

Dear Friends in Christ,

Over the past few weeks, Holy Trinity's Church Council met with approximately 70 members of our congregation across five listening sessions to hear thoughts, answer questions, and prayerfully discuss the options before us as we prepare for a future pastoral succession plan at the time of Pastor Steve's retirement. We also received valued input through personal conversations and emails from those who could not attend. To all who shared your guidance and wisdom: thank you.

We are so grateful to be part of such a faithful, engaged congregation. You came forward with important insights, thoughtful questions, and the kind of respectful, Spirit-led dialogue that reflects the love of Christ in our midst. We heard appreciation for both succession models, and a shared sense that either path would bring blessings and benefits to our community. It will be important for our congregation and call committee to prayerfully consider the gifts and pastoral vision we most value as we look toward this next chapter together. The Council is committed to walking alongside the call committee and synod throughout this process, trusting it to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

We heard strong interest from many people in exploring the financial feasibility of the co-pastor model. In response, our next step will be to undertake a means-testing process over the coming months to examine the financial implications and available resources. To be clear: this is not a decision to move forward with that model — it is an act of faithful stewardship, gathering the information needed to answer the questions many of you raised and to further guide our collective discernment.

What a joy and blessing it is to serve with you as we seek to do God's work in this place. Thank you, again, for your active participation in sharing your insight as part of this ongoing process. Please reach out to any Council member with questions — we are here to walk this road together, in faith and in fellowship.

In Christ's service,

Holy Trinity Church Council

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