

Questions and Answers regarding our Church Attendance Policy

Trinity Lutheran Church developed Church Attendance Policy in 1995. During the last year a number of families have had questions regarding this policy. The Board of Christian Day School and the Pastors will attempt to answer a number of common questions in this letter. If you have any additional questions, please direct them to the Pastors and/or the Principal.

1. **Why do we have a church attendance policy?** We need to balance an understanding of Law and Gospel. As a member of Trinity we promise to be faithful in our church attendance. Trinity has a long history of providing Christian education to its member children. We also have individuals that have joined Trinity in order to receive discount tuition, without fully becoming actively involved. If you are not actively involved (church attendance) you should not receive congregational tuition assistance. Our goal is to have families follow their commitments.
2. **What are the basic requirements of the church attendance policy?** Parents of students that attend Trinity at the member tuition rate are to be at church at least 66 % of the time. The church attendance policy also is in effect year-round (including the summer).
3. **How is church attendance recorded?** All families are asked to fill out the church attendance cards. The information is entered into the church's computer program that tracks attendance and offerings, and other member information. If an individual does not fill out the card, we are not able to track individual attendance.
4. **What if we attend another church on a given Sunday?** We understand that families do travel or visit other churches during the year. Bring back a copy of the service bulletin, write the names of all those that attended from your family. The bulletins should be submitted to Pastor Radtke. Pastor will turn them into the church office to be recorded. It is also an assumption that as a member of Trinity, families will not be disproportional attending other churches over Trinity.
5. **What if I only have my child(ren) every other weekend (or other schedule)?** Your church attendance is based on your attendance, not just on week ends with your child. Parents should encourage your child to attend church services if they are away from their parents.
6. **Do all services count for church attendance policy?** Yes, Wednesday (noon), Saturday evening, and Sunday mornings. Also some area churches have a Thursday evening services that would also count.
7. **What happens if we fall below the needed 66% church attendance?** The policy states that if a family falls below 66%, then the family will no longer have the benefit of discounted tuition rate. **If a family has unusual circumstances, they may direct these circumstances to the Pastors or Principal. Special circumstances may be used to set aside the 66% attendance policy.**