

ELCC COLLABORATION BENEFITS

April 12, 2025

In a meeting of the ELCC Advisory Board, we were asked to revisit the fundamental reasons we are embarking on this work to form the Eastside Lutheran Church Community. The responses have been edited to reduce duplication.

In forming the ELCC, what benefits do you hope to achieve for your individual congregations?

- 1) Sharing of resources, particularly staffing, to improve our ability to serve.
- 2) Sharing of activities and ministries so we can achieve “critical mass”. This will ensure the events and service can attract participants and be more sustainable.
- 3) Grow and learn together to have life-giving collaboration with one another.
- 4) Ease the administrative burden of the pastors to allow them to focus on pastoral work.
- 5) Allow staffing according to their gifts versus just filling 40 hours.
- 6) Combined youth programs to generate more excitement and opportunities.
- 7) Recognizing that we are one church sharing a vision for invitation and growth.
- 8) Working together in outreach and mission to expand our reach to increase our visibility and impact.

By participating in the ELCC, what do you hope to achieve outside of your individual congregations?

- 1) Churches that are curiously growing are infectiously inspirational*
- 2) Larger pool of resources for our mission partners
- 3) Greater mission involvement
- 4) Create more visibility for the Lutheran church and spread our message more broadly.
- 5) Potential for social justice impacts
- 6) Create critical mass for youth programs. More likely to attract new families and young people
- 7) Create a common message: “Church is for you”.
- 8) Eliminate the notion of being in competition with one another.
- 9) Envision and pilot the future church.
- 10) Allowing pastors to lean into their respective gifts will give them the chance to work more effectively within our community
- 11) Be a witness to unity.
- 12) Healthy, vibrant community with honest and humble welcome. “There is a place at the table for you”.
- 13) More voices in the community.
- 14) Strengthen small group ministry to invite others in.

*The Advisory Board loved this phrase. We hope to include this as a tag line on our website.