

# **DRAFT TLC Narrative for the Ministry Site Profile**

*updated November 10, 2017*

## **Characteristics of the Community:**

Trinity Lutheran Church is located in Lynnwood. Lynnwood is a city in Snohomish County, Washington. The city is part of the Seattle metropolitan area and is located 16 miles north of Seattle and 13 miles south of Everett. It is the fourth-largest city in Snohomish County, with an estimated population of 38,092 as of July 2016 up 6.3% from 2010. (U.S. Census)

Lynnwood is considered suburban in nature and acts as a bedroom community for Seattle, Everett and Bellevue. It has one of the largest concentrations of retail in the region. As of the 2010 census, there were 35,836 people, 13,950 households, and 8,501 families residing in the city of Lynnwood. The population density was 4,570.9 inhabitants per square mile. There were 14,939 housing units at an average density of 1,905.5 per square mile. The racial makeup of the city was 68.2% White (58.6% Non-Hispanic White), 5.5% African American, 1.1% Native American, 17.3% Asian, 0.5% Pacific Islander, 6.6% from other races, and 5.1% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 13.3% of the population.

There were 14,107 households of which 26.9% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 42.6% were married couples living together, 12.2% had a female householder with no husband present, 5.5% had a male householder with no wife present, and 39.7% were non-families. 30.8% of all households were made up of individuals and 9.4% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 3.50 and the average family size was 4.87.

The median age in the city was 37.3 years. 21.7% of residents were under the age of 18; 10.6% were between the ages of 18 and 24; 28% were from 25 to 44; 26.2% were from 45 to 64; and 13.4% were 65 years of age or older. The gender makeup of the city was 49% male and 51% female.

Edmonds School District is the main school district in the area. As of October 2016, there were 21,212 students enrolled. Make-up of students: 20.3% Hispanic, .5% American Indian, 12.9% Asian, 6.3% African American, .8% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 49.1% White, 10.2% two or more races. 35.6% of students are on free and reduced meal plans.

## **Context:**

**Three ways that the community in which you are located has been challenged by change and transition in the last 3-5 years.**

Population growth in our community and higher housing costs has resulted in an increase in homelessness, more traffic, increased cost of living and a stretching thin of community resources. There is also a trend toward more cultural and ethnic diversity in our community.

## Trends:

### **Three changes or trends within the congregation which have occurred in the last 3-5 years.**

Pastoral and staff turnover (along with positions not being replaced due to declining budgets) has contributed to a decrease in worship attendance. In addition, division among Pastoral staff resulted in serious conflict within the congregation. We have seen a drop in membership, worship attendance, and youth/young families. There is a general feeling that Trinity has lost its spiritual direction and anchor due to lack of consistent, grounded leadership.

## Programs:

### **Describe your congregation's or organization's current programs for mission and ministry.**

**Worship** - 2 sites, 4 services - 7:45 AM (traditional), 9 AM (more contemporary with band) and 10:30 AM (blended with organ and choir) at Trinity Lynnwood and 9:30 AM (blended with piano) at Pointe of Grace Mukilteo

**Children's Education** - 3 years old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade have Sunday School at 9 AM, middle school education as well and Godly Play Sunday School at Pointe of Grace

**Youth and Family Ministry** - Activities are designed to build relationships and grow faith in 7th - 12th graders. Opportunities include weekly middle & high school nights (Zoe and NET), retreats, Bible study, mission trips, summer camp, small groups, service projects, outreach events, and more. Teen Drop-In at Pointe of Grace.

**Music Ministry** - Trinity has a reputation of having an exceptionally strong music ministry. We offer music experiences for all ages wishing to serve using their God-given talents.

**Preschool and Childcare** - There are two part-day preschools one in Lynnwood and one in Mukilteo. Full day childcare is provided at the Child Development Center in Lynnwood. The mission of Trinity Lutheran Church Schools and Child Development Center is to nurture each child in Christian love, to encourage success as an individual, and to build self confidence in social, emotional, physical, spiritual, and cognitive development.

**Local Service to the Community** - Neighbors in Need is a program that serves our low-income and homeless neighbors warm food, haircuts, showers, laundry services, mentoring children (Neighborhood Youth Alliance), counseling, support and social interaction. Every Saturday morning. Cold Weather Shelter for homeless people in community when temperatures drop below 33 degrees. Open Door Ministry, Compass Health, Family Support Center, resound.

**Service Beyond our Community** - Global mission: Sowing Seeds of Hope, Living Water, Esperanza. Middle East Peace Builders and Fair Trade.

**Adult Education** - To nurture and support individuals on their unique faith journeys and provide ongoing development of Trinity as a community of faith. Our congregation has unique gifts to welcome and uplift all those looking for a caring relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Harmony Life Group** - This group is focused on inclusion and support for the LGBTQ+ community.

**Pastoral Care** - Stephens Ministry, Eucharistic Ministry, Home Bound Ministry, Prayer Shawl/Quilt Ministry

**Community Facility** - Our facility is a blessing to many outside groups at no-charge or very minimal fee. Groups that meet in our facility include Boy Scouts, Alcoholics Anonymous, Red Cross, etc.

**Lynnwood Community Center (in development)** - A partnership with Volunteers of America and the Boys & Girls Club to provide support for youth and seniors.

## **Purpose:**

### **What is our reason for being? Who are we and why are we here?**

We exist as a community of believers to worship Christ and to help and hold each other together. We are an extension of God's love in the larger community. We come together to praise God and share the love of God with each other and in the world. We also have a strong sense of service to the less fortunate in our community. We are a Reconciling in Christ church and support inclusion of all people—All Means All. Grounded in Lutheran theology.

## **Giftedness:**

### **Top 3 Assets:**

Talented members with extensive lay leadership in action. We have a wonderful, well-used and even at times overcrowded building that is located in the heart of Lynnwood (a sort of crossroads) with additional adjacent land that has room for development. We have a heart for service.

### **Obstacles:**

We are on the outer edge of a very divisive time and it would be easy to turn inward. We need healing, conflict resolution and a spiritual grounding to move forward in mission and ministry.

### **Energy:**

There is a strong sense of hope for the future—of rebuilding with new pastoral leadership. There is also an undercurrent of "Wait and See," and "I'm not sure yet" which will need time for healing/reconciliation.

## Top 5 Things for the Pastor to Work on in the First Year

- Connecting People (added be welcoming, and focus on all ages)
- Building a TLC Community
- Collaboration
  - Healing of Relationships (added allow people to be heard, defining the hurt)
  - Visitation (added reaching out to people that no longer attend)
  - Volunteer Leadership/Coordination/Encouragement
- Develop Our Collective Vision
- Strong Preaching/Teaching (Biblically based)

### 75 Word Position Summary

We seek a lead pastor to guide our congregation—sharing the love of Christ with one another, our local community and world. With a history of strong pastoral and lay leadership, we are working to overcome challenges and wish to move forward, changing where we must, to show the difference God's grace in Christ makes for all people. As an RIC congregation, we strive to be welcoming, understanding and accepting to all. All means all.