Seeing this pandemic through the eyes of the NC Synod Vision

Vital Congregations *Vital congregations are communities of Jesus with life-giving relationships with God, each other, and the community/world. Congregations need to make it through this crisis. Your community needs you. A COVID-19 outbreak in your congregation would be devastating.*

Whole and Healthy Leaders *The emotional toll of a pandemic is real. Many rostered ministers are considered vulnerable populations or are caring for someone who falls within those parameters. This is a time like no other and leaders need care themselves as they care for the congregations they serve.*

Collaboration *We are better together and yet we know that our contexts are widely different. Where are the places we are stronger together? How might we be in partnership with our ecumenical colleagues as well as those within our synod during this pandemic?*

Prophetic Voice *Anchored in hope, even in the midst of this crisis, God is always doing a new thing. We commit to advocating for all those impacted by this pandemic and being a voice of love and hope in a hurting world.*

Jesus Centered *Jesus, the Christ, is the very center of all we do. Loving thy neighbor may mean not gathering when your population is vulnerable.*

Generosity *We live and give generously even as economic realities are hard. We recognize that congregations and*

communities will be financially impacted by our time apart. We will trust God's provision for tomorrow.

Relationships *Cries to gather center around a yearning for relationship. We are made for being in relationship and we belong to each other in Christ. This is the difficulty of a virus that spreads when we are close together. Being in relationship with one another is important but doing so safely is crucial.*

Reconciliation *Viruses have no political leaning. Vulnerable populations were at risk prior to this pandemic and this crisis magnifies that reality. How can we strive for justice, compassion, peacemaking, advocacy, and healing in the midst of this crisis?*