



YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide leadership and oversight to youth and family ministry at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

CHAIRPERSON: Sonya Nielson

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

Youth and Family Ministry's goals are to provide a constant source of Christian youth and family programming for all ages of youth and families. This programming will endeavor to involve the entire family whenever possible. A key focus of the programming will be the training of youth and their families in the vernacular of the Lutheran faith. Youth ministry at HTLC should be done with the guiding principle that Christ must be present at some point in time during the activity.

The committee itself will lay out a framework for doing ministry, and will provide the leadership needed to get the ministry started. It will ensure that the ministry is in line with HTLC's missional understanding of Invite, Equip, and Send. The committee will work with paid and volunteer staff as a liaison with the congregation, providing feedback and support.

The committee's budgeting will focus on a shared ministry format. For elective ministry, they will strive to maintain a 1/3 share of ownership between youth, parents, and the congregation (represented by the church council). For educational ministry, the financial responsibility will be carried by the congregation while participation will be seen as the ownership of the members attending.

The committee will begin with three concentrations: Christian education (Sunday School, confirmation, and adult ed.), children's ministry programming (birth – 4th grade), and youth ministry programming (5th – 12th grade). The three groups may be further divided as needs warrant. The overarching goal of programming for all youth and their families recognizes that youth ministry begins with baptismal instruction and carries through to seniors in high school. Initially, the focus will be on the first two concentrations, and later upon the upper level youth.

The committee will function by meeting monthly, setting a program year calendar as early as possible, recruiting other parents and adults as partners in ministry, helping to conduct background checks when necessary, and providing communication and feedback with council through reports and the council liaison, and communicating with the congregation through newsletter, website and other media.

DATE OF COUNCIL APPROVAL: December 18, 2012