

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

D a v e n p o r t , I o w a

Congregational Discernment | June 11, 2023



WE HAD MANY QUESTIONS...

- What can we do in our neighborhood?
- How can we get to know our neighbors?
- How can we make a difference in the cycles of hunger and homelessness?
- How can we create a space for healing?
- What if we had small group ministries?
- How can we get people engaged with our “outreach” programs?
- Can we mentor, include and invite more people?
- Should we hire a Volunteer Coordinator for this?
- Better communication channels?
- Can our Dean be involved in identifying our strengths and skills?



...AND MANY IDEAS

- Nursing homes ministry
- PUNCH/Community Ministries
- Blankets/Quilts
- Veterans Advocacy
- Family events
- Local schools
- Yoga
- Aid to those experiencing homelessness
- Mental Health advocacy
- Immigrant support
- Ecumenical social justice
- World Relief



NOW, DRAW IN YOUR MIND THE
PICTURE OF MINISTRY AT TRINITY

Blankets/Quilts

Local schools

Nursing Home

World
Relief

People experiencing
homelessness

Immigrant support

Yoga

Mental Health advocacy

PUNCH/Community Ministries

Advocacy
Veterans

Ecumenical social justice

Family events

What if we tried to
do ALL of these?

What if we did
just ONE of
them?



IF WE PICKED JUST ONE, HOW WOULD
WE KNOW WHICH ONE TO CHOOSE?

HOW DOES
A PERSON
DECIDE
ABOUT A
CAREER OR
VOCATION?

Carpenter

Law ??

Government?

Mechanic

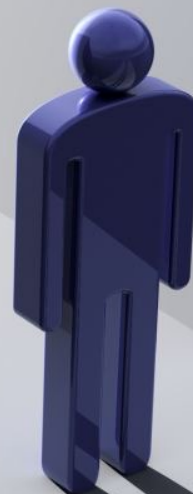
Social Work

Administration??

Chef??

Ministry?

Medicine





DISCERNMENT

Research

Talking with friends

Trying it on

Talking with mentors

Quiet time

HOW DOES A
COMMUNITY
DECIDE ITS COURSE
FOR THE GOSPEL?



THROUGH DISCERNMENT

We acknowledge:

- It is a process that requires commitment
- It is led by the Holy Spirit
- It is centered in prayer
- It requires trust
- It depends on A LOT of listening
- It cannot be rushed

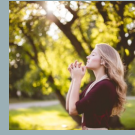


WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US

- We venture forward with commitment and without fear
- We meet our neighbors with welcome
- We discover our unique identity
- We focus on minds, our resources, our identity, our actions
- We become known in the neighborhood, the community, the Diocese, the world



DISCERNMENT – WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?



PRAY. Pray to listen.
Pray and be present to one another



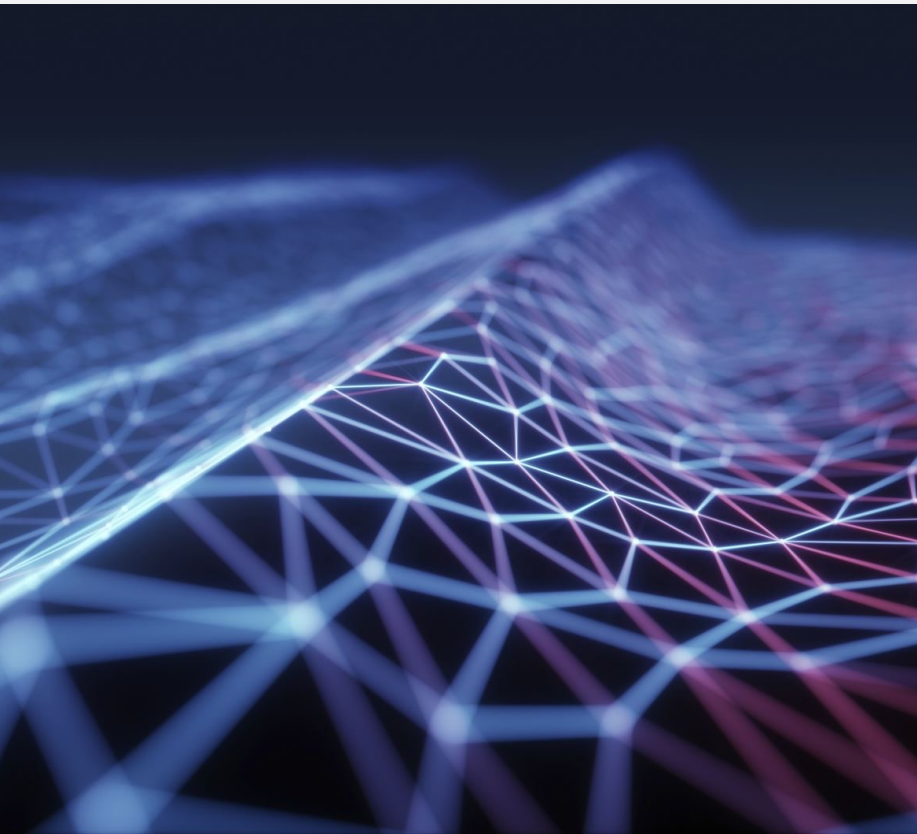
Honor and recognize Christ in all



Define who we are together
A story that shapes us today and tomorrow



Identify our **strengths** and determine how
we would use them



WHAT WILL HAPPEN...

Clearer, centralized communications

Web, email, socials

Better organized all around

Clearer focus

Open hearts and minds

Welcome how God is calling us

Personal, spiritual growth

Risk, discomfort, joys



OUR FIRST STEP

Learn the art of contemplative prayer

Pray for openness to the Holy Spirit

Pray together – as many available people we can muster who can commit to this process