

# OUR VALUES

## 1.0 THE BIBLE

- 1.1 We believe that the Bible is God's Word, is without error in the original writings, and is the ultimate authority for all matters of life and faith.

## 2.0 CHURCH FAMILY

- 2.1 Fellowship and community ranked as the most important reason why people keep coming back to Trinity and why they thought others came back as well.
- 2.2 The major focus of Trinity's adult ministries is getting people involved in the lives of other believers. Several years ago, we changed from a straight Sunday School format to Adult Bible Fellowship which seeks to keep people together in larger study/fellowship groups that "do life" together. We recently added an emphasis on Life Groups, which are home Bible study groups that emphasize connection, support, and accountability.
- 2.3 The major focus of Trinity's adult ministries has been on married couples and families.
- 2.4 The number one felt need expressed by Trinity people, nearly twice as important as the next, is to offer more for younger people and singles.

## 3.0 FAMILIES AND YOUTH

- 3.1 Trinity has had a paid full-time youth pastor for much of its existence. This reflects the high priority that Trinity people have placed on reaching their own young people with the gospel.
- 3.2 As Trinity has aged as a church, many people are not personally involved in the youth program but still believe that it should be a major emphasis of the church.
- 3.3 Because we are concerned for providing quality programs for our children, we have a paid Children's Ministry Director.
- 3.4 Better connection to younger people is the number one felt need.
- 3.5 In order to communicate the importance of missions to our teens, the Trinity Youth Group has been going on a missions trip every year for the past 34 years.
- 3.6 We also see our children's programs and youth group as outreach opportunities. We encourage children and teens to bring their non-Christian friends to Kids' Club and Youth Group.

## 4.0 COMMUNITY

- 4.1 Trinity people are also involved in demonstrating Christ's love to the local community. We do this through: Food pantry, Rescue Mission, English classes, Thanksgiving turkey donations to surrounding neighborhoods, Night in Bethlehem, and special summer events.

## 5.0 MISSIONS

- 5.1 When Trinity was founded the key emphasis was on Christian outreach around the world. (CBFMS&CBHMS)
  - 5.1.1 During Trinity's early years they had strong relationships with the missionaries that they were sending overseas. The annual missions conference usually included 2 or 3 of these foreign missionaries as well as some home missionaries.
- 5.2 With the retirement of the original core of missionaries, Trinity has found it difficult to maintain the same level of connection with its missionaries. In addition, Trinity has taken on the support of several national missionaries who are not able to travel to the US. The net result is that the average Trinity attendee is not aware of the missionaries that Trinity supports as they once were.
- 5.3 In addition, at the foundation of Trinity, and for many years afterward, the missions budget was 1/4<sup>th</sup> of the total church budget. Recently missions has dropped to 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the total church budget.
- 5.4 Another way that Trinity people become involved in foreign outreach, not reflected in the budget, is Operation Christmas Child, which we have done for many years.
- 5.5 We occasionally express the importance of personal evangelism from the pulpit but it is not one of Trinity's strong points.