

Christiania Lutheran Church



Budget Forum
December 6, 2009

2009 Budget Update

- Thank You! Appreciative of giving
- Offering is down by \$37,000
 - > Loss of Families
 - > Struggling economy
 - > ELCA Vote

Other trends

- Over the last two years \$45,000 pulled from operating reserve to cover general expenses
- Operating reserve is low and Council approved line of credit
- Decrease in new families joining the church
- Since 2007 church has been in transition
- Decrease in offering this fall compared to historical trends
- Since 2006, general offering down by \$40,000 while expenses have increased by \$60,000

We are not alone

- > Grace Lutheran Church- \$59,000 to \$158,000 projected year end shortfall
- > Family of Christ-\$39,000 deficit
- > All local churches report some type of financial concerns

2010 Budget Process

- Historical Budgeting
- Balanced budget for 2010
- Zero percent increase in costs including staffing
- Pay back the operating reserve

2010 Budget Reality

- Projected Revenue-\$382,387
- Projected Expenses-\$454,385
- Projected Budget Deficit-\$72,000

What does \$72,000 mean?

- Close to 16% of the total budget
- \$76,624 -The total expenses for all programming /benevolence in 2010
- Budget breakdown
 - > Programs -9% or \$44,724
 - > Staff -71% or \$323,428
 - > Facilities-12% or \$ 54,333
 - > Benevolence -8% or \$31,900

What are the options?

- Relook at our mission and priorities
- Evaluate ways to increase offerings/revenue for 2010
- Reduce benevolence
- Review 2010 budget projections and prioritize areas for reduction to balance budget
- Review the need for paying back the operating reserve compared to increase reliance on line of credit

Stewardship

The question being asked is NOT...

Can you give more? Rather...

Can you give more...

- > *Regularly?*
- > *Efficiently?*
- > *Freely?*

Stewardship Options

- ◎ *Simply Giving*: Electronically from your bank to Christiania
- ◎ *Pre-pay Offering* by December 31st, 2009
 - > Check
 - > Credit Card
 - > Stocks/Mutual Funds
 - > IRA Transfer
 - > Roth IRA withdrawal
- ◎ *Anticipated Tax Refund*
- ◎ *Low Interest/Dividend Earning Money*

Next Steps

- Meet with church staff to review budget/suggest options
- Continued review of revenue trends
- Special Council Meeting on December 8th to discuss budget and recommendations based on feedback

Next Steps (continued)

- Council develops a balanced budget and provides two additional forums on:
 - > December 20th
 - > January 10th
- Approve 2010 budget at annual meeting on January 31, 2010

Budget Forum

- Questions

