

Trinity
Ministry Plan
2017 – 2018

“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever!” 1 Chronicles 16:34

Throughout the Biblical narrative the people of God are reminded to stop, and with grateful hearts, give thanks for what God has done. They are also called to reflect upon where they may have wandered away from God’s best so that they may adjust and follow Him more fully. Let’s take a moment to do that before we plunge into next year.

Looking Back at 2016/2017

Highlights

Truly we sensed God at work in a number of powerful ways this past year. Here are a few examples:

- Adventureland Summer Camps: 470 campers, 150 volunteers, 45% unchurched families, food value of \$6,213 raised for the Kelowna Food Bank, 26 kids came to faith in Christ!
- Alpha: We joined 16 other churches in the Okanagan Valley. We offered 3 adult sessions; 350 participants, 85 volunteers, plus a youth edition with 170 participants and 30 volunteers!
- Never Stop Praying: Introduced the first weekend of July 2016, has continued to gain traction across our church and all ministry areas.
- James and John: Conducted two in-depth studies during our weekend services with ‘going deeper’ questions for small groups; 8 weeks in James, 11 weeks in John.
- Bibles: Emphasized the need to bring, open and read your own Bible! No side screens.
- Grant Yer Wish Christmas: 11,800 attended our Christmas Eve services and \$72,000 was collected and distributed to people in need in our city and beyond!
- Next Gen Space: Up and pledged to be fully paid for. Only God!

Challenges

There were also a number of challenges and disappointments this past year. For example:

- Baptisms: The process, coupled with a lack of teaching, resulted in fewer baptisms.
- Operating Budget: While giving was north of last year we were well off plan.
- Weekend Attendance: After six years of incremental growth we slid back this year.
- Next Gen Ministries: We had too much change and not enough vision/structure resulting in a slide across all areas.
- Connection/Engagement: People seem to be testing us out but are not ‘sticking’. We have huge serving needs across most ministries.
- Busyness/Activity: We seem to be busier than ever as a church but are we really moving forward on what matters most?

So, quite candidly, we look back at this past year with a mixed report:

- Yea God for all that He accomplished!
- A stirring Holy Discontent for all that we missed!

Looking Ahead at 2017/2018

So, where do we go from here? During the past few months both the Elder Board and Lead Team held strategic off-sites to do a thorough evaluation of where we are right now. We asked ourselves hard questions such as:

- What is going really well? Where do we see God at work? What is God saying to us?
- What is not working? Where do we sense a dead end or a change required?
- We also began to dream and imagine the future. While there is still much more work to be done several things became very clear to all. Following is our posture and approach for 2017/2018.

First, these things will remain true of us:

- Our Vision
- Our Core Values
- Our Statement of Faith

Second, our particular strategic focus for this coming year will be more 'foundational' in nature; like a call back to the basics. We will concentrate on three critical priorities:

- **Discipleship:** Helping Christ followers grow into full maturity in Christ.
 - Prayer, The Word, Baptism, Next Steps
- **Evangelism:** Doing all we can to reach people far from God with the Gospel.
 - Alpha, Mission, Weekends, Big Events
- **Community:** Building a 'new community' where people belong, believe, and flourish.
 - Sections, Groups, Membership

What about our 4 Strategic Focus Areas?

They have been our focus for five years and have been rolled into the above three.

Summary

May there be no misunderstanding with this plan. It is not an inward, 'circle the wagons', conservative plan. Rather it is a strengthening of the foundation of our church so that:

- We might each take responsibility and grow.
- We might reach others with the message of Christ.
- We might realize greater Kingdom impact in our city and beyond.

We are attempting to bring a sharpened focus to help us advance against several most important hills: Discipleship, Evangelism, and Community.

All Hands On Deck

A united 'Leadership Core':

- We are planning to gather all leaders across the church together as 'one' several times per year to cast vision, worship, pray, build community, unite, and break into ministry-specific training to ensure that we are all on the same page.

Calling all Members:

- We will be asking all members to revisit their covenant and keep their pledge.
 - Unity: Prayer and support of leadership.
 - Responsibility: For their own spiritual growth.
 - Serve: Understand that 'everyone is a minister' and engage.
 - Core Values: Regular participation in attending, giving, and reaching.

Teaching Stream – Tim Schroeder

Perhaps the highest value in any ministry plan is intentionality and clarity on what is being taught to the entire church family. It provides the foundation, motivation and often direction for all other endeavors.

We attempt to express three values through our teaching ministry:

First, our teaching stream increasingly endeavors to help every participant in our ministry establish a solid Biblical foundation for their lives. We teach Bible – period. We attempt to teach it in a way that helps individuals become self-feeders rather than depending on our teachers as their sole influence. Several "Book of the Bible" series will be incorporated into our teaching stream this year, beginning with an extended series based on Ephesians.

Second, our teaching stream attempts to address issues relevant to everyone in our society. We want any member of Trinity to be fully comfortable inviting their neighbor or colleague to attend a weekend service with them at any time. We especially attempt to design series "ripe for inviting" at key on-ramp times of the year such as September, January and post-Easter. These series may be topical in nature but will, in every case, be Biblically based.

Third, our teaching stream is always application oriented. The goal is not to increase Biblical knowledge only but to close the gap between knowing and doing. A common formula used by our teachers is, "What do I want them to know? What do I want them to feel? What do I want them to do?" Keeping these three questions in balance assists in preparation.

Life Change: We strive to become like Christ in every way until our last breath. We give ourselves fully to the joy of introducing others to Jesus.

Discipleship: Choosing your next step

We understand that God has designed us for relationship with Him. As we long to know God more we better understand his plan for us and we can seek to be more like Jesus. Choose to grow!

Matthew 28:19-20 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Romans 12:1-2 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Ephesians 4:14-16. Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. ¹⁵ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. ¹⁶ He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Goals

Executive Pastor

1. All staff and volunteer meetings conducted in an environment of prayer
2. Mentor new controller position into a blend of business and church operations
3. All staff and key volunteers have a personal Discipleship plan focused on next steps

AdventureLand

1. AdventureLand will take their lead from the church as a whole to continue to incorporate prayer practices into our programming
2. Teach older elementary students about the step of baptism and its relevance in their spiritual journey
3. Explore with other departments, the possibility of creating a Family Alpha

Next Gen

1. Plan and develop a multi-year Creative Biblical Teaching Plan for each age group (Fall 2017)
2. Execute weekly age-appropriate student environments to effectively inspire and equip students to develop a faith of their own (Weekly 2017/2018)
3. Create avenues for parents to utilize the resources of Next Gen staff & volunteer leaders (2017/2018)

Discipleship Development

1. Continue to develop intentional Prayer Ministry moving us towards becoming a Praying Church
2. Implement Next Steps Action Plan – moving our faith community towards being ‘fully devoted followers’

Arts

1. Increase a culture of prayer
2. Create a learning environment focused on Increasing Biblical literacy
3. Increase the frequency of Baptisms

Mobilization

1. Add a cross-cultural partner church within the borders of Canada (Spring 2018)
2. Offer multi-faceted Encounters focused on understanding personal mission (2017/18)
3. Launch Digital Missions Initiative, equipping all generations (2017/2018)

Operations/Communications/Events

1. Increase profile of prayer at every opportunity
2. Create environments conducive, supportive and encouraging for prayer/next steps
3. Support importance of prayer/next steps in Communication plans

Life Mission: We are sent out by Jesus to make a difference in this world. We are called to represent Jesus in every culture so that we might reach all humanity for Him.

Evangelism: Choosing to reach others

We will intentionally learn, love and lead in our neighbourhoods, deepen our commitment to community partners locally & globally and express the truth that every person matters to God. Choose to risk and reach out!

Matthew 5:16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Matthew 6:10 May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

James 2:14-17 What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? ¹⁵ Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, ¹⁶ and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?

¹⁷ So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

Matthew 25:35-36 For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. ³⁶ I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

Goals

Executive Pastor

1. Continue to grow Helen's Acres project to further the teachings of Jesus Christ and provide food security to those in need.

AdventureLand

1. Operate Adventure Zone Day Camps for 3 weeks (6 camps) to reach out to 450 campers in our community
2. Strategically plan to expand Adventure Zone Day Camps to 4 weeks (8 camps) to reach out to 600 campers for 2018
3. Raise funds and complete 80 boxes for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox project ways

Next Gen

1. Discover and develop local missional opportunities for students collaborating with Helens Acres (Spring 2018)
2. Plan bi-annual age-appropriate large events designed for students to discover Jesus (Winter 2017/Spring 2018)
3. Develop a simplified strategic plan outlining next steps for students (Fall 2017)

Discipleship Development

1. Host 3 Alpha sessions per year
2. Support Director of Mobilization by encouraging all Community Groups to engage and participate in church Mobilization initiatives

Arts

1. Maximize the Christmas experience to reach those far from Jesus Christ
2. Easter - Bigger, Bolder, Brighter to celebrate and tell more people "He is Risen"
3. "1st weekends" - Starting January and running through to June

Mobilization

1. Plan and implement 2 short term mission trips (Spring 2018)
2. Collaborate with IJM Bolivia & the WCA to establish a GLS in La Paz, Bolivia (Fall 2017)
3. Collaborate with Worship Arts & Teaching Stream to execute Mobilization Weekends (2017/2018)

Operations/Communications/Events

1. Increase volunteer activity
2. Increase profile of Helen's Acres

Life Together: We journey as one family of God who celebrate our unity in Christ and respect our rich diversity as individuals. We live in ever deepening relationship always creating space for others to come along and find Jesus.

Community: Choosing to do life together

We believe God designed us for community. We will welcome a diverse company of people into our lives in pursuing a deeper faith and healthier relationships. We know that life and following Jesus is better together. Choose community!

Colossians 3:12-16 Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tender-hearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

¹⁶ Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.

Ephesians 4:1-6 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. ² Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. ³ Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

Ephesians 4:11-13. Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. ¹³ This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

Goals

Executive Pastor

1. Mobilize both Trinity groups and external community groups to serve side by side at Helen's Acres
2. Relaunch Membership to Ownership

AdventureLand

1. Plan and execute Family Events for the purpose of connecting kids and families together
2. Plan and execute monthly Charged Up! Events for Grades 4 – 5 students
3. Engage and empower 75 – 80 adult and student leaders to take our 300 AdventureLand students on "An Adventure with God"

Next Gen

1. Collaborate with Mobilization to plan and implement a short term family-based mission experience (Spring 2018)
2. Develop a Student Leadership Model focused on a healthy culture of growth (2017/2018)
3. Develop and retain an excellent team of adult leaders and connect them to students (Fall 2017)

Discipleship Development

1. Work alongside Sections Coordinator to continue implementing Sections strategy, focusing on building community and a place to belong
2. Work alongside Community Life Pastor to build strategic community/relationships within the 45-60 age group
3. Continue to grow and implement initiatives to integrate all attendees to be actively involved within a Community Group

Arts

1. Holistic vision/training
2. Build a greater understanding/felt need for sections through weekend service creative elements
3. Create more community time for Arts, Worship and Tech teams

Mobilization

1. Plan and implement a short term family-based mission experience (Spring 2018)
2. Plan and implement a “City Light” experience across the church family (Winter 2017)
3. Evaluate and establish new mission partnerships associated to Helens Acres (2017/2018)

Operations/Communications/Events

1. Create supportive environments that encourage Community
2. Create supportive communication strategies for Community
3. Increase value of being a member – ownership in direction and execution