



Sustainable and Vital Congregations: Discerning and Planning for the Future



Central States Synod

The Church is in Transition



**PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER:
MAKING DECISIONS**



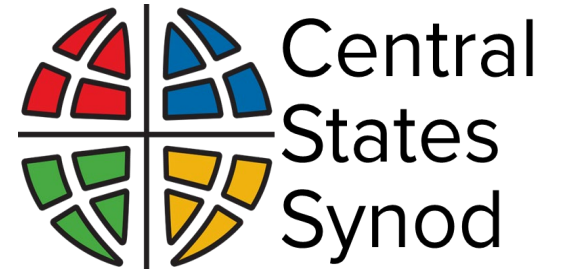
The Church is in Transition



- 1. God is the one in charge.**
- 2. God can, and does, take that which is spoiled & reforms it like new. (Jeremiah 18:4)**
- 3. Encourages us to be alert to how God might be at work today, among us.**



Leadership in Times of Transition



Definition of Leadership

- mobilizing people to make progress on difficult situations

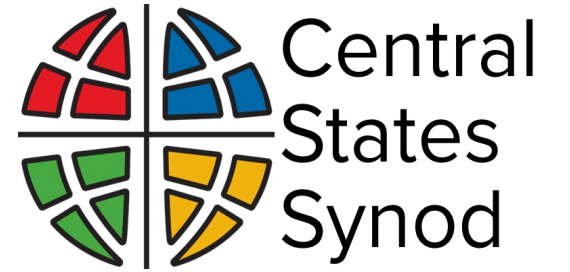
Leadership in Times of Transition



Leadership Requires:

- Knowing what is needed
- Knowing who can do the work
- Being clear on what decisions need to be made and why

Leadership in Times of Transition



- To be able to mobilize others we must be clear about our

PURPOSE!



PURPOSE



Provides the reason/reasons that you exist

- Why are we here?
 - Purpose should last forever
 - not something that is ever fully achieved
 - not goals/strategies as these will change
 - Connects every member of the organization with those call to serve
 - Purpose should be at the core of your guiding statements
 - In the church, our purpose should be God-centered
 - God's calling for the congregation



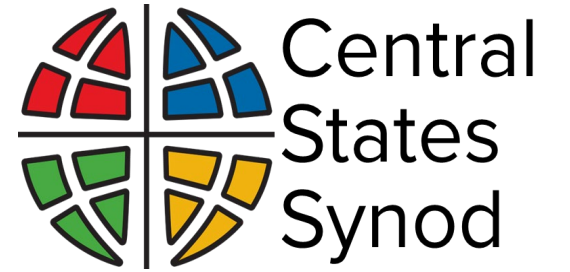
PURPOSE



- Examples:
 - Disney's Purpose: "To create happiness in others."
 - Ministry Statements:
 - To help people who are homeless, hungry, or addicted, and to provide opportunities for recovery
 - To be a place where people can worship God, learn the Scriptures, and serve the community
 - Feed the Hungry



PURPOSE



Purpose is different from Mission

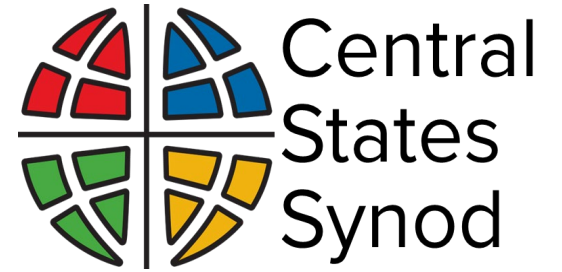
- Mission is how we bring our purpose to life
- Defines your unique ministry
- What you do & for whom

Purpose is different from Vision

- Describes the desired future position of the organization



PURPOSE



Knowing & staying focused on purpose allows leaders to make decisions about taking risk and change

- “People tend to worry about what might go wrong, and they forget about what might go right.”
- “One of the things about driving risk-taking and innovation is not to let the fear what you’re going to lose obscure the possibility of what you might gain.

Jon Quincy (CEO, Coca-Cola)



Purpose Driven Decision Making



Transition to Transformation

“I am about to do a new thing, now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19)

