

Jan. 24, 2012

reflections

Plan to live in the present

A little over a year ago I was traveling and missed church. I came home, and Jordan gave me a copy of Pastor Anne's sermon from the previous Sunday and told me that I had "missed a good one." I promptly placed it in a pile with all the other things I needed to get to later.

At the time I had no idea that Anne's sermon was about "getting to things later." I distinctly remember one particular sentence in her sermon, "Some of us dwell on dreams of the past or dreams of the future and forget to live in the present." When I think about it, we are pulled in so many different directions at any given time: family, work, church, volunteering, education, pets, cooking, cleaning, driving, appointments, sports, shopping, vacations, etc. The list can be endless. If we get caught up on focusing solely what happened in the past, or planning for the future, the present can become lost.

This is why a strategic plan is so important. Last fall, 250 Calvary

youth and adults took the opportunity to complete a survey and participate in input sessions about what was necessary for us to address at Calvary. We took a look at the past, considered the future and compiled that information to construct our current strategic plan, which was presented at our annual meeting.

Hans Hofmann, legendary teacher and abstract expressionist painter, famously said, "The ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary may speak." In that spirit, I believe the guideposts, goals, priorities and pathways for Calvary's present have been set. Now, it's time to "live in the present" and implement the plan.

As we move through the process of implementing our strategic plan, let's focus on making the journey rich and meaningful by embracing the challenges that lie before us, and celebrating our accomplishments together!



—Lori Grohskopf, Moderator