

## **“Have We Discovered our Organic Vision?”**

The term “organic vision” has been coined by the Synod’s Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) Vision Path Experience. An “organic vision” is one that surfaces from the congregation rather than being sent down from the Church Council. The three basic ingredients of an “organic vision” are the unique makeup and mix of the congregation, the perceived spiritual needs of the surrounding community, and the intervention of the Holy Spirit upon several congregational change agents. The Vision Path Experience survey was designed to tease out and isolate these three ingredients of an “organic vision”. The major task of our Vision Path Development Team has been to determine whether an “organic vision” exists within the responses to the Vision Path Experience survey conducted in August. The most pressing concern has been the response rate of 20%; this roughly translates into 1 out of 5 congregation member/associate member responses to the survey. This has resulted into somewhat blurred vision of what is appearing to emerge. In order to clean-up most of the “blurredness”, the Vision Path Development Team has produced and validated a much shorter (less time consuming) and more specific survey for the congregation’s response and hopefully will achieve at least a 70% response rate from all congregation members/associate members. A 70% or better response rate has the potential for us to discover a clear “organic vision”, and also, for the responses to be representative of the entire congregation. Thus enabling Redeemer congregation, with God’s help, to walk together, supporting her “organic vision” and each other.