

## Questions and Answers about “Heritage and Hope”

### What is “Heritage and Hope”?

“Heritage and Hope” is a five-year fund appeal that will enable Trinity Lutheran Church to accomplish several important goals as we move toward our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2020.

### What will the “Heritage and Hope” appeal accomplish?

Through the “Heritage and Hope” appeal, Trinity Lutheran will:

- Add significant benevolence dollars to the amount Trinity gives each year to support ministries beyond our congregation. We will use our own members as well as partnering with other Christian organizations to address the hopes and hurts of people in our neighborhood and around the world.
- Provide permanent financial support for the Youth Director position here at Trinity, enabling us to strengthen and expand how we invite young people into our congregation’s ministry and help nurture their growing faith.
- Further demonstrate this commitment to our youth by providing financial support to send youth to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit this coming summer and the next triennial Youth Gathering in 2018.
- Become better stewards of our staff by providing fair local market wages and benefits.
- Have significant funds available to make much needed building improvements and renovations. Our church building is the center for our mission and ministry. Maintaining it is vital.
- Fully fund all our Designated Funds. In the difficult economic times of recent years, we have borrowed from ourselves to fully fund our congregation’s mission and ministry. We will repay these loans and restore our Designated Funds to their full value.

### What is the goal of the appeal?

The goal of the appeal is for members and friends of Trinity Lutheran to give \$750,000 over the next five years. A second goal of the appeal is for every member of Trinity Lutheran to give, as they are able.

### How does my giving to “Heritage and Hope” affect my regular giving to Trinity Lutheran?

Your giving to “Heritage and Hope” is over and above your regular giving to Trinity Lutheran. Even as we all give generously to this fund appeal, it is important that regular giving to Trinity remains strong so our ministry can continue to thrive.

### How much should I give?

At Trinity we believe in the Biblical teaching of proportional giving. As Paul writes to the Corinthians, “They voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry.” (II Cor. 8:3-4) All of us are called to give in

proportion to what we have. Those households with higher incomes are better able to give more; those with less income are able to give less. When everyone does his or her part, the goal we have set for ourselves is reachable.

Additionally, some members have accumulated wealth that enables them to be able to make more significant gifts at the time of a special appeal. The reason for this is that they are able to give both from income and from accumulated wealth.

### May gifts other than cash be made?

Yes. In fact, the tax code often makes it very attractive to give assets that have increased in value. Gifts of stock and other appreciated assets can be a generous gift to the church and provide a significant tax advantages to the donor. This might also be the time to consider naming Trinity in your estate plan.

### When does the appeal giving begin and end?

Giving to the appeal will begin on Commitment Sunday, May 17, 2015 and end five years later, on May 15, 2020.

### How will I offer my response?

Included in this mailing is your Commitment Card. You are asked to complete this and bring it with you to worship on Sunday, May 17. If you will not be present on Commitment Sunday, you can either deliver your Commitment Card or mail it to the church office.

Everyone is encouraged to consider using Simply Giving as a simple way to have your gifts transferred electronically. A form to sign up for Simply Giving is located on the back side of the Commitment Card.

### Trinity Lutheran Church Parkland, Washington Gifts Given for Five Years

1 gift of \$10,000 per year  
2 gifts of \$8,000 per year  
3 gifts of \$6,000 per year  
5 gifts of \$4,000 per year

6 gifts of \$3,000 per year (\$250 per month)  
10 gifts of \$2,000 per year (\$167 per month)

15 gifts of \$100 per month  
50 gifts of \$50 per month  
Many gifts of less than \$50 per month