

ONE CITY.  
ONE STORY. ONE  
CHURCH FOR  
GOD'S GLORY.

*One City. One Story. One Church for God's Glory.*

**GOSPEL MINISTRY TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

*Colossians 1:28*

*Ministry Training*

*Transformed Lives*

*Personal  
Development  
in the gospel*

*To develop  
MATURITY  
in the gospel*

*To accelerate a  
MOVEMENT  
of the gospel*



*Transformed City*

*Leadership*



Holy Trinity Church  
Church Report, 2009



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## a note from Pastor Jon Dennis

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

October 4, 2009, marks just over eleven years since Holy Trinity Church began meeting. Where were you eleven years ago? A few of us, in October 1998, were a part of Holy Trinity Church in its infancy. But most of you who are reading this report have been around Holy Trinity for just a couple of years or even months. Regardless of when you joined the journey with us, I want this report to help us see the “big picture” at Holy Trinity Church.

Eleven years ago we began with a core group of thirty-seven adults meeting on the South Side of Chicago in Hyde Park. Today we have about 350 adults in attendance, meeting in four congregations throughout the city. And God has scattered others from our church to Zurich, London, Washington D.C., Seattle, and Singapore. God’s gospel is moving and spreading in this city and the world. Our 1998 core group had a pioneering spirit – we wanted to see Chicago changed by the gospel of Jesus Christ! That vision has not changed – rather, it has matured. It’s been a bit messy at times, but we have seen God do extraordinary things.

In this next season of our church’s life we believe that God wants our 350 attendees to be a core group with the same eagerness to see the city transformed as the original thirty-seven. We want you to be a part of this core. We want you to be on mission to the city of Chicago. There will be a cost: a cost in prayer, in giving, and in our time. But we believe there will also be dividends, both in this life and in the life to come.

May God be glorified in the next eleven (and 111) years of Holy Trinity’s future.

Serving Christ with you,

Jon Dennis  
Senior Pastor

## Ministry to the Glory of God

As you open this church report we want to provide some theological backbone to the ministry model we are introducing. Our intention is to place our ministry model within the context of Holy Trinity's basic approach to God.

As aggressive as we can be sometimes as a church, as oriented towards mission and spreading the gospel, at the heart of Holy Trinity is not primarily pragmatism, but a deep *theological* vision of who God is. Our ministry model and our identity as a church are rooted in a deeply consuming vision of the glory of God. When Holy Trinity began more than a decade ago we studied 1 Peter and defined God's church as "God's people, gathered around God's Word, displaying God's glory." That is, from Peter's perspective, we are a people born again by the word of the gospel to a new life through "the living and abiding word of God" (1 Peter 1:23). This gospel gives us an entirely new identity, making us into "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession" (1 Peter 2:9), an identity which leads to a vision for spreading the glory of God. In Peter's words, "that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

A similar pattern is found in the Old Testament. When God's people come to Mount Sinai they are gathered at the mountain and hear God's *voice*, but it is God's *glory* that is revealed. At that time the Israelites said, "Behold, the Lord our God has shown us his glory and greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire. This day we have seen God speak with man, and man still live" (Deuteronomy 5:24).

**So put differently, because God has revealed the glory of his Son to us in the gospel, we are on a mission to reveal and display the glory of God in all that we do.**

**We are on a mission.** It is critical that we see what is meant by this simple sentence and what is not. We are Christians who stand in the Reformed tradition; we use the Westminster Confession of Faith as our doctrinal standard. The WCF was drawn up by leaders consumed by a vision for the glory of God. His sovereignty, his glory, and the preeminence of Jesus Christ were central to them.

What does this mean? It means that for *us* the glory and the sovereignty of God, particularly as expressed in Christ Jesus, are preeminent at HTC. It means that the *supremacy* of Jesus Christ over all things is a *primary* and *foundational* motivator for us. In other words, *we are on a mission because God has revealed his glory to us*. But we begin with the glory of God. John Calvin argues that people cannot truly understand themselves unless they understand who God is. This singular focus is also the teaching of the Westminster Shorter Catechism. We ask, "What is the chief end of man?" We answer, "The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy him forever." God's glory is the chief end of all that we do.

Jonathan Edwards teaches the same. Edwards was absolutely consumed with the glory of God. Likewise, here at HTC God's glory is preeminent. Therefore, we are on a mission *because* God has revealed his glory to us in Jesus Christ and his Word. John writes in his gospel, "We have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). So, what drives us into mission *is* the glory of God. John Piper has put it well. Yes, we are on a mission, but "worship is the fuel of mission" and "mission exists because worship doesn't" (John Piper, *Let the Nations be Glad*).

So, yes, we are to be *missional* as a church. But, worship and the glory of God is primary. We are consumed with a vision of God's glory, and because of it, our lives become an effort to glorify God in everything that we do. Paul writes in Colossians, "let the word of Christ dwell in you *richly*...And whatever you do, in word or deed, *do everything* in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3:16-17).

This idea of *glory* preceding *mission* was true also of our Lord Jesus. It was Jesus' glory, or more precisely, being crowned with all authority and honor that drove his mission. The words "Go therefore and make disciples" (Matthew 28:19) are familiar to us all. But what launched his mission? He explicitly declares the foundation, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go *therefore* and make disciples of all nations..." (v.18-19). The one who has supreme authority deserves supreme obedience. His glory and authority drive our mission.

**So the reality is that we are on a mission inspired and motivated by the central necessity of the glory of God in the world.**

## A Ministry Model

Church ministry can be complex. Church planting is even more complicated. But when we keep the end in mind, it simplifies things. Our overall goal, for the glory of God, is to "present everyone mature in Christ" (Colossians 1:28).

Since our beginning, HTC has been sort of a "back of the napkin" church. If you've ever sat down to coffee with one of the pastors there is a good chance they've scribbled a drawing on the back of a napkin as they explain how HTC works. But now with four congregations, 350 people, and six pastors, we're finding that we need to go to greater lengths to explain HTC as a growing family. So here's an official "back of the napkin" drawing that illustrates a process for discipling people to become like Christ:



As people in Chicago come into contact with the gospel and our church, we desire for them to *worship* God in Jesus, *grow* into mature Christians in community, and *serve* in a gospel movement in a way that transforms them, our city, and the world. In a phrase, what we want for every person is to *worship* Christ, *grow* in Christ, and *serve* Christ.

Jesus left his home and came to the world on a mission. **Missional** ministry is participating in Christ's purposes in the world. And as a church we want to engage the city with the gospel through redeeming culture and inviting people into relationship with Jesus Christ. We call that missional ministry.

### transformed people

A transformed city begins with transformed people. We believe that HTC's vision to see the city of Chicago transformed by the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ must start with a recovery of the gospel in our own lives. The Reformation began with a recovery of the gospel in the reformers lives and spread like wildfire through the world. The apostle Paul says to the church in Corinth, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:6). We, like Paul and Apollos, can plant and water through ministries of prayer, and the Word, but transformation is a spiritual work that God does. As we are transformed by the gospel it will change us in prayer, word, and mission.

**Praying 312:** We are asking that each HTC family member pray for **3** friends or family members with the hope that **1** of them be transformed by the gospel, within **2** years. This is a prayer we believe God is eager to answer. It gives names to the people we pray for, and a sense of responsibility to engender friendships that seek gospel transformation.

*"My relationships with these three men has fundamentally been changed into gospel relationships."*

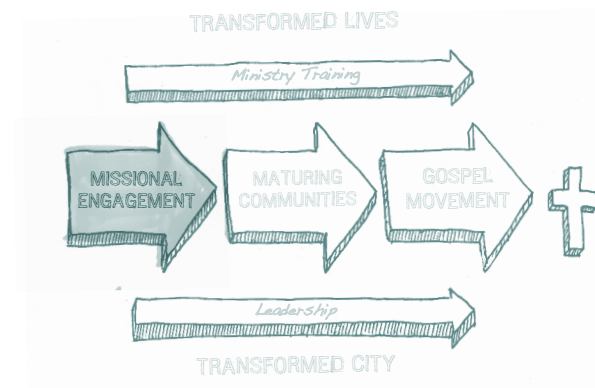
- Pastor David Helm on Praying 312

**Reading the Bible 121:** Reading One-to-One is a variation of that most central Christian activity—reading the Bible—but with someone else. The "someone" can vary. Reading 121 can be used evangelistically, to help believers mature, or for developing Christian leaders. What better way for authentic friendship to grow than through the medium of God's Word!

**Raising up 350 "missionaries" to Chicago:** We believe that all Christians are called to talk about Jesus with other people, and therefore we're challenging HTC to take on a "missionary" mentality in the city. Ask yourself, "If I moved to a foreign country to spread the gospel, how would my life change?" Having a missionary mentality changes everything. It changes how we pray, talk, and pursue friendships. It changes where we live, shop, and work. It changes how we spend our time and money. If you're a Christian, you are called to this radical way of thinking. HTC started with thirty-seven Christians who had that mentality, and we are now challenging you to the same thing for the spread of the gospel and the glory of God!



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### filling the city with worship

Another way we engage the city missionally is through having a presence throughout the city. A facet of the beauty of Christ's body is its ethnic and social richness, an element that might be lost if we were one congregation in one neighborhood. By being a multi-site church HTC has a gospel-preaching presence in different parts of the city, with different types of people.

#### one church

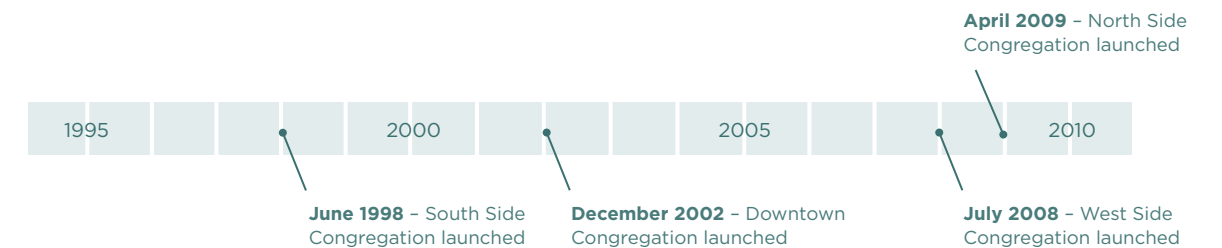
Holy Trinity Church is one local church. We share a history, a pastoral staff, an elder session, deacons, and a vision to see Chicago transformed by the gospel.



HTC Pastoral Team

#### four congregations

In order to reach the city for gospel transformation, we need to be in the city. Life might be simpler if we were all in one location, but we believe the Lord has called us to reach the seventy-seven neighborhoods of Chicago. As a multi-site church we have the strengths of both a large church, covering a large geographic area, and a small church, with centralized leadership and a focus on community. The apostle Paul says, "I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it for the sake of the gospel that I may share with them in its blessings" (1 Corinthians 9:22-23). For the sake of the gospel, HTC is attempting to dwell in the varied neighborhoods and cultures of Chicago in order to love and preach good news to our neighbors.



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Joseph Kim, Downtown Pastor, Director of Missional Ministries  
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## contagious creativity

### Fusion

From the beginning God gave Holy Trinity creative people. The term "Fusion" reflects our belief that local culture is a God-given dimension of church life, and that the meeting of different cultures within God's family is an integral part of church maturity. Fusion is essentially a celebration of God's creativity. Our desire is to provide a public forum to the diverse musical talents within our congregations, encouraging all of our musicians to present their gifts in concerts as well as in Sunday services.

### Highlights from the Past Year

Highlights from this past year include two concerts held at Murphy Auditorium, **Christmas on the Town**, and **Jazz & Java**. **Christmas on the Town** featured over forty participants and such diverse offerings as Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks*, jazz treatments of various carols, two choral works by our own Eric Pazdziora, folk-rock numbers by George Harrison, James Taylor, and Jennifer Knapp, dramatic poetry by John Milton, and a Croatian folk song set to a Persian accompaniment. **Jazz & Java** involved a group of musicians from HTC, along with area blues guitarist Eddie C. Campbell and vocalist Rebecca Sullivan. Within the broad genre of jazz, this program was also quite diverse, including Latin, blues, modal, swing, and even some country-western inflections.



### Hopes for the Upcoming Years

We believe that music and art are important to reflecting God's beauty and want to see God spread the creativity of HTC artists to engage our neighbors and friends with redemptive art. We want to engage the community through the creative expression of the artists in our midst.

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#### GOALS OF FUSION:

- 1) *To allow our musicians to flourish within their style*
- 2) *To pursue fruitful interactions with other musicians and styles*
- 3) *To expose our church members, their friends, and the greater public to the riches of Chicago's musical life and its potential for gospel ministry*

#### 2009-2010 FUSION SHOWS

November 6	Fall Blues
December 18	Christmas on the Town
February 12	Tchaikovsky for Lovers
March 12	Jazz and Java
April 9	Folk Originals
May 21	Hip-Hop Live

To develop **maturity** in the gospel means growing in who Christ is. He is the head: his people are the body. Acts 2:42-47 models a gospel maturity that encompasses prayer, study of God's Word, and radical sharing and intense fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

## vibrant community

### Community Groups

God has created every person for community: community with him and community with others. At the Fall of mankind our community with God and others was shattered. But God has provided ways for community to be restored. At Holy Trinity, our Community Groups promote this restoration by allowing participants to connect on four levels. Through participation in Community Groups we connect to **God**, connect to the **Word**, connect to **people**, and connect to the **city**.

The best way to build relationships within the Holy Trinity body is to be involved in a Community Group. Such groups provide a comfortable place to build friendships, ask tough questions, and share in one another's joys and burdens. HTC started eleven years ago with three Community Groups. By the work of the Holy Spirit that number has now grown to twenty-three. This year we would like to see our Community Groups continue to multiply - even to forty groups - spreading throughout the city so that more people in more neighborhoods have access to home-based, Word-centered, relationship-building community. We are challenging each group to commit to stay together for 12-18 months and plant another group. A new study format is being piloted this year whereby people will interact with the same Biblical text through their own personal study, hearing a Sunday sermon on the text, and then discussing it with their groups.

*"Community Groups provide a way to dig deeper into the Word and get insights from others that you may not be able to get from your own study. Plus, community groups offer the companionship and support all of us need, even when we don't think we do. Some of the closest friends I have made in the church have come out of my Community Group experiences."*

- longtime Community Group member

*"I'm excited about our new format and I believe it will create deep immersion in the Word, strong application, and changed lives"*

- Tom Barrett, Holy Trinity's Director of Maturing Communities.

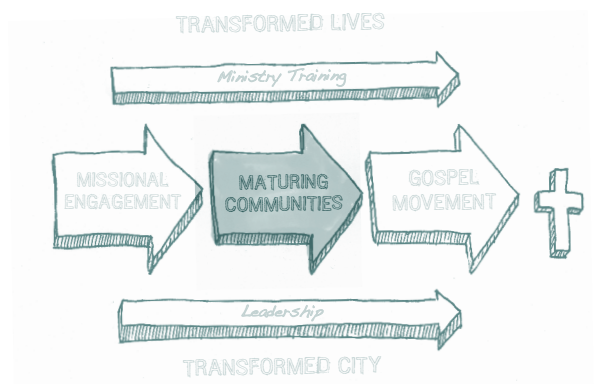
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## a growing family

### Children's Ministry

At Holy Trinity Church we love children. We love their curiosity, enthusiasm, and desire to learn. God willing, we would like to see the children of our city – from every walk of life – be transformed by the gospel. That is why HTC is committed to exceptional children's ministry. HTC endeavors to prayerfully support parents by providing a safe, loving, and fun environment for children from our church and community to learn God's Word and experience His love. It is our hope that God will use us to build the best children's ministry we can for the growth of the gospel in this city. A strong church needs strong singles and families. We are looking for people to commit long term to gospel ministry in the city of Chicago.

*"There aren't sufficient words of gratitude to all the teachers and helpers that have given themselves to this ministry over our eleven-year history!"*

- **Andy Hensel**, former leader of South Side Children's Ministries

#### HTC has often written our own children's ministry curriculum. Some highlights:

- 2000:** "God's Story: The Big Picture" – A family devotional covering the plot-line of the OT and NT
- 2001:** "The Big Picture Devotional" – A one-year family catechism written to help children and adults grow in their understanding and love of the big picture of the Bible.
- 2002:** "Big Beliefs" – A devotional for families based on the Westminster Confession of Faith.
- 2004:** *The Big Picture Story Bible* – Written by David Helm and illustrated by South Side deacon, Gail Schoonmaker. Published by Crossway books.



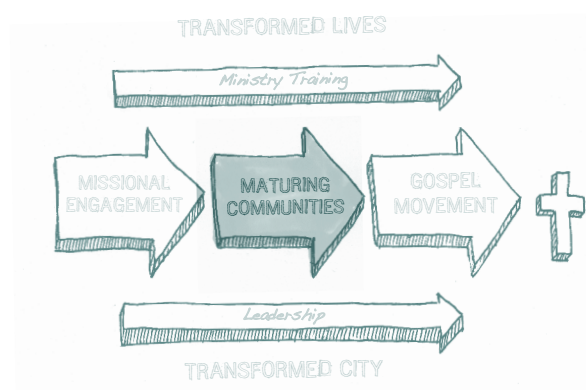
HTC Summer Picnic

#### At the South Side congregation we're thrilled to launch Kid City, a children's ministry that has Chicago written all over it.

- 0-2 years old – ride the "Blue Line"
- 3-4 years old – ride the "Green Line"
- K-2nd grade – ride the "Red Line"
- 3rd-5th grade – ride the "Orange Line"

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## a growing family

### HTC Youth (HTCY)

When Holy Trinity began we had no youth group. We now serve 25, sixth through twelfth-grade students. In all of our service projects, Bible studies, retreats, and fun activities, we seek to keep Jesus Christ at the center of all we do.

**ExNihilo Launch** – Historically HTCY met at the South Side congregation, but we are moving toward multi-site youth ministry at HTC with the launch of the Downtown Sunday ExNihilo class.

**Love My Lips and 30 Hour Famine** – Love My Lips is probably the most fun night on the youth group calendar! For the third straight year the students put on an incredible display of lip-synching talent. Through Love My Lips HTCY was able to raise over \$350 for 30 Hour Famine. This year over 25 students participated in Love My Lips, and it was attended by over 80 people.

With the help of our youth interns we hope to see youth ministry thrive at our Downtown and South Side Congregations, and take root on the North and West Sides.

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Ice Skating in Hyde Park

### University Ministry

HTC ministers to students across all four congregations, including students from University of Chicago, University of Illinois Chicago, Moody Bible Institute, Roosevelt, Loyola, Illinois Institute of Technology, and the Art Institute.

#### Text and Truth

An ongoing HTC university ministry is Text and Truth, a faculty speaker series addressing the relationship between the Christian faith and academic disciplines. Each quarter faculty, mostly from the University of Chicago, address a different topic and discipline, reporting on their research and its relationship to the Christian faith. The series is intended to foster relationships between faculty and students, provide models of scholarship, stimulate dialogue between the Church and the university, and encourage thinking about how faith informs the various academic disciplines. For info on upcoming lectures see [htcchicago.org/text-and-truth/](http://htcchicago.org/text-and-truth/)

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## growing family

### Women's Ministry

The primary ministry to women at HTC is through Sunday services and Community Groups. In addition there are other ministries, including Saturday morning mini-retreats, Reading 121, a Women's Weekend-Away, and various Bible studies throughout the city. This year the Downtown congregation is also hosting a Mom-to-Mom group bi-monthly, on Thursday mornings at our North location. The South Side has been hosting a Mom's study for the past two years.

#### Testimonies from women who have participated in various women's gatherings:

*"Women's gatherings at Holy Trinity are always centered around the Word of God, which provides the foundation for community and spiritual formation. I am thankful for such a faithful ministry that is always seeking to glorify Christ in what they do."*

*"I saw God work in friends lives and continue to teach me through His Word."*

*"God challenged me to run after Him more passionately."*



Saturday Morning Mini - Retreat

#### Women's Ministry by Congregation

##### South

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#### Church-Wide Women's Ministry

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HTC wants to accelerate a **movement** of the gospel by participating in God's transformation of this city and the world. Through such activities as ministries of mercy, global partnership, and church planting we are living out Christ's love and participating in his mission.

## mercy

### Hope for Chicago

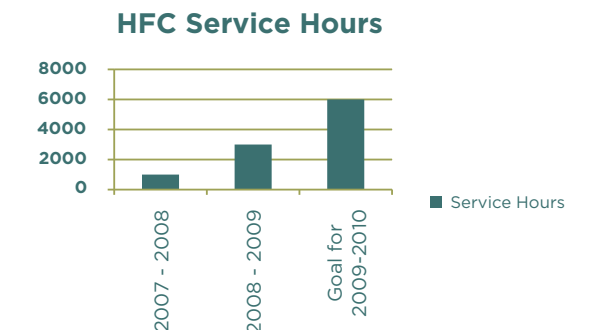
In 2002 Holy Trinity launched a ministry to serve the poor of Chicago. Hope for Chicago is the mercy ministry arm of HTC. Our purpose is to empower people to love and serve Chicago's poor in response to Christ's transforming work in our own lives. We do that through connecting people with opportunities to serve at existing ministries, and helping people start new organic ministries. We currently serve the following populations in Chicago: youth in need of mentoring and tutoring, the elderly, the homeless, those in prison and recently released, orphans, and women in crisis pregnancies. We believe that on our behalf Jesus Christ left heaven and became a servant to save us. In response to his great sacrifice of love, we desire to follow his lead and serve our fellow Chicagoans. Specifically, we desire to serve those most in need.

#### SAYO (Summer Association for Youth Outreach)

SAYO is HTC's summer internship to help young people see God's heart for the city.

*"This internship radically changed my view of full-time Christian service and my eyes were opened to the challenges and joys of investing one's life in this kind of work. I can honestly say that the Lord used SAYO to change my life plan....I am very thankful for the wide variety of experiences that the SAYO program allowed me to have."*

- Sarah Clark, 2005 SAYO Intern who now works full time at By the Hand Club for Kids



Only a portion of HFC's budget is from Holy Trinity. Up to 60% is raised from outside sources.

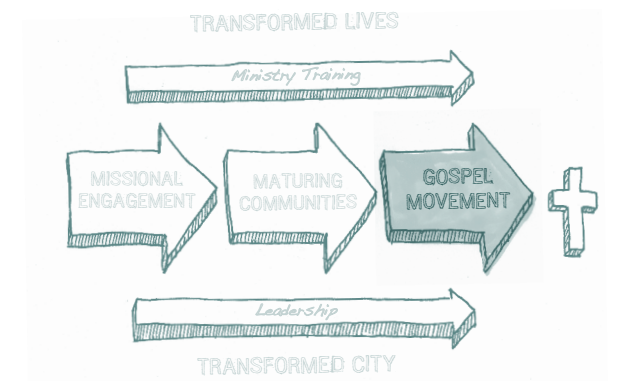
#### Goals for Next Year

- Launch a ministry to the homeless around Hyde Park
- Assist HTC West Side in starting an ESL (English as a Second Language) Program
- Mobilize 6000 volunteer hours
- Continue the SAYO Program with 12 SAYO Interns

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## a global family: spreading the word

### Global Ministry Partners

Seven years ago HTC began supporting Global Ministry Partners throughout the world. We now have the following twelve Global Ministry Partners on four continents:

**Africa:** Joey & Suzanne Lincoln (Congo); Stanlas & Judy Ndambuki (Nairobi, Kenya); Sammy Weber (Cameroon). **Asia:** Jason & Laura Swain (India); Ben & Hannah (Middle East); Katherine (Middle East); Jim & Merry Carole Backstrom (Southeast Asia); **Europe:** Matt & Rachel Ashcraft (Spain); Alyssa Copenhaver (Bulgaria); Greg & Debbie Nichols (Czech Republic); David & Sara Hopson (preparing for ministry in Albania); **North America:** Craig & Sharon Gartland (InterVarsity-Midwest Region).



The Hopson Family

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*I have been shaped [by my time at HTC] and trust that God will use what I have recieved for the years he gives me in Albania."*

David Hopson, HTC Global Ministry Partner

### The Chicago Plan

Since 2001 Holy Trinity has been training young men and women for gospel ministry. Our interns are now all over the country. To accelerate gospel movement in the city of Chicago, the Chicago Plan was organized soon after HTC's inception as a residential training program devoted to training up pastors, church planters, and full-time Christian workers. Our own Tom Barrett, Oscar Leiva, Kevin Schwartz, and former HTC pastor Dave Camera are Chicago Plan graduates.



This year there are fourteen Chicago Plan interns

#### The three facets of Chicago Plan training:

- classroom instruction
- mentorship
- ministry exposure

*"I gained much with my pastoral internship at HTC a decade ago... I am thankful for how this church and its pastors personally trained me to read, study, and expound God's Word. This basic training in shepherding God's people by means of His Word has been the bedrock for my gospel ministry."*

Doug O'Donnell was an intern at Holy Trinity Church when the church was planted; Doug then went on to be an assisting pastor in a church plant in Batavia, IL; Doug is now the Senior Pastor of New Covenant Church, a church plant in Naperville, IL

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## church planting

From our inception eleven years ago we have had a vision for planting at least 100 gospel-centered churches in Chicago and around the world. We are a church plant with a vision to plant more churches. Why? Because we want to obey Jesus when he says to "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). We believe that the Apostles were acting in obedience to Jesus' commission make disciples by planting churches. Holy Trinity Church cannot accomplish our vision to see Chicago transformed without planting more churches.



Stanlas & Judy Ndambuki, Stanlas is a pastor in Nairobi and an HTC Global Ministry Partner

### Chicago Partnership for Church Planting (CPCP)

In the past few years HTC has begun forming a partnership with The Moody Memorial Church and Park Community Church called Chicago Partnership for Church Planting (CPCP). CPCP's mission is to glorify God and our Lord Jesus Christ by partnering with churches to plant new churches in and from great cities of the world.

#### CPCP has arranged two church planting training events to build momentum for church planting:

**February 2009** - with Darrin Patrick (VP of Acts 29 Church Planting Network)

**October 2009** - with Eric Mason (Epiphany Fellowship in Philadelphia), and Philip Jensen (an Australian church planter who has planted more than twenty churches)

### The Priority of Great Cities

Why great cities? As of 2008, half of the world's 6.7 billion people live in cities. One hundred years ago only eight percent of the world's population was urban. If urban areas keep growing at this rate then in forty years seventy percent of the world will live in cities. **It's quite simple: cities are the most strategic places to plant churches because cities are packed with people!** People from around the globe work, study, and live in the world's great cities. One hundred years ago one had to cross the ocean to tell a Chinese person about Jesus. Today, we just have to cross the street!

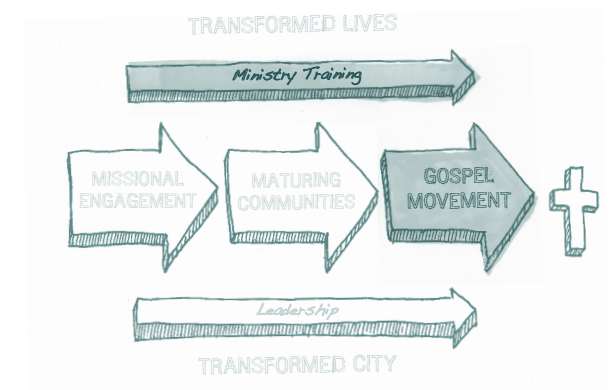
World's most global cities, ranked according to cultural, political, and financial influence (*BusinessWeek*, October 29, 2008): 1) New York City, 2) London, 3) Paris, 4) Tokyo, 5) Hong Kong, 6) Los Angeles, 7) Singapore, 8) Chicago, 9) Seoul, 10) Toronto

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## God provides

### God's Provision Over the Past Eleven Years

HTC started in 1998-1999 with \$70,000 in congregational giving. Last year, God provided \$637,155 through the generosity of HTC people. We thank God for the way he has provided for us. As a church, we have always been aggressive. We started our second congregation when we had less than forty members in the church. Yet God's faithfulness has been proven year after year.

*"It is always exciting to open an envelope and find a REALLY big check, but the ones with a child's name scribbled in pencil always melt my heart." I was handed an envelope from one of our youth during our year-end rally. When I opened it, I was amazed and thought to myself, "This kid just gave up their Xbox360 to support God's work in the city!"*

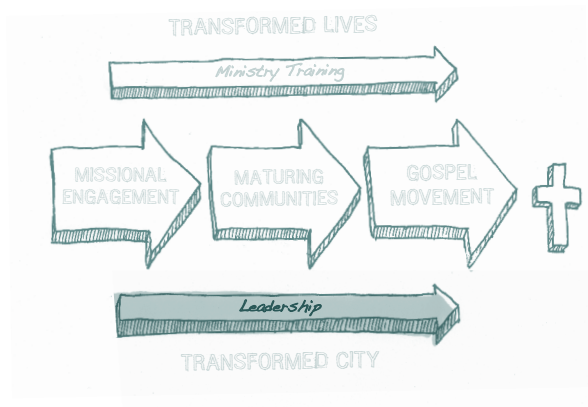
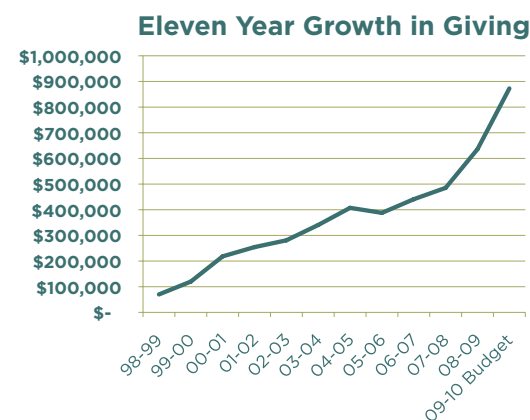
- Jim White, HTC Financial Secretary

### Praying for God's Provision This Year and Beyond

HTC is in a season of expansion. In the last sixteen months we have gone from two congregations to four, from two services to five. In the last three years we have gone from three pastors to six. We believe God wants to see more people come to know Christ, marriages strengthened, singles fully devoted to Christ, children disciplined, hearts changed, and the city turning toward Christ in worship.

We have some significant challenges ahead of us. We are praying for a 37% increase in congregational giving; from \$637,155 last year to \$872,750 in this current budget year. Humanly speaking, this is impossible. Looking at God, we know he can provide. We believe that God can provide this growth, but it won't be easy. It will require everybody at HTC being "on mission." In November we intend to ask the whole church to tithe for the month of November. In January, we are asking to the church to commit to a month of prayer without ceasing. This will require 336 people praying for thirty minutes each week, for four weeks. You might sign up for the 3:00am slot, or the 9:00pm slot; either way, we are asking for God's renewing work to come to our city.

In giving, God wants us to be cheerful and wholly dependent on him. He wants us to ask him for our daily bread. When our need increases, our dependency increases. While God provides, he provides through his people. His resources are infinite, yet he provides through finite people, finite bank accounts, and finite pockets.



God is sovereign in all things but he uses people like you and I to achieve his purposes in the world. In the words of Jonathan Edwards, "God is the only proper author and fountain; we only are the proper actors. We are in different respects, wholly passive and wholly active." Applying what Edwards is saying with regard to our prayers for God's provision at HTC means that we need to continually recognize both that God is the 'fountain' of all our resources, and we are the 'actors' God uses for his purposes.

"Then I said to them, 'You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision.' And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, 'Let us rise up and build.' So they strengthened their hands for the good work." *Nehemiah 2:17-18*

## financial snapshots

### Balance Sheet (a)

	April 30, 2007	April 30, 2008	April 30, 2009
<b>ASSETS:</b>			
Operating Cash	\$ 472,066	\$ 717,837	\$ 494,465
Restricted Cash	\$ 25,082	\$ 51,651	\$ 47,148
Other Assets	\$ 16,137	\$ 39,960	\$ 10,760
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 513,285</b>	<b>\$ 809,448</b>	<b>\$ 552,373</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; FUNDS:</b>			
Liabilities	\$ 3,115	\$ 39,230	\$ 29,186
Fund Balances:			
General	\$ 122,124	\$ 32,212	\$ 7,382
LSBC Gift (b)	\$ -	\$ 317,604	\$ 236,806
Chicago Project (c)	\$ 362,964	\$ 368,751	\$ 231,850
Total unrestricted	\$ 485,088	\$ 718,567	\$ 476,038
Restricted	\$ 25,082	\$ 51,651	\$ 47,149
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Funds</b>	<b>\$ 513,285</b>	<b>\$ 809,448</b>	<b>\$ 552,373</b>

(a) Unaudited; value of the 4100 N. Greenview property is excluded from the above balance sheet.

(b) LSBC Gift - The Lake Shore Baptist Church gift is one of the many stones of remembrance HTC can look to in God's provision. In August 2007, LSBC contacted HTC to express interest in entrusting their resources to HTC, so that HTC could continue the mission of reaching the North Side of Chicago with the gospel. Ten days after LSBC asked HTC to consider their offer, LSBC voted to entrust their resources, including a building and financial resources, to HTC. This cash gift is included in this balance sheet but not the property value.

(c) Chicago Project - From late 2005 through 2008, HTC undertook a capital campaign called the "Chicago Project", that raised funds for ministry expansion.

### April 30, 2009 Unrestricted Fund Balances:

General fund	\$ 7,382
LSBC Gift fund	\$ 236,806
Chicago Project fund	\$ 231,850
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 476,038</b>

Annual Income and Expenses (a)

	Actual 2006-2007	Actual 2007-2008	Actual 2008-2009	Budget 2009-2010
<b>Income:</b>				
Congregational Giving	\$ 441,119	\$ 485,260	\$ 637,155	\$ 872,750
Chicago Project Internal	\$ 123,292	\$ 132,030	\$ 84,062	\$ -
Chicago Project External	\$ 176,872	\$ 41,328	\$ 6,793	\$ -
LSBC Gift	\$ -	\$ 325,162	\$ 4,450	\$ -
Other	\$ 42,751	\$ 40,804	\$ 48,073	\$ 8,250
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$ 784,034</b>	<b>\$ 1,024,584</b>	<b>\$ 780,533</b>	<b>\$ 881,000</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Employee Costs	\$ 267,622	\$ 449,784	\$ 556,376	\$ 612,635
Missions	\$ 16,455	\$ 32,902	\$ 29,347	\$ 31,902
Hope for Chicago	\$ 60,368	\$ 79,659	\$ 69,925	\$ 39,030
Other Shared	\$ 149,949	\$ 39,282	\$ 89,578	\$ 32,250
South Side	\$ 38,307	\$ 53,854	\$ 76,498	\$ 49,901
Downtown	\$ 47,279	\$ 105,710	\$ 144,111	\$ 141,997
West Side	\$ 4,312	\$ 15,406	\$ 35,087	\$ 32,411
North Side	\$ -	\$ 14,508	\$ 22,140	\$ 25,157
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 584,292</b>	<b>\$ 791,105</b>	<b>\$ 1,023,062</b>	<b>\$ 965,283</b>
<b>Net income/(loss)</b>	<b>\$ 199,742</b>	<b>\$ 233,479</b>	<b>\$ (242,529)</b>	<b>\$ (84,283)</b>

(a) Unaudited; the HTC budget year is from May 1 through April 30

Budgeted Congregational Giving & Expense



	Budgeted Expenses	Budgeted giving	(Deficit)/ Surplus
South Side	\$ 310,330	\$ 300,000	\$ (10,330)
Downtown	\$ 422,693	\$ 431,500	\$ 8,807
West Side	\$ 106,613	\$ 78,250	\$ (28,363)
North Side	\$ 125,647	\$ 63,000	\$ (62,647)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 965,283</b>	<b>\$ 872,750</b>	<b>\$ (92,533)</b>

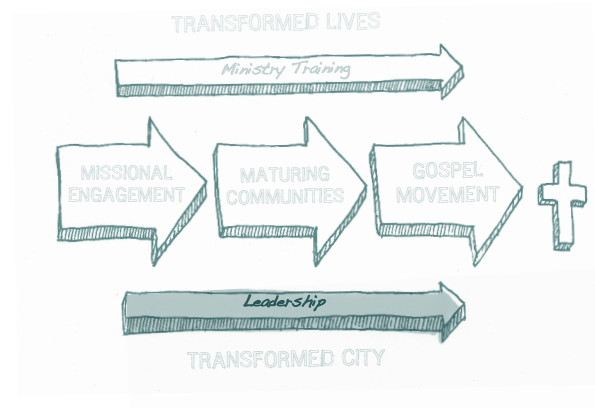
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A Call to Prayer

Lord, we are few, but Thou art near:  
 Nor short Thine arm, nor deaf Thine ear;  
 Oh rend the heavens, come quickly down,  
 And make a thousand hearts Thine own.

William Cowper 1731 - 1800

A Call to Prayer -

The ability to accomplish our vision is beyond us. City renewal by the power of the gospel of Jesus will require a movement of God's Spirit across our city from north to south and downtown to the west. As we at Holy Trinity continue to grow in maturity, we are asking you to pray. We would love for the next year to be months of prayer for *renewal, revival, repentance* and *conversions* within our church and city. Let's pray for an extraordinary movement of God in our city.

In Colossians Paul asks the church to pray for doors to open for the gospel. He writes,

*"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison- that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak"* (Colossians 4:2-4).

Despite imprisonment, Paul is confident that God can open doors of opportunity to declare the mystery of Christ in response to the prayers of the church. As William Cowper points out: **God hears our prayers, he is not deaf; God is capable of answering, his arm is not short.** Let's pray that he makes many hearts his own through the ministry of Holy Trinity Church in the years to come.





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