

Prayer Triad 10 Compilation

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Scripture Question: Paul gives thanks for the ways God has enriched and strengthened the church in Corinth. Think of ways that God has provided for us the resources sufficient for the work of ministry in this place.

- The first thought in everyone's mind is that our new church's existence is proof that God has provided resources sufficient for our ministry. It was equal to a miracle that the outpouring of love and financial help came from so many.
- We have a place to do ministry. We are blessed to have a church building and God has provided the right people for us to do his ministry.
- God has given us a talented and loving congregation, a good and caring minister and a building that has no debt. If we have the desire and determination, we have the resources to transform ourselves into a church that follows God's lead and does his will.

Question 1: Does our building serve or inhibit the ministries of our congregation?

- It serves.
- Our building serves us beautifully! How fortunate we are to have it!
- Our building is very adequate for this purpose – it serves.
- We believe that our buildings serve and enhance our ministries of our congregation. We are able to have groups meet here that might not have done so before. The fact that outside groups ask to use our facilities means that they deem them to be worthy and that the chances of our allowing them to come are good. We think that our choir/music space is not large enough. We're doing ok, but the areas are cramped when we'd like to have instruments, microphones, people, etc all in the same place.
- Our building serves the ministries of our congregation.
- It serves our ministries and other functions as well.
- Our current members, we believe, love and appreciate our wonderful building and think it is flexible and holds great potential. We wonder if traditional church building styles are scary to some or somehow put off certain people. It is hard to know the answer to this. Our audio-visual equipment, area and ministry is not where it needs to be in this electronically savvy time. We could create connectedness via technology with emails, streaming videos, video ministries, creative worship videography and by fully taking advantage of our web page and Facebook site – this of course takes man hours.
- Our physical building, including Bethany Hall, serves the ministries of our congregation well, but part of the rebuilding committee's plans – paving the north side parking lot – has not been carried out. [As an aside, we must be concerned about why new people come to Bethany but don't stay and we must correct any problem that we find.

Question 2: Do we have sufficient available financial resources to do the ministries that God is calling us to do?

- Presently, yes. It will have to be determined if we have sufficient finances after the future endeavor is decided.
- Our generous congregation has certainly provided. Perhaps future paid positions could be a part-time youth minister, a piano/music minister and/or a part-time parish nurse.
- Yes, we are financially adequate.
- It seems that, whatever the need, we find a way to produce the financial resources. We had a discussion about wanting to have more funds available in the annual budget to help other churches when a crisis hits them. So many folks were so generous to us. If we have \$5,000 available for a church that burns in February, but another equally worthy church needs it in June, then the budgeted \$5,000 is gone. We haven't had to face this dilemma yet, but perhaps more could be placed into outreach. One person commented that she thought we might be deficient in funding mission work.
- We do not believe that we have sufficient financial resources to do all of the ministries that God is calling us to do. We have resources for some things, but we could do more if we had more.
- If the mission is of God and we are committed then God will provide what we need.
- The money has always been there in the past; however, we don't know about now or in the future.
- We're doing well with the financial resources that we have, but of course we could use more. We could be developing a presence and reaching people with social media at a minimal cost and there are likely other programs that can advance our mission without a large outlay of capital.

Question 3: If we were to add some new ministry, what would you want it to be?

- Youth minister, ministry to prevent abortion, mission trips within the US, utilize Camp Caroline more for ministries, more fellowship within Pamlico District Union churches by having programs together.
- Community soup kitchen and community garden; help for alcohol abuse victims, troubled teens, abused women and men, etc...; prayer ministry and classes for faith worship and how to pray.
- Ministries for children.
- Depends on what we perceive the need to be. More activities to attract young folks like an after school program so the parents could pick them up later in the afternoon. What about having 10 or so laptops or tablets available for children to do homework on or to play educational games under supervision. Some of us would like to see programs to attract the Hispanic population. There were general comments about how well we perceived the need for local ministries or ministries that solicit funds by phone or internet. Sometimes we're cynical because of previous scams so how do we know when something is worthy?
- We could add a youth minister. We need a team to organize more mission work – both locally and outside our county.
- Helping the homeless or families who are in trouble after some kind of disaster; a real functioning website with audio/video, sermons and slideshows of events; service/mission projects for youth/adults; dynamic guest speakers; Bible studies; prayer ministry groups

meeting to pray (we need to be comfortable praying for and with each other and asking for prayer when we feel we need it); more involvement with the congregation of services (not by putting people on the spot, but with planning); more opportunities for the youth to be involved; we would love to see things grow enough to be able to have a separate dynamic youth service with a youth pastor.

- Something that helped people who needed it.
- A social media ministry is one. Another is to use the church van to take people in the church and in the community to doctor's appointments. Another is to help send kids outside the church to Camp Caroline which provides a great experience for youth. Un-churched people need to know people in Bethany because they would see the value of being part of a church family, so we need to get out into the community individually and as a church and become fishers of people.

Question 4: If you believe God is calling us to spend our resources and use our buildings in some new way, will you publicly support it?

- It depends on what it is – as long as it saves souls and builds up the body of Christ.
- YES – we could have musical guests playing in the pavilion like the Pamlico Chorale or other musical groups and we could have bell, choir and gospel choir concerts there too.
- Yes.
- It depends on what the ministry would be, but we're definitely open to discussions.
- If we personally believe in the new use, we would publically support it.
- YES
- If God is calling us, who could not help but support it.
- YES