RESOURCING OUR VISION

Our leadership reviewed and updated Trinity's Vision and Mission Statements as part of the Rooted in Faith, Growing in Excellence campaign last summer. Our Vision Statement now reads "Trinity Lutheran Church and School will be recognized as a spiritual home where the beacon of God's love and light will serve as an important community source for coming to know Jesus Christ." Someone once said that "You can tell more about a person's priorities by examining his checkbook or Day Timer or Palm Pilot than by listening to him talk." In the same way, we can look to see how we are resourcing our vision by the priorities of our expenditures as indicated by our church budget in the 2009 Annual Report.

The pie chart on the right summarizes our Trinity's 2010 budget expenditures as published in the 2009 Annual Report for a total of \$357,437. Our operating expenses (salaries, benefits, taxes, payroll expense, property, and office expenses) constitute 82% of the budget. Programs (Miscellaneous, Advertising, Conferences, Parish Education, Youth Programs, Worship, Evangelism, and Spiritual Life) constitute 16% of the budget. Benevolence (giving outside of Trinity) constitutes 2% of the budget. Giving constitutes 97% of budgeted income. We can conclude, then, that at 18% of income, our vision is being severely limited by the size of our giving.

We can do some "what if" exercises to see how our vision might change with a greater commitment to stewardship. The chart to the right shows the 2008 household income distribution for Hawthorne from the website <u>www.citydata.com/zips/90250.html</u>. If we were to assume that this distribution represents the approximate distribution for the 183 Trinity households, the 2010 church budget would be met with an average giving percentage of 5% of income. If Trinity were able to increase its giving by

Households

80·

10 20 30 40 50 60 75



150

200

Smax

in thousands of \$

125

100

1% for each year for 5 years, the resulting Trinity's church budget would increase from \$357,437 in 2010 to \$715,000 in 2015. The amount of resources that could be devoted to our vision would go from 18% to approximately 60%. Just think of the exciting mission outreach avenues with such an increase in vision resources in areas of:

- School and Pre-school family ministry
- Parish education
- Youth ministry
- Community outreach
- Community service projects
- Senior citizen outreach and fellowship
- Foreign missionary sponsorships
- Special worship events

2010	2010 Weekly	1% Annual Increase in	2015 Weekly
Annual Income	Giving	Weekly	Giving
income	(5%)	Giving	(10%)
\$10,000	\$10	\$2	\$20
\$15,000	\$14	\$3	\$29
\$20,000	\$19	\$4	\$39
\$25,000	\$24	\$5	\$49
\$30,000	\$29	\$6	\$59
\$35,000	\$34	\$7	\$69
\$40,000	\$38	\$8	\$78
\$45,000	\$43	\$9	\$88
\$50,000	\$48	\$10	\$98
\$60,000	\$58	\$12	\$118
\$75,000	\$72	\$14	\$142
\$100,000	\$96	\$19	\$191
\$125,000	\$120	\$24	\$240
\$150,000	\$144	\$29	\$289
\$200,000	\$192	\$38	\$382

Weekly Giving to Resource Our Vision

Stewardship becomes an exciting adventure in discipleship as we resource our Trinity vision and become a strong beacon of God's love and light in our community!