**Call to Service**

**with a**



**Step of Faith for 2014**

*Freely you have received, freely give. (Matt. 10:8)*

Thoughts from Pastor Hansen

*Giving is a joyful act of worship and fellowship that represents you in all that we do at Trinity Lutheran Church, every hour and every day.*

Thoughts from Council

As we completed our Membership Site Profile the following is quoted from Part IV, Commentary. The purpose of this part is to give the reader information about the vision, opportunities, challenges and nature of Trinity’s ministries.

*“These committees represent the heart of Trinity. It is the people of Trinity that renewed their commitment to remain in the ELCA even though a vote on sexuality cost our congregation over 25% of our membership and 35% of our gifts. It is the people of the church that responded to a call for renewal after months of prayer, planning and study. Again, it was the family we know as "Trinity" that responded to the illness of our Pastor and those members of the congregation with love and kindness for all.*

*We, the people of Trinity, embrace what God has in store for us. We believe that His hands have been at work both inside these doors and out. We KNOW that whatever plan He has for us we want to be an active part of whether at Trinity, the Hixson Community or His Church worldwide.”*

**GROWING THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**THROUGH YOUR TIME, TALENTS AND COMMITMENT**

**A guide to help you decide how best to use your gifts to the glory of God**

**How is God calling you to serve? The narrative budget being used this year places every ministry in one of four categories:**

**EQUIP**

**SEND**

**WELCOME**

**SUPPORT**

**We have gathered information to help you find your “niche” as we partner to do God’s work inside and outside the “Church on the Hill.” We have included mission statements as submitted by individual committees.**

**If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Hansen or a member of council. We’ll be happy to help you!**

**EQUIP**

**WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE** provides the basis for a meaningful spiritual and emotional worship experience for members and guests according to the Lutheran tradition including music and necessary directions (bulletins and oral directions) to worship comfortably. They also provide the visual liturgy and music for the contemporary service.

**Positions Available:**

* Assisting Minister – Lead prayers, ready communion table (Traditional Services)
* Communion Assistant – Assist at communion (All Services)
* Ushers- no age requirements – Hand out bulletins, assist visitors, secure building during and after service - Rotates monthly (All Services)
* Special Ushers - holidays, funerals
* Greeters (All Services)
* Lector – Read lessons for the day (Traditional Services)
* Gospel Reflection – 3 to 5 minute reflection (Contemporary Service)
* Acolyte – Training available - (All Services)
* Altar Guild – Training available – Ready sanctuary for worship service
* Music – Participate in choir, hand bells, praise band, or other ways
* Technical Assistance – Forwarding slides in Power Point presentation (Contemporary Service)
* Lead Liturgy (Contemporary Service)
* Wedding Coordinator – work with bridal couple, florists, unlock and lock up church, etc.
* Funeral Assistance – Work with funeral home, florists, and pastor and see to family’s needs

The **CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE** supports the children and youth in all ways, not only in our congregation but in outreach to the community. The Children and Youth Committee shares the Good News through Children's Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, Confirmation Classes, Youth Lock-In events, service projects, regional and national convention attendance, and inclusion of children and youth in worship services.

**Positions Available:**

* Sunday school teachers and assistants
* Assist with confirmation classes
* Assist with special events (Christmas play, Easter Egg hunt, Lock-ins, etc.)
* Nursery Volunteers – Assist in the nursery during worship
* VBS Volunteers
* JAMS (Jesus and Me) & Youth Group Volunteers for after church activities, once a month
* Drivers – For away events (Must be 25+ and Safe Haven trained)
* Confirmation – Assist pastor with this ministry

**TLC – TRINITY LEARNING CENTER & EMPOWER ME**

* Daytime children’s programs – Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday reading, helping with arts & crafts, etc.

**ADULT EDUCATION**

* Teach Sunday school or a class through the week
* ChristCare – Lead a new group or join an existing group
* Stephen Ministry – One on one listening and care for individuals (Training required)

**OTHER AREAS OF SERVICE**

* Thrivent – be a member or church representative
* Synod Assembly attendee or volunteer
* Council – Stand for election to congregation council
* Council Nominating Committee – Assemble list for council nominees
* Mutual Ministry – Support of church staff members
* Office assistance during staff absences
* Finance – Review and make recommendations to Council for all church finances
  + Stewardship – Help plan and execute annual campaign
  + Mission & Ministry – Oversight of the Endowment Fund (elected position)
  + Waddell Scholarship Fund – Annual Fundraisers for scholarships for graduating senior high students active in the church
  + Mentors for Confirmands and other Youth

**SEND**

The **SOCIAL MISSIONS COMMITTEE** provides identified, needed social services to Trinity Lutheran Church's neighbors in the North Hamilton community and beyond to include local, national and international neighbors in order to share Christ through service to others. They help support the needy, support the church's shut-ins, assist in disasters and donate to worthy causes including the Community Kitchen and Volunteers in Medicine.

**Positions Available:**

* Taking communion to our homebound
* Food Voucher Program – Monday 10:00 – Noon, using the 211 system to provide vouchers to qualified clients
* Providing transportation for church, doctor appointments, etc.
* Help with Funeral luncheons – set up, prepare, serve, or clean up
* Helping Hands – Preparing and/or delivering food to recently hospitalized and homebound
* Special projects
  + Sunshine Baskets for homebound
  + Hygiene Bags for food voucher clients
  + Soup’s On – Proposed program to serve a soup lunch on second Saturdays for anyone in the community (cook, serve or clean up)
  + Disaster Recovery Team – train as volunteer to help during community disasters
  + Southside Abbey – Joint venture with Episcopal churches on the south side of Chattanooga to help area residents
  + Project Cantebury – Volunteer to help with UTC campus activities (cookout at beginning of year, etc.)

**WELCOME**

The **OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans)** provide opportunities for older adults to study the Word of God, to enjoy fellowship with luncheons and to have learning opportunities through presentations and day trips.

Positions Available:

* Assist with meals (set up and clean up)
* Assist with internal programs
* Assist with travel programs

**WELCA** **(Women of the Evangelical Church of America)** provide support to the women of the church in all ways, to help them grow in the Holy Spirit and offer gifts including quilts for Lutheran World relief and to support one another and engage in meeting and actions. WELCA also provides fellowship through the monthly "Ladies Night Out.”

Positions Available:

* Lead Bible Study (once a month)
* Help with Bold Women’s Sunday
* Help with fundraisers
* Attend meetings and conference gatherings
* Join the quilters and knitters,
* Ladies’ Night Out

The **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE** encourages all members to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and publicizes the ministries of our congregation to the community. They keep the Trinity Lutheran Church website updated and monitor the message and activities set up in the welcome area.

**Positions Available:**

* Write notes to Sunday guests
* Make phone calls to second time visitors
* Visits to third time visitors
* Visits to inactive members
* Publicity Team – help with video, newspapers, website, Facebook

The **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE** provides opportunities for fellowship for the congregation and visitors by the numerous functions and meals including (but not limited to) the Annual Meeting, the Church Picnic, Valentine's Dinner, Holiday celebrations, Confirmation Luncheon as well as recognition brunches for special events of members. They also provide the food and service for numerous fund raising events to provide benefits to Trinity Lutheran Church's neighbors.

**Positions Available:**

* Coffee in Welcome Area – Prepare or clean up
* Food preparation, serving, clean up for special events
* Wednesday night dinners – Serving, clean up
* Help in planning special events

**SUPPORT**

The **BMRG (Building, Maintenance, Renovation & Grounds)** committee insures that the church building and property stay in good repair in order for all church ministries to carry on without interruption.

**Positions Available:**

* Friday work crew – Meets Fridays, 8:00 – Noon for general maintenance
* Grounds Clean up days – Spring and Fall
* Kitchen Work Crew – Cleaning, inventory, reporting shortages and maintenance problems
* Seasonal decorating of the church

**What is a Narrative Budget?**

A narrative budget is a way to look beyond just the numbers, and see how our giving and spending is a part of our mission. While a line item budget is very useful in tracking exactly what an organization’s expenses are, it often fails to give a clear picture of what that organization really does and how it makes a difference in the world.

The Council of Trinity Lutheran Church has decided to adopt a Mission Spending plan for 2014 that includes both a line item budget and a narrative budget, in order to provide the congregation with a fuller picture of our shared mission as a congregation.

For each area of our mission, you will find a dollar amount, and a percentage of the total budget. Each mission area is also provided with a brief description, and a summary of how the budgeted amount was computed.

We hope that this Mission Spending plan will help you to better understand how the congregation of Trinity is able to receive your generous gifts and use them to carry out the mission of the Gospel here in Hamilton County.

**~ Trinity Lutheran Church Council**

**2014 Mission Spending Plan**

**Narrative Budget**

**EQUIP**

**WORSHIP $117,760 29.8%**

The most central part of our life together is our worship. Together we gather and offer our praise and thanksgiving to God. Together we receive God’s sacraments of grace, and we offer them to the world. Together we hear God’s Word proclaimed. All that we do as a congregation pivots on our worship life.

*How did we get there? This number represents 40% of the pastoral expenses (lines 26, 27 & 32), 25% of the office supplies and copier maintenance (lines 66 & 67), 60% of the gas, water, and electric expenses (lines 74-77), and the expenses for our organists, supply preachers, and worship supplies (lines 28, 29, & 39- 42)*

**PASTORAL CARE $35,040 8.9%**

This is how we take care of those who are in need. We visit those who are sick, hospitalized, homebound, and in prison, helping them to remain connected to our family of faith. We comfort those who are grieving and heartbroken, bringing God’s word of peace. As the Body of Christ, we walk alongside those who are travelling through the valley of the shadow of death.

*How did we get there? This number represents 22% of pastoral expenses (lines 26 &23) and the expense for our Parish Nurse (line35).*

**EDUCATION / FAITH GROWTH $62,143 15.7%**

Faith must be passed from one generation to the next: “Recite God’s words to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise” (Deuteronomy 6:7). We welcome children to Sunday School every week; we provide Vacation Bible School every summer. We place the Scriptures in their hands as they are able to read them, and instruct them through Confirmation as to what those Scriptures mean. As a congregation, we invite people of all ages to learn more about God’s Word and about the life of discipleship, through classes, camp, and programs all year long. We welcome children during the week to learn about Jesus and his love for the children.

*How did we get there? This number represents 18% of pastoral expenses (lines 26 & 32), expenses for youth (lines 44-55), for Interim Children’s Minister (line 33), and 25% of our office supplies and copier maintenance (lines 66&67)*

**SEND**

**MISSION GIVING $30,000 7.6%**

This is the money that we send out, to support ministries beyond our local community. We support new congregations and missionaries overseas, and we feed the hungry around the world. As a congregation, we support our partners in the ELCA, Lutheran World Relief, Faith Mission, Church Camps and Campus Ministries.

*How did we get there? This number represents the funds designated for ministries outside of our congregation (line 63).*

**SOCIAL MISSIONS $3,470 .8%**

This is the money represents support in our local community. We support Community Kitchen, VIM, TLC Food Voucher Program and others as chosen by the Social Missions Committee.

*How did we get there? This number represents the funds designated for ministries outside of our congregation (line 58-62).*

**WELCOME**

**OUTREACH/EVANGELISM $16,490 4.2%**

As a people of faith, we are commanded to carry God’s Word beyond our walls, and into the world. This area of our budget represents the ways that we reach into the community, and invite them to share in the joy of the Gospel with us.

*How did we get there? This number represents 5% of pastoral expenses (lines 26 & 32), 50% of our evangelism expenses (line 4), 50% of our telephone expenses (line 78), our publicity expenses (line 5), and 25% of our office supplies and copier maintenance (lines 66 & 67)*

**FELLOWSHIP $20,245 5.1%**

An important part of the life of any family is family gatherings. In the church, we call this family gathering times “Fellowship.” We share meals together, we celebrate together, we enjoy being in the company of one another.

*How did we get there? 40% of the gas, water, and electric expenses (lines 74-77), 50% of our evangelism expenses (line 4), and our hospitality expenses (line 3).*

**COMMUNICATIONS (INTERNAL) $6,750 1.7%**

With everything going on in the life of our congregation, it is important to keep our members informed. Through monthly newsletters, bulletins, websites, email, and phone calls, we strive to make sure that everyone in our family of faith knows what is going on.

*How did we get there? 50% of our telephone expenses (line 78), postage expenses (line 68), and 25% of our office supplies and copier maintenance (lines 66 & 67)*

**SUPPORT**

**ADMINISTRATION $53,720 13.6%**

Membership rolls, Council meetings, committee meetings, and congregational meetings, financial records and paying bills; membership rosters, records of our official acts, Synod Assemblies and Conference Gatherings; all of the things that keep our ministries running smoothly and endure that everything are done in good order, these are our administrative expenses.

*How did we get there? This number represents 15% of pastoral expenses (lines 26 & 32), our Parish Secretary (lines 30 & 31), and our expenses for stewardship (line 24), bank fees and other administrative costs (lines 66, 67, 69, 70 & 71)*

**MAINTENANCE $49, 570 12.5%**

Having a building to meet in, having a beautiful space for worship and our fellowship. These things require upkeep and maintenance to keep them going, so that when we need them they will always be there.

*How did we get there? This number represents the expenses for the cleaning, upkeep, and regular repairs of the church building, the columbarium, and the church grounds (lines 10-23) as well as our insurance expenses (line 72).*