

THE EXAMEN(ED) CHURCH - INVITATION TO JOIN THE THRIVE TEAM



This month we are beginning our participation in the Marquette University sponsored program called, “The Examen(ed) Church”. We are joining five other congregations from the greater-Milwaukee area as part of this new endeavor to help our congregation look toward the future.

The first task of the “Examen(ed) Church” was to create a Thrive Team to attend gatherings and to help bring the materials back to the congregation, so that the entire church might learn and grow from the experience. Terry McManus, Louise Mollinger, Karl Pradel, Scott Symes, Gary and Meg Tackes, as well as Pastor Scott, will serve as our Thrive Team. (See below if you would still like to sign-up.) The team will participate in training sessions, workshops, and a series of guided conversations seeking to: clarify the church’s mission and values; deepen Christian practice; and enrich our congregation’s engagement with the community around us.

Now, if this sounds interesting to you and you would like to participate, **there is still room for one or two more people to join our Thrive Team.** So, if you would like to grow spiritually, if you have been curious about the future of our congregation and to what ministries God is calling us, then this might be a great opportunity for you! Please talk to Pastor Scott by January 15 to get started or learn more about what is required.

Throughout this 18 to 24 month process the congregation will receive updates from the Thrive Team, and there will be occasional events and activities sponsored by the program so the whole church can share in the experience—providing input and feedback. The Thrive Team will be engaged in prayer and spiritual growth through use of Ignatius Loyola’s “Daily Examen” which then grows into spiritual discernment work with the entire congregation.

We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in this program, because all the resources, staffing, and support that we will receive in 2023 and 2024 comes to us free of charge because of a grant Marquette received through the Lilly Endowment. The first gathering of the churches takes place on Saturday, January 21, at Marquette. The Thrive Team will be learning more about the program and will report back to the Church next month. Stay tuned for more updates!