

Members of all ages are assisted in discovering and developing their gifts, and that every member finds their niche for service and ministry. We regularly send out trained outreach and mission teams.

Newcomers making first contact with Trinity (via phone, visit, personal invitation, worship, web site, etc) will be welcomed and cared for as if they were Jesus himself. We will be intentional in assisting newcomers to enter into full participation in our fellowship and teaching.

All members of Trinity are equipped, capable and comfortable in sharing their faith in word & action in their daily lives.

Trinity has the buildings and resources to enable all of the aforementioned dreams, and that our buildings are fully accessible.

A Vision for Trinity Church Barrie



Heartfelt worship at Trinity leads people to a transformational encounter with God.

Children and youth are eager to come to Trinity; that they come to faith in Jesus, grow in faith through the years, and that the church works in close partnership with parents to accomplish these objectives.

Trinity is known as a centre for spiritual growth, built on ALPHA and discipleship training, and that every member is in a Home Group where they are engaged in prayer and Bible study.

BACKGROUND

Introduction

The Vision Committee, formed in November 2006, has been asked by the Management Board to develop a 10-year plan for Trinity. The committee has taken as its framework, *The Kingdom-Focused Church* by Gene Mims. We have fielded an extensive survey among 130+ members, presented a 'working draft' of preliminary ideas in April to the congregation, and talked to numerous small groups within Trinity in order to collect input.

The Vision Committee membership is as follows: Chair – Earl Paquette; Clergy – Canon Brian McVitty; Ian Counce; Guy Gagnon; Joan Hill; Carrie James -Svensson; Grace Jones; Gary Lyon; Alan Pett; Consultant – Rev David Collins

Scope & Focus

The 10-year planning window has encouraged the committee to identify 'big' (transforming) dreams to underpin the vision. However, we have then been guided by our external consultant, David Collins, to mostly focus on identifying opportunities and action plans that could be implemented over the next 3-5 years that contribute to achieving the 'big dreams'. While a complete investigation of our options regarding the location of our ministry has not been undertaken, there is a growing sense that we have been placed in the downtown core of the city for a purpose. With the redevelopment of Collier Street into the financial district of the region we will have a unique opportunity to minister to the business and political leaders of the city. The beautification of Collier Street and the construction of the new parking garage provide us with an enhanced location. While our buildings will likely require modification to fulfill our vision (perhaps major modification), our location is well suited to our mission. Therefore, the committee has made the assumption that we are committed to the current downtown site and working within its main physical structures such as the sanctuary and Collier Street extension.

The Great Commission: Our Core Congregational Goals

"Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.'" (Matthew 28:19)

As a parish we take our mandate from Jesus in these words at the end of Matthew's Gospel. From this great commission we have three core congregational goals:

1. To make disciples (Matthew 28:19)
2. To mature believers (1 Peter 1:13-16)
3. To deploy ministry teams (Luke 10:1-9)

Our credo & logo

We believe that our visioning theme of "TGIF: Trinity Growing in Faith" and the TGIF logo are a helpful way of presenting Trinity to the community. The cross at the centre of the design places Jesus Christ at the centre of what we strive to be and do, in His strength. The four windows around the cross suggests that living and sharing the authentic good news of the Gospel is the best way of letting Jesus' light shine through our lives. The overall shape of the design suggests that as a faith community, we aim to be a beacon of hope and a spiritual anchorage in a post-Christian world.



BACKGROUND

Our call to action is:

- Teaching:** biblically-sound, via small groups, house groups & equipped leadership
- Gifting:** discerning and building upon spiritual gifts to serve others
- Investing:** in our children, our youth, our community and the wider world
- Faith-building:** through evangelism, worship, spiritual growth

How do we achieve our core goals?

Gene Mims has identified five key congregational activities of a successful, kingdom-focused church. They are:

Evangelism - Evangelism is the good news of Jesus, spoken by believers and lived out in their lives, whereby those that are far from God come to know him and become part of the fellowship of believers.

Discipleship - Discipleship is teaching believers what it means to be a follower of Jesus; thereby assisting them in applying the Bible to their lives, growing in prayer and allowing themselves to be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Fellowship - Fellowship is an essential function following evangelism and discipleship, where the church must create an atmosphere and environment where new and old Christians feel at home and are bound together by love and caring.

Worship - Worship is the heart felt expression of our love of God through prayer, music, Bible reading & proclamation, dance & drama, and the celebration of the sacraments. Worship is any activity in which people experience God in a meaningful, spiritually transforming way

Ministry - Meeting another person's need in the name of Jesus, expressed as service to people inside the church family and expressed as mission to those outside the church.

Our plan is comprised of six 'dreams' and a seventh statement to find the resources to accomplish these aspirations. Under each dream, the visioning process produced a number of general opportunities, which were then used to define specific goals that focus on the period 2008-2010. These goals were defined using 'SMART' criteria, namely being specific, measurable, action-oriented, realistic and time-bound.



The VISION - **What God is calling us to be and do**

1. Our dream is that all members of Trinity are equipped, capable and comfortable in sharing their faith in word & action in their daily lives.

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
1	Conduct research on most effective ways to evangelize	<input type="checkbox"/> Judy Thompson & Sue Lyon <input type="checkbox"/> Committee to be formed	Feb 2008
2	Develop parish-wide training strategy and acquire training resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Judy Thompson & Sue Lyon and committee with clergy contact <input type="checkbox"/> Resources (curricula, a/v materials, etc.)	Apr 2008
3	Teach from the pulpit	<input type="checkbox"/> Canon Brian & Father Andrew	Winter 2008
4	Recruit 8 people to witness to their faith story (written or verbal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Judy Thompson, Sue Lyon and committee	Nov 2007 – Mar 2008
5	Train and equip Management Board and other identified leaders	<input type="checkbox"/> Judy Thompson, Sue Lyon and committee	June 2008

2. Our dream is that Heartfelt worship at Trinity leads people to a transformational encounter with God.

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
1	Move ahead on sanctuary redesign; plan to be presented at annual Vestry for approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Garrett & Worship Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Model of redesigned sanctuary	Approval by Jan 2008
2	Develop an action plan to address anticipated space constraints at the 10 o'clock service	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship Committee	Plan – May 2008
3	Improve multimedia presentations via a built-in projection system in church, ideally as part of the sanctuary redesign	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship Committee & Canon Brian <input type="checkbox"/> Requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Cost estimate	Plan – Summer 2008
4	Develop a co-ordinated music plan with appropriate leadership, including upcoming Family & Christmas Eve services in 2007 and a 2008 plan/calendar	<input type="checkbox"/> Mary Lem-Storey & Music leaders	Christmas services – Dec 2007, 2008 plan - Jan 2008
5	Hold two youth-led 10 o'clock services per year	<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult group, in consultation with Worship Committee	1 st service by June 2008



The VISION - What God is calling us to be and do

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
6	Form an ongoing drama team	tbd	Jan 2008

3. Our dream is that newcomers making first contact with Trinity (via phone, visit, personal invitation, worship, web site, etc) will be welcomed and cared for as if they were Jesus himself. We will be intentional in assisting newcomers to enter into full participation in our fellowship and teaching.

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
1	Develop a specific welcoming / hospitality strategy and an orientation program for all involved in this Ministry (all ages)	<input type="checkbox"/> Gay Welsman, Joan Minhinnick, David Miller <input type="checkbox"/> Committee to be established	Strategy by April 2008, Implementation by June 2008
2	Develop an informative Welcome Package to be given to all newcomers / visitors at all services.	<input type="checkbox"/> Gay Welsman & committee	April 2008
3	Recognize newcomers at a Sunday brunch potluck e.g. 5 th Sunday brunch Mar-June-Aug-Nov	<input type="checkbox"/> Gay Weslman & committee	1 st event by March 2008
4	Increase retention rate of baptismal families and marriage preparation couples to 75%	tbd	50% by Dec 2009, 75% by Dec 2010

4. Our dream is that children and youth are eager to come to Trinity; that they come to faith in Jesus, grow in faith through the years, and that the church works in close partnership with parents to accomplish these objectives.

A. Children aged 3 to 12

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
1	Provide at least three intergenerational events, to be led by Sunday School teachers	<input type="checkbox"/> Ashley Arnold and Sunday School team	Dec 2008



The VISION - What God is calling us to be and do

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
2	Evaluate and order teaching resources. Committee to comprise 1 clergy, 2 teachers and 1 parent.	<input type="checkbox"/> Ashley Arnold <input type="checkbox"/> Resources	June 2008
3	Increase Vacation Bible Camp participation to 100	<input type="checkbox"/> VBC Team	80 children for Summer 2008, 100 for 2009
4	Increase average Sunday School attendance for ages 3 to 12 to 35/week	<input type="checkbox"/> Committee to be established <input type="checkbox"/> Action plan required	June 2009

B. Youth aged 13 and up

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
1	Develop leadership resources to support expected youth group expansion.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Tweedle, Andrea Brandt and committee (including 1 clergy and 1 youth)	June 2008
2	Provide discipleship training. Youth group leaders to be trainers (5-6 involved)	<input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Brandt and all youth leadership resources	Training – June 2008, Youth program - Sept 2008
3	Expand youth groups to more age-appropriate groups: 12 – 15 yr olds, 16+, 15 youth in each age bracket	<input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Brandt and committee	Jan 2010

5. Our dream is that Trinity is known as a centre for spiritual growth, built on ALPHA and discipleship training, and that every member is in a Home Group where they are engaged in prayer and Bible study.

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
1	Create ongoing Home Groups, based on geographic areas, in addition to existing study groups	<input type="checkbox"/> Nicole Fraser <input type="checkbox"/> Committee to be established	Pilot 2 groups by June 2008
2	At least 150 participants across all home groups and study groups in the fall semester	<input type="checkbox"/> Study/Home Group Leadership	Fall 2008



The VISION - What God is calling us to be and do

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
3	Plan and offer conferences (Fri/Sat)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grace Jones <input type="checkbox"/> Committee to be formed with 1 clergy	1 in 2008, 2 in 2009 3 in 2010
4	Hold a parish-wide weekend retreat	<input type="checkbox"/> Grace Jones and retreat committee	2011
5	Partner with other churches on special events	<input type="checkbox"/> To be considered for all educational / spiritual growth events	ongoing

6. Our dream is that members of all ages are assisted in discovering and developing their gifts, and that every member finds their niche for service and ministry. We regularly send out trained outreach and mission teams.

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
1	Administer and evaluate "Network" as a spiritual gifting assessment tool	<input type="checkbox"/> Current Network facilitators	Dec 2007
2	Deploy individuals in service and ministry according to their identified gifts / passion / calling	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Resources Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Action plan	Mar 2008 for fall 2007 Network participants
3	Plan and initiate outreach (local) and mission (outside of Barrie) projects	<input type="checkbox"/> Outreach Committee	3 in 2008, 5 in 2009

7. Our dream is that Trinity has the buildings and resources to enable all of the aforementioned dreams, and that our buildings are fully accessible.

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
1	Following Nov 4 Vestry, consolidate the resource needs as identified by the committees implementing the above dreams. Form a Resource Committee, reporting to Mgt Bd. to accomplish agreed goals	<input type="checkbox"/> Property Committee for facility needs, Finance Committee for immediate budget needs, Membership Resources Committee for volunteer / staffing needs	Apr 2008



The VISION - What God is calling us to be and do

Priority	Goal	Who's initiating? What else is needed?	When to be completed?
2	Identify a facility plan for the short term (the next 2 to 3 years).	<input type="checkbox"/> Wardens & Property Committee	June 2008
3	Identify a longer term facility plan, including how accessibility and the full resource needs related to the above dreams will be met.	<input type="checkbox"/> Wardens & Property Committee & others	June 2009
4	Identify a stewardship plan to meet the short term funding needs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Allan Pett and Stewardship Committee	Nov 4 2007
5	Establish 'Proportional Giving' (PG) as the model for all giving to the church	<input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship Committee	50 Families committed to PG in 2008, rising to 100 by 2010
6	Confirm a means of co-ordinating/facilitating the monitoring and achievement of all key goals	<input type="checkbox"/> Wardens and Clergy	Jan. 2008
7	Increase income allocation to outreach from 3% to 5% to 10%	tbd	5% beginning 2009, 10% beginning 2010

Next Steps

This report and the goals described herein were approved by the Management Board at a special meeting held October 23, 2007. The motion that will be presented to a special Vestry on Nov. 4, 2007 for approval is:

Be it moved that this Vision Report be accepted and that it provide the blueprint for our life and ministry at Trinity.

