**Top Ten Reasons for a Co-Pastor**

1. Stronger working relationships are developed through an equal and respectful partnership. When empowered by the congregation, trusted partners can build consensus and resolve conflicts through collaboration.
2. It works in progressive, thriving churches. The Synod is cheering us on. While the model maintains a focus on our self-care, it addresses the need to look beyond of our facility to serve and reach out boldly.
3. Equal responsibility, equal authority and equal emphasis for both the internal and external missions of Holy Shepherd.
4. There is a continued focus on the internal community of Holy Shepherd through pastoral care, spiritual development and worshiping and growing together in Christ.
5. Promotes growth – Service, growth and outreach will have more organizational importance and legitimacy, creating additional opportunities to serve and reach out joyfully to all.
6. Teams can cope with change better through mutual support and responsibility. Equal bearing of the burden and the celebration.
7. Very similar to the way we have done it for the past 14 years but with a more defined allocation of roles and responsibilities.
8. It’s not about titles, it is about specific job descriptions and responsibilities.
9. Models the way Christian communities should work.
10. Biblical…disciples went two by two and there’s Paul and Silas.