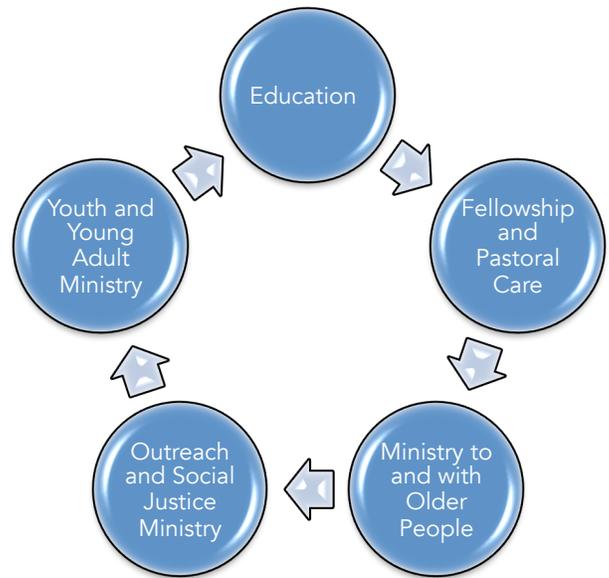


TRINITY PARISH

The Episcopal Church in Oshkosh, Wisconsin

A Christian community of worship,
connection, growth, and service



EDUCATION

Opportunities/Needs in the Trinity and Oshkosh Communities:

- Series of theology talks
- Sunday School
- Education about social issues, issues associated with aging, suicide awareness, caring for elderly parents
- Reading groups focused on books like *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices* (Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson), *Teaching Faith with Harry Potter* (Patricia Lyons), and *The Nine Arts of Spiritual Conversations*
- Messy Church program

FELLOWSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

To help better understand the needs of older people, both in Oshkosh and within Trinity, this group surveyed 43 people.

Opportunities/Needs in the Trinity and Oshkosh Communities:

Fellowship

- Parish picnic
- Spirituality event
- Small potluck dinners/Sunday brunch
- Movie night
- Progressive dinner

Pastoral Care

- Daily telephone calls to local hospitals
- Telephone calls and/or visits to homes and nursing homes
- Workshop addressing end-of-life issues

MINISTRY TO AND WITH OLDER PEOPLE

To help better understand the needs of older people, both in Oshkosh and within Trinity, this group examined some statistics, named primary concerns, and interviewed 24 older parishioners. 72 parishioners at Trinity are age 60 or older (98 parishioners are 50 or older, 23 are in their 60s, 26 are in their 70s, 19 are in their 80s, and 4 are in their 90s).

Opportunities/Needs in the Trinity and Oshkosh Communities:

- Resources to help remain at home/home health aides
- End of life planning
- Obituary writing
- Genealogy/family history

- Pastoral visits from clergy and fellow parishioners
- Assistance for those who want to stay in their homes: both discussion and help either with staying or downsizing
- Transportation to church
- Improvements to the sound system at church
- Pad the pews
- Don't leave them out: be in contact and listen to them

Many churches use the acronym S.E.N.I.O.R.S. to shape a vital ministry both for and with older people that includes the following:

- Spirituality: worship, Bible study, prayer groups, healing services
- Enrichment: seminars, guest speakers, book groups
- Nutrition (wellness): meals, exercise programs, yoga, adult day services/memory cafes, parish nurse/health clinics
- Intergenerational: older adults invited and equipped to serve as volunteers to other age groups – tutoring, foster grandparents, partnering with youth or younger adults in a service project, intergenerational retreats
- Outreach: older people reaching out to others in the wider community; reaching out to non-churched older adults; support groups for care-givers; pastoral care visits
- Recreation: fellowship meals, field trips and outings; art or craft groups
- Service: opportunities for older adults to serve others, including other older adults; home maintenance/repairs; transportation

OUTREACH/ SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

Opportunities/Needs in the Trinity and Oshkosh Communities:

- Loaves and Fishes
- Trinity Boutique
- Christine Ann Center (Race for the Light, Take Back the Night, volunteering, donations, toiletry bags for incoming guests, Birthday-in-a-Bag program, Adopt-a-Family)
- Boys & Girls Club School Supplies Drive
- Day by Day Warming Shelter (cooking/serving meals, attending fundraisers, donations)
- Blessing Box (donations of non-perishable food/toiletries, upkeep of box)
- Salvation Army Food Pantry (food donations on Sundays)
- ECW Polar Fleece Throw Project (donation of fabric/funds, assembly of throws)
- Warm Clothing Drive (donation of new or gently used clothing)
- Fit Oshkosh
- Take Me Home Project
- 91.9 FM Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

To help better understand the opportunity to serve youth and young adults, both in Oshkosh and within Trinity, this group interviewed Jill Milos about youth group activities and needs, and it explored possible ways to connect with the UW Oshkosh campus. The youth group current meets on Wednesday evenings from October to April.

Opportunities/Needs in the Trinity and Oshkosh Communities:

Youth Group

- Meal preparation/donations for meetings
- Rides for youth attending the annual Unity Service in Appleton
- Mass/prayer service and meal the Wednesday before Thanksgiving
- Mass/prayer service and meal on Ash Wednesday
- Participation in the youth group's 40 Days of Lent photo project on Facebook (or a similar inter-generational activity)

UW Oshkosh

- Canterbury Club (Episcopal ministry) on the UW Oshkosh campus
- Cooperation with The Gathering Place (campus ministry of ELCA Lutheran Church)