Synod Council forward this report to the Division for Outreach of the ELCA as a basis for its planning and decision making affecting the Santa Clara Valley.
 5. That the Bishop and the Synod Council request that all pastors, congregations, agencies, and special ministries within the Santa Clara Conference study, accept, and employ this report in all of their planning and decisions that affect the ministry of the ELCA in Santa Clara County.
 6. That a "Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish" be established with the following provisions:
 - a. That the name of the entity embodying the ELCA congregations and special ministries located in the present Santa Clara Conference be the "Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish."
 - b. That the composition of the Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish be made up initially of the following congregations and special ministries:
 - Los Altos, Los Altos
 - Immanuel, Los Altos
 - St. Luke, Sunnyvale
 - St. John, Sunnyvale
 - Redeemer, Cupertino
 - Bethel, Cupertino
 - Hope, Santa Clara
 - Our Savior's, Santa Clara
 - Prince of Peace, Saratoga
 - Immanuel, Saratoga
 - Faith, Los Gatos
 - Zion, San Jose
 - Immanuel, San Jose

Holy Redeemer, San Jose
 Christ the Good Shepherd, San Jose
 St. Timothy, San Jose
 St. Andrew, San Jose
 Community, San Jose
 Grace, San Jose
 Gloria Dei, San Jose
 Reformation, Milpitas
 Advent, Morgan Hill
 Taiwanese Mission, San Jose
 Sunny View Lutheran Home, Cupertino
 Santa Clara County service area of Lutheran
 Social Services of Northern California
 Turning Point Women's Center
 Lutheran Campus Ministry at San Jose State
 University
 Santa Clara County Correctional Institutions
 Chaplaincy Ministry

- c. That the other three ELCA congregations in Santa Clara County--First, Grace, and University in Palo Alto--by their own decision not be a part of the Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish.
- d. That other ELCA congregations and ministries, as they are developed in the Santa Clara Valley, become a part of the SCVLP.
- e. That the purpose of the SCVLP is to:
- 1) coordinate on-going strategic planning for mission by the ELCA in the Santa Clara Valley,
 - 2) strengthen mutuality in mission among ELCA clergy and congregations in the valley,
 - 3) build a new sense of purpose, interdependence, and inclusiveness among the members of the ELCA congregations in the valley, and
 - 4) carry out the tasks assigned to Conferences of the Sierra Pacific Synod by the Synod Constitution, including, in addition to those listed above:
 - a) the delivery and support of synodical and churchwide programs,
 - b) providing a means for the expression of opinions and needs to the Synod, and
 - c) nominating persons from the parish for synodical positions elected by the Synod Assembly from the electoral districts, as specified in the Synod Bylaws.
- f. That the functions of the SCVLP will be to:
- 1) facilitate communication among congregations of the parish,
 - 2) assist in planning and in implementing programs and events to strengthen ministries,

- 3) plan new ministry development,
 - 4) implement strategic planning goals,
 - 5) assist in allocating human and financial resources,
 - 6) relate to others committed to justice/advocacy and service/ministry, and
 - 7) represent the ELCA in the public arena in Santa Clara County.
- g. That funding for operation of the SCVLP come from congregations and ministries within the parish.
- h. That the organization of the parish be:
- 1) an annual or semi-annual assembly with lay and clergy delegates selected by congregations in the same way and the same proportion as they are selected for synod assemblies;
 - 2) a parish council that meets quarterly with one lay or one clergy voting member from each of the 22 organized congregations elected by the congregation for 3-year staggered terms, each with a 2-term limit, and one lay and one clergy representative with voice but no vote from the combined special ministries elected by those ministries for 3-year staggered terms, each with a 2-term limit;
 - 3) two officers, a Dean and a Secretary/Treasurer, elected in alternating years by the assembly for terms of two years, each with a 2-term limit;
 - 4) four standing committees:
 - Outreach/Evangelism
 - Service/Ministry
 - Advocacy/Justice
 - Leadership Development & Support
 each comprised of 5 or 6 members of the Parish Council and, as needed, other co-opted members from the congregations of the parish, meeting at least once every two months, and each electing its own chairperson and recorder; and
 - 5) a parish cabinet (or executive committee of the council) comprised of the Dean, the Secretary/Treasurer, and the chairperson of each of the four standing committees, meeting as needed between meetings of the parish council to coordinate the work of the SCVLP.

B. To the Santa Clara Conference Cabinet:

1. That this report be received as information from the Santa Clara Valley Area Mission Strategy Development Team.
2. That upon adoption of this report by the Synod Council of the Sierra Pacific Synod and receipt and acceptance by the congregations of the Conference, the following steps be undertaken for its implementation:
 - a. congregations be requested to select lay and clergy delegates, as specified in item A.6.h.2) above, to the first annual assembly of the Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish the First Sunday in April, April 7, 1991;
 - b. that the above event include a "Parish Life Festival" to which all members of all of the congregations of the parish are invited;
 - c. that plans for the first annual assembly and parish life festival of the Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish be made by the Dean and Cabinet of the present Santa Clara Conference;
 - d. that the Dean of the Santa Clara Conference, whose current term of office continues until February, 1992, serve by acclamation as the first Dean of the Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish until that date, at which time he would be eligible for election to another two-year term;
 - e. that plans be made by the existing Conference Cabinet for the election of a Secretary/ Treasurer of the new Parish Council at the first assembly of the SCVLP April 7, 1991;
 - f. that a date, time, and place be set by the existing Conference Cabinet for the first meeting of the Parish Council of the SCVLP;
 - g. that the present treasury, assets, and liabilities of the Santa Clara Conference be transferred to the SCVLP; and
 - h. that the present Conference Cabinet be dissolved as of April 7, 1991, and be replaced by the new Parish Council, as outlined in item A.6.h.2), 3), 4) and 5) above.

C. To the congregations and special ministries of the Santa Clara Conference:

1. That upon adoption of this report by the Synod Council and receipt of information by you of that action, the following steps be taken:
 - a. This report be reviewed by the appropriate leadership of your congregation or special ministry and plans made for its implementation in your place of ministry.
 - b. Delegates be elected to the first annual assembly of the Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish April 7, 1991 as outlined in item A.6.h.1) above.
 - c. A delegate be elected to the Parish Council of the SCVLP as outlined in item A.6.h.2) above.
 - d. Provision be made in your annual budget for the support of the SCVLP, the first year's support to be the same as that for the existing Santa Clara Conference.
 - e. Provision be made for participation of the members of your congregation or special ministry in the life of the SCVLP as described in this report.

D. To the Bishop:

1. That upon adoption of this report by the Synod Council and its receipt by the congregations of the Santa Clara Conference the Santa Clara County Area Mission Strategy Development Team be discharged.
2. That all the findings and the records of proceedings of the Santa Clara County Area Mission Strategy Development Team be turned over to the Santa Clara Conference for transmission to the Santa Clara Valley Lutheran Parish.