



new thing

FAQs

What changes will occur as we transition to The Way Church?

The first change you saw was our church stepping into its new mission, which is “to practice the way of Jesus together.” The primary goal of *New Thing* is to fully fund the mission of the church we are planting now and in the future. As we grow into our new mission, there will be more changes needed, such as a new name, new mission opportunities, additional staff, ministries, and marketing (i.e., logo, name, etc.)

When will we officially transition to becoming our own church?

There are many steps ahead, but some key dates are as follows:

- **March 6, 2022:** We will hold the first business meeting of the newly formed non-profit named The Way Evangelical Lutheran Church. At this meeting, we will vote on incorporation, a leadership board, elders, and other items.
- **May 1, 2022:** Pending a yes vote at the March business meeting and approval by the synod, we will...
 - Hold Charter Sunday on this date. There will be one service and it will be the day we celebrate the birth of this new church plant. You don't want to miss this special day.
 - Have a voter's meeting immediately following the service that day to extend a call to a pastor to lead The Way Church.
- Officially **after May 1, 2022**, The Way Church will exist as a church in the LCMS. However, there will be a few items that need to be finalized at the July 2022 Faith Oakville voters meeting. Once that meeting happens and details are finalized, The Way Church will have fully transitioned.

Are we still going to be a Lutheran church?

Yes. The new church we are planting will remain in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) and will be a part of the Slovakian Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELC) District.

What is the SELC District?

The SELC District is one of two non-geographic districts in the LCMS. The SELC District seeks to plant new churches, start new mission work, and support churches, pastors, and church workers pursuing these activities. You can read more about the history and mission of the SELC District at selc.lcms.org.

What will my giving fund?

All giving will go to support the church plant in Columbia. At first, giving will go to fully fund our current budget. As giving grows, we will be able support more missions, add more ministry opportunities, and multiply our mission in new places.

What is the 2% goal for the process of giving?

We believe that tithing (10%) is both Biblical and how God calls us to give. At the same time, it's not a requirement, and we know for some, 10% is a giant leap. Therefore, we encourage tithing right away, but if that's not possible, we suggest others reach the tithe by gradual proportional giving. By making a 2% increase to your yearly giving, you are testing and trusting God to provide.

Is tithing figured on my net or gross income?

The answer to this question is really between you and the Holy Spirit. A good Bible verse to use in answering this question is Luke 16:10: *Whoever is faithful in very little is also faithful in much, and whoever is unrighteous in very little is also unrighteous in much.* The keys to tithing are faithfulness and giving joyfully.

How do I give online?*

1. Click the GIVE button on Faith's website or app.
2. Enter the amount you want to give, select general fund, choose a frequency, and enter your email address. Please indicate 'Columbia' on the memo line.
3. Click CONTINUE and enter your payment information to complete the transaction.

*How we give online will likely change in Summer 2022. We will update as that change takes place.

What percentage of people in Columbia give online?

Online giving is a consistent and helpful way to give regularly. Currently, about 67% of givers use online giving. We are hoping to increase that number to over 75% by 2024.

Can I give using a credit card?

Yes, you can use a credit card, debit card, or automatic bank withdrawal. As always, we caution against using a credit card if it causes you to go further into debt.