Blizzard Winter Ice Age Imagining ministry beyond survival Adaptive Leadership during the Coronavirus Pandemic

The rain and the snow come down from the sky. They do not return to it without watering the earth. They make plants come up and grow. The plants produce seeds for farmers. They also produce food for people to eat. Isaiah 55:10

**Dwelling in the Word** 

How do YOU need God's help?





1. Dairy Queen Treats





What do these 3 things have in common? 2. "Always Never Christmas," The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe 3. 2002 Animated Film



## Blizzard Winter ICE AGE

Adaptive Leadership during the Coronavirus Pandemic

|                                    | BLIZZARD | WINTER | ICE AGE |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------|---------|
| How long does<br>it last?          |          |        |         |
| What do you do<br>during it?       |          |        |         |
| How do you<br>prepare for it?      |          |        |         |
| What do you do<br>when it is over? |          |        |         |

|                                    | BLIZZARD   | WINTER   | ICE AGE                           |
|------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| How long does it last?             | A day or two   | Four-five months   | ? Generations                     |
| What do you do<br>during it?       | Stay home, get to a safe place, play card, puzzle            | Hunker down, hibernate,<br>winter sports,  | ? Adapt or die                    |
| How do you<br>prepare for it?      | Gas for the snow<br>blower, stock up on<br>food of the week. | Gas up snowblower,<br>winterize boat, car, split<br>wood, preserve food,                               | ? Die or move south               |
| What do you do<br>when it is over? | Shovel out and go back<br>to work as usual.                  | Celebrate, spring clean, plant<br>fields, gardens, cycle of life<br>repeats<br><b>PLAN NEXT SEASON</b> | ? Watch ice melt.<br>FIND NEW WAY |



As leaders we must react swiftly to the <u>blizzard</u> already upon us, AND pivot to survive the <u>winter AND</u> reimagine our church to outlast the rigors of a possible little <u>ice age.</u>

You are not in the same business today as you were in February 2020. This is NOT just some blizzard you can wait out. If you want to carry out your mission you have to consider radical innovation.

# What do you do during a blizzard? Play cards.







Why you serve them:



What you do to live out your identity:



How you do it:



#### This is your hand.



# Play the cards you have.

1 Who you are identity: Christian, Lutheran, Historical identity.

2.Who you serve: context for ministry, neighbors, needs

3. Why you serve them: sense of call, purpose in God's mission



Discard and Draw a new card, new strategy

4 What you do: to live out your identity, serve others, and accomplish your purpose in God's mission.

How you do it: Actual day to day operations; strategies to move forward



To address the long winter or little ice age, 1-3 change some; 4-5 need to be reimagined and require radical innovation

- 1. Who you are-identity-Christian, Lutheran, History
- 2. Who you serve-context for ministry, neighbors, needs
- 3. Why you serve them-sense of call, purpose in God's mission
- 4. What you do to live out your identity- serve others and accomplish your purpose in God's mission.
- 5. How you do it-actual ministries, tools, activities, staff, budget you use to accomplish #4.

Discard #4 and # 5





| Your church   | Feb 2020 | Sept 2020 |
|---|----------|-----------|
| Who are you? Identity Statementis a Christian Church and Lutheran witness to Jesus Christ inWI.                           |          |           |
| Who do you serve? Describe the neighborhood and context for ministry.   |          |           |
| Why do you serve them? Purpose in God's mission is to greatest command, great 3 commission, great vision Mt 22,28; Rev 22 |          |           |
| What do you do? We provide the following gospel-based ministries:   |          |           |
| How do you do it? Who does what?<br>Describe your leadership teams, tools, 5<br>staff, activities, budget.                |          |           |



#### The Better Fundraising Co.





Traditioned Innovation keeping what is essential, meaningful in our faith practice, imagining it in new ways

Walter Brueggemannboth continuity and surprise characterize the pattern of God's redemptive work



6 essentials to survive the winter and build for the ice age.

**1. Embrace your role.** 2. Maximize your runway. **3. Prototype in sprints.** 4. Organize for resilience. 5. Lead by naming. 6. Design for a different future



# Embrace your role

- *protect* your organization, not *preserve* it.
- Preserve is an attempt to change as little as possible; Protect is being willing to change as much as necessary so that the mission might be advanced.



# Maximize your Runway

Cut building non-essentials
Keep all your commitments
Practice Better Fund-Raising Techniques

### Prototype in SPRINTS

#### **Basic Faithful Innovations process**

- Pray, dwell in the word, seek God's will
- Ask God Questions
- Experiment/learn from failure/ repeat/agile/fast turnaround
- Design ministry for the winter and beyond the ice age







# **Organize for Resilience**

•Be agile Reach out to others •Go with your gifts Manage stress •Lament

# Lead by Naming

 Name reality
 Tell the truth
 Identify philosophical shifts

**Design for a New Future** 1. Clarifying assumptionsgenerate new ideas 2. What role will we play in the recovery? 3. What trust can be built on? 4. What are our greatest assets? 5. What new realities might the ice age reveal?

## Notes from presentation Director of Lead: Louise Johnson

Let go of the immediate and important to tend to the impossible so that the gospel will thrive.

- Find trusted partners
- Don't do everything
- Try new things
- Be quick
- Crisis reveals the rot and in it is the seed for new life
- Lean into God's resurrection power, give God the time you don't have
- Close the gap between where you are and where God is calling you to be

- Better Fund Raising see jeff@jeff-brooks.com; steven@betterfundraising.com
- Leading Beyond the Blizzard: Why Every Organization is now a Startup by Andy Crouch, Kurt Keilhacker, Dave Blachard; Praxis
- Presentation to COB by Louise Johnson, LEAD