



Children, Youth & Family Ministry Transition Updates

Congregational Involvement **NEEDED**

In last year's Listening Links results, it states Trinitatians value community, worship and learning.

- We value being in relationship with each other across the generations, and the nurturing and support of children and youth in their faith.
- We value the kind of faith formation that is both specific to stages of life (childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, middle age, and elders) and also bridges the generations in building relationships and growing in faith.
- We will cultivate as sacred work and ministry the raising of children to be thoughtful, ethical, spiritually grounded adults.
- **We will invest in state-of-the-art, dynamic, growing youth ministry and children's programs.**

There are several opportunities coming up to continue showing if and how Trinity values children and youth.

1 **First**, the Transition Task Force **NEEDS** everyone ages 18-99 to take the Congregational Survey. **YOUR feedback is essential regardless of if you have children or any involvement in the program right now.** We need to hear from the **WHOLE** congregation. The focus of this survey is your perceptions of Children, Youth and Family Ministry at Trinity to help the Transition Task Force in the interim process.

1. Your involvement helps us assess current Children, Youth and Family Ministry's success in aligning with Trinity's mission and values.
2. Your feedback assists us in dreaming and strategizing for the future.
3. Your responses shape and determine staffing and job description decisions being made this spring.

Survey runs January 14 to February 7. Access the surveys via the church website, e-news, or Facebook page. To take the surveys, click the links below:

- **Congregation Survey:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TrinityEC>.
- **For students (grades 5-12), Youth Survey:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TrinityEC-Youth>

2 **Second**, we have **two Listening and Learning Events** the Transition Task Force is hosting. The Transition Task Force's end goal includes congregational ownership. Along with the survey, the TTF invites the **WHOLE** congregation, including teens, to join us for on Zoom for breakout discussions about:

- The value of and investment in Children, Youth & Family Ministry
- The church's role in children's and youth ministry
- Competencies / skills new staff person needs
- Survey results and implications

Dates are January 31 and February 14 at 11:15 a.m. following church service. Watch e-News for Zoom link.

Process & Timeline

Part-time Interim Minister of Children, Youth and Families started in September 2020. Working for InterServe Ministries, Amy's role is to serve alongside congregations as they experience times of transition and change in their children's and youth ministry leadership staff. We help congregations work through current needs and changes, discover possibilities and goals for their children's and youth ministry, and come alongside students, parents and volunteers to dream, create and implement a viable, Christ-centered children's and youth ministry built from the congregation up. Therefore, as an InterServe Ministry Associate, Amy's role here is two-fold. First, she is coming alongside volunteers to support, resource and maintain children's, youth and family programming during this time. Second, she is here to help the church discern, evaluate, and strategize for the future of the children's and youth ministry program.

As part of the InterServe process Amy facilitates a short-term team known as the **Transition Task Force (TTF) who is responsible for handling transitional issues which celebrating history, evaluating and discerning current programming strengths and weaknesses, and dreaming and visioning for the future.** From October through February, this group meets to:

- address mission, vision, values and goals for the children's and youth ministry
- create a timeline of the history of this ministry and its context in the larger history of the church
- assess and evaluate using a congregational survey and youth survey
- host congregational learning and listening event(s)
- present survey results to the congregation and facilitate discussions
- conclude their work by proposing a staffing strategy and job description draft for a Search Team

The Transition Task Force (TTF) meets monthly with Amy McGrew and Cory Jones from InterServe. **The TTF is Wilson Acevedo, Charlotte Frerichs, Heidi Groven, Sally Hockinson, Steve Roman, Laura Williams.**