



May Events at Trinity:

May 7—Breakfast Served at Trinity! 8:30-9:15a.m.
breakfast served in the fellowship hall by the Ruth & Esther Women's Service Teams
Installation Service for Pastor David Mayer, 3:00p.m. at Trinity's Sanctuary

May 8—Blood Drive, 8am-3pm at Trinity's north parking lot to benefit local student

May 10—Council of Ministries Meeting, 6pm

May 14—Happy Mother's Day!

May 15—Trinity Takeaways meet to cook, 10am in the fellowship hall kitchen

May 21—Senior Recognition Sunday, 9:30am Women's Ministry Gathering & Luncheon, All Women of Trinity are invited to join us for a light lunch and short business meeting in the fellowship hall from Noon-1pm

May 23 & 30—Trinity Delivers Meals on Wheels
Two Tuesdays in May: Volunteers needed, please sign up In the narthex

May 24—Men's Group meets for fellowship, 6:30pm location TBA

May 28—Pentecost Sunday!

May 29—Church Office closed for Memorial Day

VISIT OUR WEBSITE—www.trinityofblanco.com, Trinity's Website has all the news from the newsletter, including recordings of pastor's sermons, (click on the "sermons" tab at the top of the page, for a listing of past sermons available.)

Trinity Mission Statement:

Not having it all together, nor pretending to, our quest is to help in making mature, authentic disciples through teaching and preaching sound Biblical doctrine that will inform, inspire, equip, and connect God's people to God, to each other, and to evangelize with the Good News.

Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco, Texas

Where:

*"God is Seen,
Love is Felt,
Lives are Changed"*

Ministers All People of Trinity
Pastor Rev. David Mayer

Media Director Sheila Mercer
Music Director Leta Garcia
Secretary Angie Daniels

How to Contact Trinity:

- Fax: 830-833-1381
- Website: www.trinityofblanco.com
- Email: trinityblanco@gvtc.com
- P.O. Box 487,
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- Rev. David Mayer
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L♥VE US IN PERSON

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April 1, 2023

Trinity Lutheran Church
703 Main Street
Blanco, Texas 78606

Dear Council and Members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Blanco, Texas,

Tanya and I have been praying for some time for the Lord to show us where I should serve Him. Your Call to me to serve the Lord, the people of Trinity, and with the people of Trinity Lutheran has come to us as a "good fit," and the answer to our prayer.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve at and with Trinity Lutheran Church and I accept the Call you have extended to me without reservation and with gratitude, to God and to you.

I also thank Trinity Lutheran for the compensation package shared with me by Jerry Gass, President, and members of the church Council, which includes vacation and other benefits, including various reimbursements for work expenses.

As part of the Call I would like Trinity to consider the Letter of Call that I have shared with Jerry Gass, and Travis Kersten, Chair of the Call Committee, as an accurate expression of our mutual agreement. (*see below*)

Sincerely, your brother in Christ,
(*signed*) David J. Mayer

Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco, Texas
LETTER OF PASTORAL CALL

This call is issued in the Name of God the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church, at a meeting of the congregation held on March 12, 2023, has called you, Pastor David Mayer to serve as Pastor of this congregation.

Our ministry comes from Christ through the church and belongs to the whole people of God. The gospel calls all Christians to be ministers in word and deed. So it is the privilege of every Christian to be a steward of the gospel of God's reconciling love. The whole church ministers as it celebrates God's presence, shares the Good News, cares for those in need, and witnesses to the power of God's love.

Keeping in mind the apostolic advice that all things be done decently and in order, (1 Corinthians 14:40) and in accordance with the practice of the Christian church to provide qualified persons for pastoral ministry, we recognize the office of pastor, established by our Lord in the early church. We seek through it the pastoral leadership and care to build up the Body of Christ, especially in the local congregation.

Accordingly, we call you to serve as Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco. According to the following understanding:

WE TOGETHER

- A. Share in the mission to make disciples of all peoples, which was given by Christ and involves the whole people of God.

- B. Engage in ministry as we celebrate God's presence, experience renewal through the Holy Spirit, root our lives in the gospel, give witness to Jesus Christ, and practice care, fellowship, and support for each other within the Body of Christ.
- C. Seek to draw into active membership all believers in the area who are not actively a part of a Christian congregation.
- D. Care for those in need, work to overcome the causes that take away human well-being and demonstrate the goodness of God to those around us and to be peoples of the world.
- E. Call forth, train and equip the people of God to Christian service to prepare them to fulfill God's purpose to be people of blessing and witness in the church, in families, in government, in business, in education, in media and in entertainment so that every aspect of our societies has a personal witness of the Kingdom of God in Jesus Christ.
- F. Receive, study and apply the word of God as revealed in the Old and New Testaments, and witnessed to by the Lutheran Confessions.
- G. Subscribe to the Constitution and Bylaws of the congregation.
- H. Review periodically our mission and ministry as a congregation and assess the leadership calling, strengths, skills and emphasis needed to meet our challenges and opportunities to the glory of God.
- I. Support the mission of the congregation with our time, energy, financial resources and prayer.

YOU AS PASTOR

- A. Preach and teach the word of God.
- B. Preside at worship and administer the sacraments.
- C. Provide pastoral care to all members of the parish according to our needs, visit us as necessary, uphold us in prayer, and train us in this ministry of the people of God.
- D. Give pastoral leadership for the meetings, activities, and organizations of the congregation.
- E. Lead and equip us in fulfilling our call to give faithful witness in our daily discipleship and ministry.
- F. Receive us as the people of God with love, good will, cooperation and respect.
- G. Strive in word and action to be a worthy example of Christian living, avoiding conduct which might endanger the faith of others.
- H. Encourage us to support our larger affiliations to which we belong.
- I. Continue your education for personal renewal, growth in knowledge and effectiveness in your pastoral calling.
- J. Be responsible for, or oversee, the recording of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, funerals, attendance as needed, the maintaining of the membership rosters, in accordance with the congregations Constitution and Bylaws.
- K. Identify, train and raise up ministers, teachers and future pastors from within the congregation.

WE THE CONGREGATION

- A. Commit ourselves to the gospel by faithful participation in worship, learning and fellowship.
- B. Seek to fulfill our calling to be servants of God by serving those in our families, occupations, communities and beyond.
- C. Receive you as our pastor, uphold you in prayer, and honor you with love, respect and good will.
- D. Look to you as our pastor under the lordship of Jesus Christ.
- E. Compensate and reimburse you, and offer vacation as indicated on the attached document.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- A. This call may be terminated by the congregation or the pastor according to the guidelines found in the Constitution and Bylaws.
- B. Please acknowledge receipt of this Letter of Call in writing. We request your response within three weeks.
- C. May the Holy Spirit guide and lead you as you consider this call.

Representing the congregation, the following ascribe their names this 1ST day of April, 2023.

Congregational President: *(signed)* Jerry Gass **Congregational Secretary:** *(signed)* Karen Steiger

Altar Guild May News—The Altar Team on duty for the month of May will be: Jan Gass, Leta Garcia, Martha Gosnell, and Christine Bushong. Many thanks to Sophie Johnson, Sandy Mann, Sheri Riley, Janice Culton and Clara Gourley for preparing the altar for worship during the busy month of April, which included Holy Week and Easter services! If you are interested in serving Trinity as a member of the Altar Guild, please contact Bonnie Triesch, at 210-705-2811. Trinity's Altar Guild has groups of 3-4 members who serve, in a rotating schedule, during the year.

❧ ❧ ❧ **Cards & Letters** ❧ ❧ ❧

Palm Sunday, April 2nd--As Pastor Patrick's interim with Trinity ended on Palm Sunday, Pastor and Amy Jeanne Welton were presented with the congregation's appreciation for their service to our



church. Members of the Church Council presented the Welton's with flowers, a check to cover the set of liturgical stoles purchased by the Pastor, and a beautiful hand-made wooden cross made by Doris Phipps. A reception was held after services for the Welton Family and many shared best wishes for their family.



Meals on Wheels delivery volunteers needed for May! Trinity will split deliveries of meals to the homebound in the Blanco community during the month of May. For the last two Tuesdays, that is Tuesdays: May 23rd and 30th, Trinity will be responsible for delivery from our kitchen. The sign up sheet is posted in the Narthex on the bulletin board and two routes require two drivers for each Tuesday. For more information, contact Lainie Parker at 830-554-0564.

The Family of Dorothy Clark would like to thank the ladies of Trinity for the desserts provided for our family and friends after the graveside services. Thanks to Pastor Welton for his service and comforting words. Thank you all for your prayers, cards and phone calls.

Melissa & Jeff Hamm, Jacob & Rebecca
Allen & Laeta Clark, Logan & Miles
Marie Anna Lindeman & Family

GIFTS TO THE MEMORIAL FUND IN APRIL

In Memory of Dorothy Clark

By Esther Mae Lundy and Helen Stapper Dawkins
Connie Russell
Medora Beckmann (to the Building Fund)

A complete list of Memorials Given in Memory of Roy Bruemmer will be included in the June newsletter.

DON'T FORGET! The May Women's Ministry Gathering will be Sunday, May 21st at Noon in the fellowship hall. Lunch will be provided and we welcome all ladies to join us for a Super Summer Kick-off!



Women's Ministry: "Trinity Takeaways" Project

7 ladies met on April 24th to begin planning for this new ministry at Trinity! They plan to prepare take-home meals, freeze them, and then offer them to anyone who might need extra care due to an illness, stress or "just because!"

1. First meal prep session will be Monday, May 15 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.
2. Second session will be an evening session, date and time to be determined.
3. Eventually we will include some vegetarian and gluten-free entrees.
4. Some meals will be cooked and ready to defrost and warm. Some meals will be prepped and ready to complete in a crockpot at the recipient's home.
5. Instructions and ingredients will be included with the meal bag.
6. Mary Jo will determine our first recipe, and shop for ingredients. Our first session will include prep for approximately 10 meals.
7. Recording of meals used will be kept to allow for remaining supply to be determined.
8. All meals (at this time) will be frozen in gallon bags for ease of storage in freezer and easy to defrost.
9. We'll have lots of "play it by ear" as we tweak this project and determine if successful, a needed service, and viability of continuation.
10. The Women of Trinity will have fun and enjoy serving and fellowshiping with each other!

For more information about this project, contact Mary Jo Pfeiffer at 210-213-7615 or maryjopfeiffer@gmail.com.



Trinity's men's group, the Christian Men of Blanco (CMOB), met on April 18th at the home of Roland and Mary Jo Pfeiffer. While the men feasted on an incredible taco buffet with all the fixin's, Roland announced that Thrivent has given the church a small grant that will be used to support the CMOB Gatherin's. Thank you, Thrivent!

The CMOB normally gathers on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, but May's Gathering will be on Wednesday, May 24th. Look for the announcement!

Life Thoughts

Nothing New Under the Sun

“What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun.” (Ecclesiastes 1:9 NIV)

“Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior. The Sovereign Lord is my strength.” (Habakkuk 3:17-19a NIV)

“... Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart ... Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. ‘Make level paths for your feet,’ so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.” (Hebrews 12:1-3, 12-13 NIV)

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” (Philippians 4:13 NIV)

As we look at the wide world around us, indeed, there is nothing new under the sun. Though our unborn children are murdered by the millions; though people murder themselves in despair; though our neighbors are murdered and all that they have is taken; though our brothers and sisters are bought and sold like cattle; though our elderly, our disabled, our weak, and our poor are ignored or persecuted or cheated; though male has been turned into female and female into male; though governments have become altogether corrupt, and dishonesty and lies are the rule of the land; though jobs and lives and hope have been lost through pandemics and financial disasters; though injustice rolls on like a river; yet, like Habakkuk, we *will* rejoice in the Lord; we *will* be joyful in God our Savior.

As believers in Jesus, we have been called to live in a world we never expected to see and to speak against things we never expected to face. Persecution seemed to be aimed at someone else in some other nation at some other time, not here and now in our beloved America. It can be very frightening to know that God has placed each of us here at this very moment in time for His purpose--to be lights in the darkness, to be warriors in His battles, to be the hands and feet and voices that bring the good news of salvation to the whole lost world. He asks us to strengthen our feeble arms and weak knees, to open our mouths to the words He will give us, and to run the race to the finish line.

We can do it! We can persevere. We can be bold. Not in our own strength, but as Paul says, so shall we also say, **“I can do all this through him who gives me strength.”**

by Barb Geistfeld, Trinity Life Team Leader

Baby Bottle Boomerang!

Between Mother's Day, May 14th and Father's Day, June 18th Trinity's Life Team invites everyone to pick up a baby bottle from the narthex and return it filled with donations for the Share Center and their work promoting life in our local community.



YOUTH NEWS FROM APRIL



Palm Sunday—April 2nd

A delicious Pancake Breakfast was prepared and served by Trinity Youth in the fellowship hall from 8:30-9:15a.m. Freewill donations of \$263 were received and deposited into the Youth Camp Account to help off-set expenses of Trinity Summer Campers, set for June 30-July 4, 2023.

Later that afternoon, 14 youth walked laps for an hour while reading prayers submitted by the community and congregation. Top walker was Creed Finch with 59 laps. Total donations received that Sunday for the Prayer Walk-a-Thon were \$890.00, with more to be collected as sponsors make their donations.

Thank you to everyone who supported a youth!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR VBS 2023 - July 17-21 at Trinity

Yes! The dates have been set and we are excited for Vacation Bible School in 2023. Many volunteers, helpers and students will be learning about God. Join us!

Registration for students is currently full with a waiting list. Volunteer forms are posted in the Narthex and available on the website (www.trinityofblanco.com).

Work days will be scheduled soon. For more information contact VBS Coordinator, Alexis Pawelek or email the church office at trinityblanco@gvtc.com

MAY RESPONSIBILITIES

****Please use this handy section to keep track of monthly responsibilities organized by Sunday. Each Sunday there are many important opportunities to serve your church. Call the office for more information (830) 833-4771.**

	May 7	May 14 <i>Mother's Day</i>	May 21	May 28 <i>Pentecost</i>
Altar Flowers	<i>open</i>	<i>open</i>	<i>open</i>	Mike & Sally Anderson
Usher Team	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley
	Team 4, Paul Granberg	Team 4, Paul Granberg	Team 5, Zane Smith	Team 5, Zane Smith
Greeters	Bob & Sheri Riley	TBA	Sherri & Cymbre Wicker	Mike & Sally Anderson
Acolytes	Darby Kersten	Kacen Haas	Briley Thomas	Creed Finch
Lectors	Lacy Lukich	Keith Morgenroth	Ron Bigler	Arlene Hamlin
Communion Assistants	<i>No communion</i>	Travis Kersten	<i>No communion</i>	Ashley Finch
Altar Guild	In May:	Jan Gass, Leta Garcia, Martha Gosnell, Christine Bushong		

First Sunday Breakfast –Schedule

Come early to church on May 7th to enjoy breakfast with members and friends before church. The Ruth & Esther Women's Service Teams will provide the breakfast in the fellowship hall from **8:30-9:15a.m.**

The remaining schedule for Breakfasts at Trinity are listed below:

- June 4 Hannah & Deborah Women's Service Teams
- July 2 Men's Group
- August 6 Esther & Ruth Women's Service Teams
- September 3 Hannah & Deborah Women's Service Teams
- October 1 Men's Group
- November 5 Esther & Ruth Women's Service Teams
- December 3 Hannah & Deborah Women's Service Teams



News From Your Council of Ministries

Jerry Gass—President
Hal Switzer—Vice-President
Karen Steiger—Secretary
Medora Beckmann—Treasurer
Sheri Riley—Financial Secretary

Travis Kersten—Worship
Karen Wagner—Evangelism
Norman Eubank—Property
Ashley Finch—Education/Youth
Sally Anderson—Stewardship

COUNCIL NOTES—from the March 8, 2023 Meeting

President Jerry Gass called the meeting to order at 6:40pm immediately after the Lenten Service. Council members present were Medora Beckmann, Norman Eubank, Ashley Finch, Jerry Gass, Travis Kersten, Sheri Riley, Karen Steiger, Hal Switzer, Karen Wagner, and Pastor Patrick Welton.

Member Wayne Gosnell was also in attendance to participate in the Zoom meeting with Ray Weiss our Thrivent advisor. No devotional was given as we just came from the Lenten Service. A prayer was said to begin our meeting.

Ray Weiss began his Zoom presentation by illustrating some of the trends of interest rates as related to bond investments. At this time Trinity has a Limited Maturity Bond Fund with Thrivent, and with the market as it is now seems to have been the correct choice. At the end of his presentation, Ray gave his recommendations as follows:

- 1) Maintaining our current relationships with the three banking institutions we use.
- 2) Keeping a checking account with Texas Regional Bank (TRB).
- 3) Moving the Building Fund at TRB to the Thrivent Limited Maturity Bond Fund, since there are no building plans for the next few years.
- 4) And with the remaining dollars, establishing a new Thrivent Mutual portfolio using various Funds by investing 1/3 of those dollars by the end of March, 1/3 by June, and the final 1/3 by August. It was a very thorough and informative presentation.

There were no corrections to the Minutes of last month's (Feb 8) Council meeting. Ashley made a motion to approve the Minutes, Karen W seconded the motion, and the Council members accepted the motion. The Action Items were discussed.

Sheri gave the Financial Report for February 2023. Medora gave the Treasurer's Report as of February 24, 2023. Pastor Patrick submitted his report. He reported that the Lenten Luncheon that Trinity hosted was a huge success. The Blanco County News has scheduled the next cycle of articles submitted on 4/19, 4/26, and 5/3 to be published. The Lenten series "People Jesus Met" continues. His Monday night series "Towards Belief" will continue through March 27th.

Committee Reports:

--Education & Youth – Ashley reported that Alexis is finishing up her Bible Study with the college girls (via FaceTime). VBS opens to online registration on Monday, March 13th. Flag football will be starting on June 19th. The plan is to paint the Gaga Pit over the Memorial Day weekend, and the wall outside of the Youth room will be repaired soon. Joy Winkler of Round Mountain sent a gift to the Scholarship Fund and Ashley sent her a thank-you note. The Girls' Retreat (grades 10-12) will be this weekend at The Lost Cypress Ranch in Kendalia. 10 girls (plus Teagan) will be attending.

--Stewardship – No report was given.

--Evangelism – Karen W reported that a lot of supplies have been purchased to keep the pantry stocked. A new speaker/microphone system was purchased for the Youth.

--Worship – Travis handed out his report. He reported that The Altar Guild had their annual meeting on February 12th, and they have gained 6 new members. The Media Ministry is working on repairing the speaker system and the camera system.

--Property – Norman handed out his report. STM Lawn Care & Welding (Mike Anderson) trimmed all the trees on the property. Concerning the new sign, Alexis Pawelek has volunteered to make the interchangeable parts of the sign, when needed.

Travis made a motion to accept the Committee Reports and Sheri seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the Council members present.

Old Business:

--A thank you letter was received from the chairman of the Wellness Fair, thanking the Trinity men for providing hot dogs & chips.

--The Communion Assistants Schedule was updated through Memorial Day Sunday (May 28) – Ashley Finch. The Church Directory preparation is approaching the completion of taking/furnishing pictures. The membership list updates will be deferred until the new pastor is on board.

New Business:

--Patrick will conduct the service on Palm Sunday, with children waving palm branches and the men's choir will sing a special song.

--Jerry began a discussion of Benevolent Support. Patrick handed out a request from a pastor leading an effort to support a Latvian Lutheran Church building project. He needs Council to give him a sense of the direction that our giving should take. i.e., "global" vs "local organizations" and are we helping to make disciples for Christ. Jerry will calculate the factors for the next quarter based on the input he receives in the next couple of weeks.

--The new pastor's compensation package was discussed in terms of letting him decide how he would like the different allocations to be broken down.

--Patrick was dismissed from the meeting. Palm Sunday (Apr 2) would be Patrick's last service, and Pastor Mayer (if congregation calls him) would take over on April 3. Patrick submitted his Letter of Resignation as of April 1, but he will preach April 2 being paid as a visiting pastor. April 2 the Youth will prepare a Pancake Breakfast before Worship. A reception for Patrick & Amy Jeanne will be between Worship & Sunday School.

Travis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Sheri seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm with everyone reciting The Lord's Prayer.

Service of Installation
for Pastor David Mayer
3:00p.m. Sunday, May 7, 2023
Trinity Lutheran Church's Sanctuary



Pastor David Mayer will be installed as Trinity Lutheran Church's pastor on Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 3:00p.m. in the sanctuary. Pastor Bryce Formwalt will lead the service with Pastor John Waak delivering the message and Pastor Don Ofsdahl officiating for the installation. This service is our official welcome of our new Pastor. A reception with refreshments will follow.

Trinity Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 487, Blanco, TX 78606 830-833-4771 email: trinityblanco@gvtc.com

MAY 2023 EVENTS CALENDAR--TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO

Pastor: Rev. David Mayer--Worship: 9:30 AM, Sunday School: 10:45 AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Breakfast Served in the hall, 8:30-9:15am 3pm Installation Service for Pastor Mayer	8 8am-3pm Community Blood Drive, north parking lot	9	10 6:00pm Council of Ministries meeting	11	12	13
14 <i>Communion</i> Happy Mother's Day!	15 10am Trinity Takeaways Cook Today	16	17	18	19	20
21 — <i>Communion</i> Senior Sunday Today! Noon Women's Ministry Gathering & Lunch	22 Newsletter articles due TODAY!	23 Meals on Wheels volunteers from Trinity deliver today!	24 6:30pm Men's Group	25	26	27
28	29 <i>Church Office closed for Memorial Day holiday</i>	30 Meals on Wheels volunteers from Trinity deliver today!	31			



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



Wants and Needs

One of the things that I love the most about my job is when I get invited to walk alongside congregations in pastoral transition. When a church council or call team asks me to share my thoughts on best practices for a good call process, one piece of advice seems to surprise them more than any other: Do not ask “What do we want in a pastor?”

As I speak these words, exasperated church leaders stare back at me and occasionally someone gives voice to the look on their collective faces: “How else are we supposed to figure out what to look for in our next pastor?!?” The answer lies in the sage wisdom passed down from generation to generation in understanding the difference between wants and needs.

Parents of young children learn to make this distinction with their sons and daughters. At some point we all learn the hard truth that we don’t always get what we want in life. Instead, we should rejoice and give thanks to God as he provides for our basic human needs. In our faith communities we are reminded of God’s goodness of provision as we pray and ask him to do it again in the Lord’s prayer: “Give us this day our daily bread.”

Truth is that often the things we want in life are not always what are best for us. How many times have you finally gotten something that you have really wanted for a long time only to feel disappointed or let down? Sometimes we can even be led astray by our wants. Chasing after wants always leads to sin whenever our wants do not align with the will of God.

So, what is a call team supposed to do if they should not ask “What do we want in a pastor?” By now you probably guessed it: the much better question to ask is “What do we need in our next pastor?” To begin to answer that question requires church leaders first to do some honest self-assessment: Who are we? What are we good at? What do we struggle with? What is God calling us to do and where is God calling us to go in the next chapter? Only after that are we ready to begin to answer the most important question of a pastoral transition: What do we need most in a pastor for us to faithfully pursue the mission and vision God has given us?

We seem to have an uncanny ability to ultimately find what we are looking for, even if it does not happen right away. Therefore, it is vital to look for what is most important which rarely has anything to do with what we want. Whether your church is in pastoral transition or not, what are you seeking? Is your church trying to satisfy the people in the pews and focused on giving them what they want? Or are you focused on the Kingdom mission that God is calling you to pursue? I encourage you to prayerfully reconsider all the business of the church through this filter: What do we need to seek or do to be faithful to God’s call. Imagine what God could do with a church full of people working together in pursuit of a God-given mission and vision!

Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Feel free to contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 ext. 2 or bryce@lcmctexas.org. © 2023 Bryce J. Formwalt, All Rights Reserved. Reprinted with permission. May 2023