

Year of Renewal Team Report

You became weary on your many journeys, [but] you did not say, "I give up!" You found a renewal of your strength; therefore you did not grow weak. Is 57:10

Our Journey – Transition Team



- Read articles
- Visited other congregations
- Studied church organizations
- Listened to the people of Trinity
- Asked people to prioritize our ministry themes
- Utilized a congregational survey
- Recommended a strategic planning team



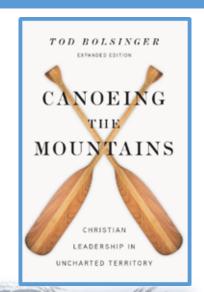


Our Journey – Resource Tables

 The Gifts Resource Management Table selected create a compelling future vision as top priority.

 A scouting team explored what makes a compelling vision.

 Adopted St Paul Synods Year of Renewal program



Our Journey — The Year of Renewal

The Year of Renewal is an intentional vitality and renewal process for congregations seeking to discern where is God calling us to go next.

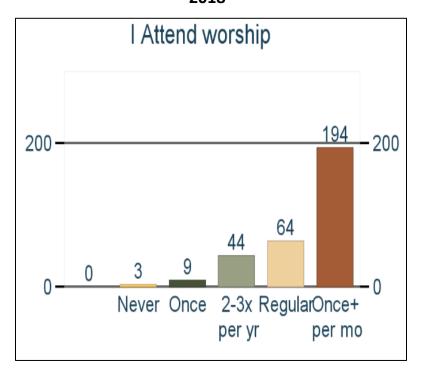
More than anything else, Year of Renewal is about listening.

Our Journey – The Year of Renewal

The team listened in the following ways:

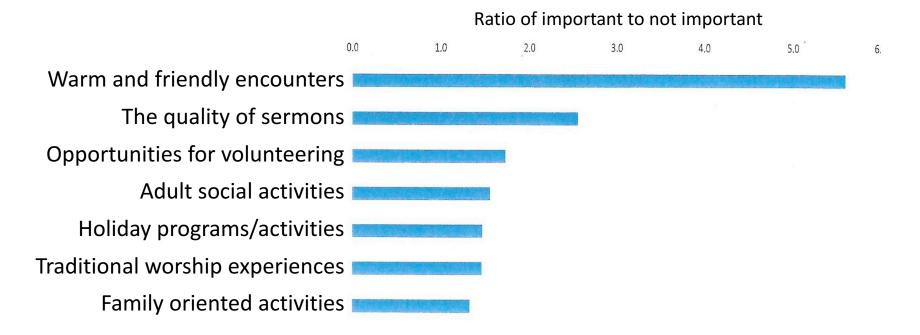
- Read
- Attended training
- Used a congregational survey (yes another one).
- Studied demographic information about our surrounding community
- Held one-on-one listening sessions
- Held external interviews
- Drew Trinity's asset map

Trinity's Culture Has Changed



27. How often do you attend church	.?
Monthly	Percent
1. Seldom	7
2. Once	3
3. Once or twice	2
4. Twice	6
5. Two or three times	4
6. Three times	10
7. Three or four times	10
8. Four times	45
9. More than four times	6
No response	7
	100

Top Program or Ministry Recommendations by People in our Community



Putting It All Together

 From all the pieces, the Renewal Team built a statement of our mission, beliefs, core values, and core activities.

Maintains our most treasured core values and

traditions

Some new directions

This is Trinity's vision



Why Does Trinity Exist?

Because God first loved us, we live as Jesus in the world, loving God and loving neighbor.

What Do We Believe?

We are a congregation (Body of Christ) of the ELCA. We believe in the Triune God, Creator, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that Jesus is God's saving word for all people and that the gospel is the good news of God's unmerited love for all people. (see our constitution)

How do we live out our beliefs?

Trinity holds these enduring values as how we live out our beliefs:

Exceptional Worship
Radical Hospitality
Authentic Community
Lifelong Learning
Compassionate Action

Because God first loved us, we practice

Exceptional Worship

- Relevant Preaching
- High quality music
- Family-friendly atmosphere
- Sacraments

Because God first loved us, we practice

Radical Hospitality

- Reconciling in Christ
- Ushers, greeters, etc.
- EVERYONE is welcome!

For everyone born, a place at the

table.

Radical Hospitality

Everyone is a searcher and welcomer.

Love people as they are, not as I would expect them to he

Come open the gates of your city so we may enter in.

Because God first loved us, we practice

Authentic Community

- Sharing stories of God's faithfulness in our lives
- Culture of gratitude
- Mutual care
- Commit to live together as one Body of Christ
- Relationships
- Small groups of people who care about one another.

Because God first loved us, we practice Lifelong Faith Formation

- Live out our baptismal promises
- Intergenerational & similar life state opportunities
- Seek to know God and ourselves better through study, prayer, role models, and experience
- Challenge, equip, and support all members in carrying out their calling.

Because God first loved us, we practice

Compassionate Action

- Accompaniment model
- Fulfillment of God's vision for the world (kingdom come on earth)
- Mission work
- Service projects
- Generous giving

The Road Ahead – Setting Goals

Ultimately, goals and action plans will be created for each core value. We will take these actions to get there by March 1st:

- 1. Hold a Council/Staff/Ministry Teams retreat
- Ministry teams will integrate the core values and core activities in their ministry planning
- 3. Sunday Sermon series on the core values before Ash Wednesday
- 4. Communicate our mission and core values

The Road Ahead – Setting Goals

- 5. Do a congregational book study on radical hospitality by reading Love Without Limits.
- 6. Host training in civility skill building as part of being Authentic Community
- 7. Council & Staff will include reflection on how the core values are being lived out at their meetings.
- 8. Measure our progress with self-evaluations and surveys of the congregation.
- 9. The Council retreat will consider further plans

Just the Beginning...



Next Steps

- 1. Discussion of the core values and actions.
- 2. Develop action plans for each ministry team
- 3. Council
 - a) Develop a Council/Trinity action plan
 - b) Create an accountability structure
 - c) Implement continuous renewal

The church of Christ, in every age, beset by change but Spirit led, must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead. Hymn #729

Tell the people... to go forward!