

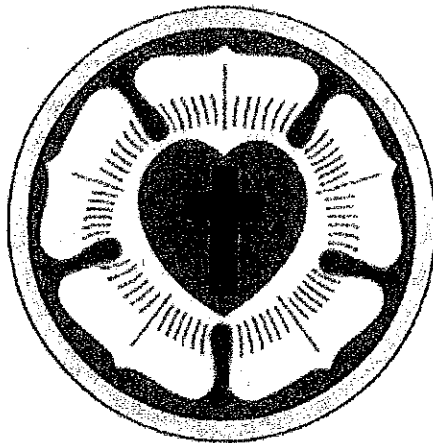
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Little Mountain, SC

God's Vision for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
As given by the Holy Spirit through
the shared voices of the congregation.

A Vision/Strategic Plan for the Congregation.
January 12, 2020

*"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD,
plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."
Jeremiah 29:11*



Preaching, Teaching and Serving in Christ's Name.

Introduction:

Because the church is a human organization, and has a tendency to forget its purpose, and how it is to live out the Gospel in the world, it is important that the congregation regularly look in the mirror and evaluate what God's call and direction is for their future. The Church Constitution also calls for the Congregational Council to conduct regular visioning/strategic planning for the congregation. Most importantly, the church conducts a visioning/strategic planning process to help it seek out God's vision and plan for the life and future of its ministry and its people.

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

It is with that goal in mind that in October of 2018, the Congregational Council of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church established a Visioning/Strategic Planning Team consisting of 11 active members that represent the many different generations that make up the congregation of this church. Curtis Boland, Lucy Peters, Pam Bush, Frank Lake, Julie Haltiwanger, Wendy Shealy, Sheri Wicker, Phillip Allison, Ted Arnold, Tony Shell, Daniel Boland make up the team.

Under the guidance of Pastor Collins, the team began its journey on November 6, 2018, working to help the congregation discern God's vision for its future. From the very beginning, we agreed that the process would not be about any one person, the pastor, or groups within the congregation. It would be about God and focused on what God wants for the congregation. The process would begin and end with prayer. Our time would not just be to meet and plan, but to seek God's guidance and direction in the purpose we as a team were charged to complete. It is God who has the vision and our responsibility is to help the congregation discover that vision and how we live that out in the world for Him.

The Process:

Through our monthly meetings, we worked to discover the best possible means available to help the congregation intentionally consider each part of the vision process.

Values: We can't understand where we are going if we don't understand where we have been, or who we are. Shaped by where we've been and what is important to us as God's people, our values direct the purpose for which we exist; why we gather and serve as God's people. What do we believe is important to us? Standards, truths, principles, behavior, moral codes.

Mission: Once we understand who we are, we have to discern why we are here, why do we exist, and what is our purpose? This is something that is ongoing, something we strive to live out and pass on. It is what makes us different from other organizations.

Vision: Once we have discovered who we are and our purpose for existing, then we define how we live out our purpose through the ministry of God here at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. What is God's vision for the ministry of our church? What does God want us to look like, do, and focus on in the coming years?

Findings:

Who We Are: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a traditional congregation which believes God's Holy Word as revealed through the Scriptures. Following Christ's example, we seek to share the Scriptures as we worship, teach, and serve in fellowship and love.

What We Do: Preaching, Teaching and Serving in Christ's name.

How We Live Out Our Purpose In The World: We are an active congregation, who are believers of Christ, and seek out how best to help others discover the love of Christ in their lives.

Values: Who We Are

Our first order of business was to help the congregation discern its values and what it felt was important to its life and ministry in the community and world. This led to the team going out to the congregation in worship, Sunday School classes, and fellowship groups utilizing a survey (see appendix) to ascertain what they felt were the values of the congregation. Responses from the congregation were then collated and categorized into six main groups forming the core values of the congregation: worship, teaching, study, love, service, and fellowship. From these core values, the team developed a statement that summarized the core values and defined who we are and what is important to us as a congregation. This information was then shared with the congregation during worship on a special "Values Sunday."

Our Core Values:

1. **Worship:** We gather to give thanks and praise to God for all He has done for us through our Savior Jesus Christ.
2. **Teach:** Through God's Word, we make the love of Christ known to a lost world as we encounter others every day.
3. **Study:** Through the Holy Spirit, we seek to understand the Word of God and apply it to our lives.
4. **Love:** We seek to follow the Lord's command to love God and love our neighbor.
5. **Serve:** In the example of Christ, we seek to meet the needs of all God's creation.
6. **Fellowship:** We gather to build lasting relationships of love, care, and support.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Values Statement:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a traditional congregation which believes God's Holy Word as revealed through the Scriptures. Following Christ's example, we seek to share the Scriptures as we worship, teach, and serve in fellowship and love.

Mission: What We Do

Once the team completed the Values Statement and felt it contained the essence of what the congregation was telling us through the survey responses, we moved forward with the process of determining what the congregation felt God's mission and purpose was for the church. Again, we turned to survey responses and discussion with church members to gather the needed information to develop a comprehensive Mission Statement that would describe God's mission for the church and guide our ministry in the coming years. We determined there was no better way to describe the mission and purpose God has for the members and ministry of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church than what had been its guiding purpose for many years.

Preaching, Teaching and Serving in Christ's Name

Preaching: It is in worship and the sharing of the Gospel message of our Savior Jesus Christ that we are strengthened and enabled to be His disciples and go into the world to witness to God's love and help others experience His abundant life. *"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God^[b] may be complete, equipped for every good work."* (2 Timothy 3:16)

Teaching: In the study of God's Word, we hear proclaimed the truth of our God and His victory for our lives in Christ Jesus. We grow closer to our Savior and better understand our call to live our lives as His disciples in the world. *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in^[b] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."* (Matthew 28:19-20)

Serving: All believers are blessed with gifts and talents and are called to use these gifts in a life of service to our Lord. It is here that we are blessed to be Christ's hands and feet to the lost, the needy, the lonely, and the forgotten that Jesus Himself came to save. In serving, we give of ourselves as Christ gave to us, following His command. *"For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you."* (John 13:15)

In Christ's Name: In this statement, we proclaim to all who listen why we do what we do. It is not for our benefit or for what we can get out of it, but that Christ may be known and praised for all he has done for us. As the Apostle Paul tells the Ephesians, *"We live for the praise of God's glory."* (Ephesians 1:12)

Vision: How We Live It Out

The Team then turned to helping the congregation discern how God wants us to live out this mission. A visioning Sunday was held during worship where the team used a survey to encourage the congregation to dream dreams and ask themselves, "What are your hopes for the future of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church?" and "What is one need you would like to see addressed as it relates to...preaching, teaching, and serving?" We received numerous responses that gave us a broad spectrum of hopes, dreams, and needs the members felt God was calling the congregation to address over the coming years.

As we began to collate and categorize the information provided through the surveys, several themes concerning the congregation's hope for the future stood out. Utilizing these themes, the team produced a summary statement of the vision that was provided by the congregation in the surveys.

We are an active congregation who are believers of Christ seeking how best to help others discover the love of Christ in their lives.

The congregation expressed their hope for the future with these themes.

- That we will continue to preach, teach, and serve in Christ's name.
- That we provide a future for the children of our church
- That we show God's love to others by carrying out the obligations we promised as we joined the church
- That we still exist in 20 years
- That we continue to trust in God to make us a strong, caring, and compassionate church

(All responses may be found in the appendix at the end of this document.)

Specific themes the congregation recognized as things needed to be addressed in the future are:

I. Involvement/Fellowship

- a. Improve attendance at ministry events and increase membership
- b. Improve involvement and participation in the ministries of the congregation
- c. Maintain unity of the congregation by serving each other and the community

II. Learning/Teaching

- a. Improve attendance at Sunday School and spiritual growth opportunities
- b. Provide meaningful opportunities to increase Biblical knowledge and application
- c. Provide worship opportunities for all to give praise and thanks to God

III. Outreach/Service

- a. Serve the Lord and spread His love within our community and world
- b. Be more welcoming and open to all generations in the church and community
- c. Improve communication of activities and events

IV. Buildings/Facilities

- a. Upgrade facilities to meet ministry needs of the congregation
- b. Use technology to enhance and assist the ministries of the congregation
- c. Allow space for future staffing needs

(A complete list of responses by the congregation may be found in the appendix at the end of this document.)

Summary:

Sometimes when you begin a journey, you can't see what's truly important because all the big things that might be blocking your view. We know what we are looking for and keep our eyes open for what we want to see. Yet, it's in those little things that aren't as clear and visible along the journey, that we find true meaning, purpose, and what's really important. That is really where we find God's plan for our life.

We believe that in this vision God has given the congregation, you will discover people who believe that worshipping our Lord, teaching and learning about God's love, studying God's Word, loving God and others, and serving in the example of Christ Jesus is important. You will find people who believe God put this church in the Little Mountain community to preach His Word, teach others about His love, and to serve others as Christ has served us.

Through the efforts of the Vision Team to make this process about God and seeking the congregation's input, God has given to us a vision for ministry that can not only put us on the path to fulfill His mission, but also help bring renewed meaning and purpose to the congregation. In this document, you will find we have the heart and soul of what the congregation told us was important as God's people. Although it doesn't identify any big programs or major projects, it identifies the true things the congregation feels are important and needed to help us grow as God's people and move forward making disciples for Him.

Appendix

Values Survey

Values are those things that a group of people feel are important and help us understand who we are as a people.

On the lines below please give us no more than three (3) answers to the following question.

What do **YOU** believe are the basic values of our congregation here at Holy Trinity?

Please complete the survey and give it to a Vision Team member today. If you need more time, please complete the form and put it in Pastor Collins' box outside the office.

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD. (JER. 29:10),

Vision/Strategic Planning Team

In the second phase of the Vision Team's work, we would like the members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church to provide your thoughts and input on the congregation's mission/purpose by answering the following question:

As part of the Body of Christ, what is our congregation's mission/purpose in this community and the world?

Please provide your thoughts with no more than three responses in the space provided below. You may place the survey in the offering plate during worship, turn them in or email them to the church office at office@holyltc.org by September 8.

The mission of our congregation is...

1.

2.

3.

Vision Survey

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD,
plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jer. 29:11)*

1. What are your hopes for the future of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church?

2. What is one need you would like to see addressed as it relates to...

a. Preaching: (Worship, living, praying, devotions, spiritual growth, etc.)

b. Teaching: (Learning, Growing in God's Word, Bible study, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, etc.)

c. Serving: (Outreach, Stewardship, Fellowship, Community Meal, Using our gifts and talents, etc.)

God's Vision for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

As given by Holy Spirit through the shared voices of its members

We are an active congregation who are believers of Christ, and seek out how best to help others discover the love of Christ in their lives.

To this end, we hope:

- That we will continue to preach, teach, and serve in the name of Jesus Christ
- That we provide a future for the children of our church
- That we show God's love to others by carrying out the obligations we promised as we joined the church
- That we still exist in 100 years
- That we continue to trust in God to make us a strong, caring, compassionate church

We recognize our needs in the following areas

V. Involvement/Fellowship

- a. Improve attendance at ministry events and increase membership
- b. Improve involvement and participation in the ministries of the congregation
- c. Maintain unity of the congregation by serving each other and the community

VI. Learning/Teaching

- a. Improved attendance at Sunday School and spiritual growth opportunities
- b. Providing meaningful opportunities to increase Biblical knowledge and application
- c. Providing worship opportunities for all to give praise and thanks to God

VII. Outreach/Service

- a. Serve the Lord and spread His love within our community and world
- b. Be more welcoming and open to all generations in the church and community
- c. Improved communication of activities and events

VIII. Buildings/Facilities

- a. Upgrade facilities to meet ministry needs of the congregation
- b. Use of technology to enhance and assist the ministries of the congregation
- c. Allow space for future staffing needs

God's Vision for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

As given by the Spirit working through the shared voices of the members of the congregation:

*We are an active congregation who are believers of Christ,
and seek out how best to help others discover the love of Christ in their lives.*

- The following are a breakdown of the congregation's responses to the Values Survey presented to the congregation on October 20 2019. The responses are broken down into categories and subcategories according to similar themes and particular subjects. Bold and underlined headings are specific themes identified and underlined headings are subcategories of those themes.

Involvement/Fellowship:

1. **Improve attendance at ministry events and membership within the congregation:**
20 % increase in attendance and membership.
To see attendance increase as it has decreased.
Attendance busting out of church building and Sunday School.
To see 100+ attend Sunday School and 200+ attend worship regularly.
For our church to grow in membership. X4
Grow in size and faith.
My hope is that we embrace change for growth heading our way.
It will continue to exist.
I hope it continues to grow and more people join the church family. X4
Future for the kids.
2. **Improve involvement and participation within the ministry of the congregation**
To see improvement in all areas of church activities, more people willing to work. X3
Pews will be filled with people who love God and want to serve Him.
Encourage growth and belonging within the church that will spill out into the community.
Increase biblical teaching and participation. (100% goal)
More people in the teaching.
However, as it grows it stays traditional, conservative toward scripture.
Increase membership, more dedicated people and more activity for young people.
My hopes for Holy Trinity is for a community and family/friends activities to help active and non-active members join together in God's presence.
Young people to bring back the love and teach our children that Sunday mornings is a time for our children to come to Sunday School to learn of God's gift of Jesus.
3. **Be more welcoming and open to all generations within the church and community.**
To keep working with the children and teenagers.
To be more inclusive of all people regardless of color, sexual orientation, etc.
There should be more transparency;
Congregations need to be more warm and loving – more family type atmosphere.
More leader like rather than having the congregation take lead.
To still be around in 20 years.
Hope that Holy Trinity is still a strong, caring, compassionate church as it is now, with God's help and member's faith. – Trust in God.

Outreach/Witness/Fellowship/Service:

1. Serve the Lord and spread the Good News of Christ within our community and the world.

A congregation active in serving members and community.x4

Continue community outreach to focus on the family.

That we go outside to the greater community.

To grow in spreading the Gospel to those in the community.

It continues to grow within current community as it grows.

We continue to grow as a congregation by reaching out to the community

For the congregation to grow and continue serving spiritual needs of the community and all people.

Become foundation for NALC in community.

Start a food bank for needy neighbors.

Share our faith through actions.

That we capture the young people that have drifted away.

Ministry to reach out to our younger generation. The youth, teens, young adults - worship to serve our Lord.

God's people to love by carrying out obligations to the church that we promised as we joined the church.

2. Maintain the unity of the congregation by serving each other and the community.

A close-knit community of believers

A congregation that is active in serving and caring for each other .

Continue to be a tight knit congregation.

Bring the church together, do not divide the church into little groups.

To grow closer to each member as a community.

Building/Maintenance:

1. Upgrade facilities to meet ministry needs of the congregation.

Front entrance to fellowship hall with attachment to main church - building.

Update the church, new carpet, paint, combine SS classes. - building

Expand the area where communion is prepared. building

Put a bathroom closer to sanctuary. - building

Cushions in the pews. - building

Build some type of picnic shelter/BBQ pit. - building

Ramp built to use in lieu of using elevator. - building

Work on phase III of the building program. - building

For Sunday School building to be repaired as needed. - building

Expand Narthex to make a more open welcome space as worshipers arrive and leave worship.

2. Use current and future technology to assist and enhance ministry of the church.

Vision boards and sound screens. - Technology

That we keep in mind that technology is not a bad thing. - Technology

Learning/Teaching Sunday School:

1. Provide meaningful opportunities to teach God's Word and increase biblical knowledge.

Increase biblical teaching and participation 100%.

More people in the teaching.

Make more disciples.

To have more spiritual growth in church and community.

A Christian school for 9-12 grades started to serve our youth.

That we continue to teach God's Word as it is written in the Bible and be bold in our beliefs.

Continue to preach, teach and serve in Christ name.

2. Improve attendance at Sunday School and spiritual growth opportunities.

Young people to bring back love and teach our children that Sunday morning is a time for our children to come to Sunday School to learn of the gift of Jesus.

More kids in Sunday School

Young adult Sunday School class for young singles and couples.

Worship:

1. Provide worship opportunities that helps all worshipers praise and give thanks to God.

Add contemporary early or traditional service so that other worship opportunities are available for all. X6

To have worship outside occasionally.

Communication/Church Operation:

Allow congregation to make decisions.

Staffing:

Assist. Pastor to help with this.

What is one need you would like to see addressed as it relates to... ?

Preaching:

Communication:

Keep congregation more informed about ministry events through the better use of social media and other communication tools.

Be more informed of the day's happening and events.

Keep congregation more informed.

Social Media outreach

Music:

Provide worship music that is more familiar, uplifting and appealing to all worshippers.

Hymns more modern

More familiar hymns. X2

Faster tempo in worship Music.

We must update worship music to appeal to the younger folks of the congregation.

I want us to be uplifted by the music.

Worship songs are not always easy to follow and played too slow.

Spiritual Growth:

Provide opportunities that help the congregation grow in their spiritual faith.

Help children know that Sunday is a day to come worship and learn (Sunday School) about Jesus.

I appreciate the new opportunity for Bible Study, but it's hard to fit into busy schedule.

Weekly sharing of podcast, etc, for congregation to reflect on.

Growth for younger families.

Learn to pray with confidence and childlike faith.

Greater attendance at other opportunities for spiritual growth. (Other than Sunday Worship)

Encourage home devotions.

Encourage tithing.

Involve all members in the Discipleship ministry of the church.

Spiritual growth for families.

Worship:

1. Help members connect with their faith and God in a more meaningful manner

More teaching in sermon.

Verses read and explained. I understand there is Sunday school for that, rather,

The verses in church especially should reflect explanation as well.

I would like to see a learning perspective to take with me all week.

Teach books of the Bible.

Weekly sharing of podcast, etc. For congregation to reflect on.

Bulleted outline with scripture verses included of sermon/message – points to ponder/study during the week.

Sermon notes, food for thought throughout week. Sermon notes touch on devotions/meal time conversation

More fire and brimstone.

Shorter sermons.

More preaching on everyday life and problems.

Sermons that are more scripture based.

2. Provide alternative worship service.

Continue 8:30am alternative worship service, contemporary or not. X 9

Having multiple services but still follow tradition.

In future worship offered other times than Sunday.

Have a contemporary component or incorporate it into existing service e.

Uplifting early service year around.

More united services with something out of the ordinary on 4th or 5th Sundays.

3. Suggestions on ways we may enhance, or update worship services.

During worship, eliminate sharing of the peace.

Streamline the service so it's easier for visitors to follow.

Testimonies on how God has blessed us. Delivered us, (Others may be going through some trials, be good to hear how God is good to us.)

More accessible and "old folk friendly."

Children's worship bags to please be returned and filled back up, People are either letting kids take them home or not returning them.

Better sound system in the sanctuary so the word can be heard.

Improve worship service attendance.

One need is to worship God more.

The kids to be involved in worship more.

Communion more frequently.

Install padded cushions in pews.

More participation from youth ministry in services.

Stay the course in preaching and worship.

Staff:

Hire staff to lead contemporary service, assist with Sunday School and organize different ministry programs.

Have a person to lead a contemporary service.

I feel we should look into having an staff member/assistant preacher/Sunday School director or person who could organize and lead different programs. X3

Teaching:

Teaching/ Spiritual Growth:

1. Provide Spiritual growth opportunities that help members grow in their faith.

Study on how the Bible relates to our everyday lives.

Bible study for all groups, men, women, young adults and seniors.

Lessons on banners, flags, paraments and worship area.

Maybe the parents that are teachers ask an older member to be a helper so they can reach out and know the children of the future.

Teach the Bible in Sunday School.

AM Bible study for unable to drive at night.

Evening and morning Bible study groups. (4-6 weeks ongoing all the time through the year.

Short course type Bible study classes, 4-6 weeks, at various times, mornings, afternoon, some at night.

Continue Bible studies of God's Word.

More uplifting programs like Dawn Smith Jordon's presentation at the mother daughter banquet.

More Bible study opportunities. X3

Open studies to more contemporary type studies.

Studies during the week.

Bible study and discipleship continue to expand.

More youth programs for development

Expand preschool.

2. Improve communication about education ministry of the church.

Better communications with confirmation.

Keep people more informed on what is going on.

Involvement:

Encourage more involvement and participation within the teaching ministry of the church.

How many congregation members within the ages of 24-40 are involved in the daily aspects of Holy Trinity?

Is the children's church gaining members residing in the Little Mountain area?

Are the elder members capable and open to ideas from the up and coming generation?

Better to do a few things well than to many poorly. Great opportunities provided.

I just wish parents/families would make Sunday School and worship a priority.

During VBS I miss the homemade ice cream closing,

Weekday church school on Saturday, in depth confirmation classes were critical to my Christian development.

More involvement in the congregation.

Sunday School:

1. Improving Sunday School attendance.

Growth in Sunday School.

Increase attendance in Sunday School. X5

More participation in Sunday School.

Sunday School – Increase participation/focus/ continue to invite community and surrounding areas.

Boosting attendance, Sunday School spotlights. Family ministry ongoing.

We keep reaching to others to enlarge the attendance at Sunday School, VBS... Send post cards and emails.

More children at Sunday School. X3

We need to get more people to come to Sunday School.

More children and young people in Sunday School.
Find a way to get children, youth adults and others to participate in Sunday School and learn the Bible.
Sunday School attendance, people interested in ministries.
Parents bringing children to Sunday School. X2

2. Provide new ways to teach the Gospel.

New Sunday School curriculum for preschool, rec, area for youth.
A fun interactive young adult Sunday School class that does activities outside the church.
Sunday School class for young adults out of high school and up.
Discussion type Sunday School classes.
Promoting Sunday School
Classes to big we need teachers for each age group...
I like Sunday school because of the teachers.

Communication:

Better communications with confirmation.
Increase promotion of learning opportunities.
We need to improve our connection within the church about activities.

Serving:

Outreach:

1. We strive to serve our community in love and witness to Christ Jesus.

Already HTLC exemplifies His love and my vision is to continue this from prayers to meeting the needs of others at certain times. X2

Community projects – support elderly and needy with housing, food, clothing.

People at the door, greeters should be more warm, friendly and happy to see people as they come in.

I would like to see our church be more self-sustaining with people serving here and throughout the community.

HTLC serves our community well, let's build off of what we already do.

More get togethers, church sponsored get togethers

To see more ministries grow and the congregation grow.

Promote service to community, church by continuously sharing examples of how our programs are helping.

Offer support groups for those suffering loss of loved one, going through divorce, etc.

In addition, for children dealing with above issues.

More serving and community outreach or projects for the youth as they continue to grow - i.e. trash pick up, car washes, assist elderly in the congregation with projects.

Outreach in the elementary school here in Little Mountain.

Volunteering or partnering with Good Works in Chapin to fix homes and provide the Good News club.

Younger children serving the community.

More involvement in the Family Circle and activities.

Continue community meal, Trunk or treat, VBS, Local mission trips, community service, reach out to new families in area.

Host events for young families and millennials.

Get together at least once or twice a month to talk about changes needed to be made in the church.

Reduce total number of church committees so that the smaller number of committees can focus on the needs of the church and community.

More community meals, inviting community in to join our activities. X4

Try and increase gifts and talents of individuals instead of same people always doing everything.

Improve involvement in children's activities.

Feed the homeless.

More people involved in outreach programs and more fellowship.

Mission outreach programs to help build homes/churches in other areas.

We start a program for Alzheimer's and other at home catastrophes.

This seems to be lacking now, we reach out to nursing homes, hospitals and home bound.

Prison ministries, support foster families.

Take fellowship outside walls to park, community center etc.

Outreach to people in need within community.

To be joyful givers of our time, talent and finances to help others people.

Yearly mission trips for all members of the congregation.

Purchase a smaller bus or large van and offer pick up for Sunday school and service.

More hands on projects in the community.

Hire a cleaning team for the church.

Greater emphasis on connecting events to some sort of spiritual growth opportunity.

Continue outreach to community and new residents in community/send invitation to new comers in LM.

Volunteer for community needs, feed hungry, cloth needy. X2

Mission outings to help people needing help in community.

Have a church softball team.

Groups providing service i.e. home repair, winterization.

Stewardship:

More use of talents that people have.

Communication:

Fliers should be sent out to gather new members

New members should be introduced to congregation.

Continue what we do, but better communication of activities we do and how we touch others in the community.

Communication with all in church, not just those who attend worship.

Unsure:

We can't help others if we don't help ourselves.

Responses From OnLine Survey:

1. What are your hopes for the future of Holy Trinity?

That the over arching focus of our ministry would be making disciples for Christ. In that everything we do be evaluated under the pretense that if it does not help us do that then we would not do it. And that over the next five years the congregation would develop a process where by each member of the church would take part in learning about and growing in their ability to be a disciple of Christ.

That our congregation's ministry would make a commitment to look outside itself and it's walls to go be with the people and share Christ in the community rather than waiting for them to come to us.

Some more peppier music, hymnals could be a little faster and heart felt.

I would like for us to become more of an outreach church. We do alot of great things to serve the Lord. However, I feel we need to be out in our communities more. My main concern is finding a way to hold on to our young adults and keep them involved and attending their church. I feel we don't have to compromise teaching the Truth of God's Word. We do need to figure out and adapt it to appeal and retain and gain young adults. They are who will carry on the legacy of Holy Trinity. I am thankful that they are at least going other places, but we need them to remain involved at Holy Trinity plus we know what is being taught.

Expand community outreach to include everyone.

Thrive and grow, bring people back who have felt/feel unheard/unfulfilled from their time here.

2 - A. Preaching (worship, living, praying, devotions, spiritual growth, etc.)

That our worship leaders would strive to help our worship be more welcoming to visitors and meaningful for all generations. i.e, the hymnals are confusing to visitors, the routine of the liturgy makes worshipers subject to rote participation and the music, which is good and the choir is great, but it doesn't cover a wide range of the needs of those who worship with us on Sunday.

Discuss gospel reading in more detail. Teach gospel verse by verse. What is the meaning behind it? What do I need to learn? Is there any convictions?

I think we definitely need to bring back the early service that we had back in the summer. While I greatly appreciate all of the hard work and dedication the music team puts in, I do feel we do need to speed up and sing more uplifting music. Lots of times it is so long and drawn out i feel like when will it ever end instead of feeling like I am rejoicing and praising God through music. Also, I know it shouldn't matter how long we sit on the pew because Jesus died on the Cross. He gladly sacrificed His Life for us. However, i feel we do need to make the service not so long. It is hard to sit still and pay attention for much longer than an hour. I think if we just went back to the early service, it would take care of alot of the issues without having to change the 10:30am service.

Service needs to be more Moving/spiritual, do not need to feel like a robot. Do not feel as if my "cup is full", Also Early service offering, for people who like to get going early.

2 - B. Teaching (learning, growing in God's Word, Bible study, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, etc.)

Expand Sunday school. Reach out to kids and promote Sunday school. STOP expanding preschool, it is taking over everything. Already taken over several locations that were used by the church for church activities!

One of our biggest concern is Sunday school and the spiritual faith and teaching of our children and families. As we have done with our visioning process I would hope that over the next year we would commit ourselves to evaluating what we are doing and what we can do to meet the needs of this growing population. i.e. forming a committee to evaluate alternative ways, to do and times for Sunday School. Involving the parents and family in helping figure out what they want, will support and be a part of, and that by 2024 we have paid staff that can completely focus on building our children and family ministry.

I would like to find out what makes Sunday School something the young adults and families want to come. I would like Bible Studies that tie into issues that we face today. I also would like to see us do some kind of program for the k-5 group.

2 - C. Serving (outreach, stewardship, fellowship, community meal, using our gifts and talents, etc.)

A community outreach focus - that we as a congregation work to provide regular outreach ministries in which the congregation can use their gifts and talent for the betterment of God's Kingdom outside the ministry of the church.

i.e. regular mission trips, continuing activities that raise money/food/needed goods for others in our community, and we support not just with our money but our time and talent as well. Activities aimed at going and helping(spending time with) such organizations as the Boy's Farm, women's shelters, Oliver Gospel Mission...

I think we do excellent job within the church with activities. I would like to see us do outreach ministries and projects.

Expand community meal. Reach out more to the rest of the community. Go to other churches and invite them, post meal in public places. Help community understand it is for EVERYBODY not just the church. Don't think we have done a good job with that.

Really like the serving in the church, believe the most involvement and service we can provide for locally.