

2019
Annual Parish Meeting
January 26, 2020



Growing in love of God and neighbor

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

AGENDA	2
MINUTES OF 2019 ANNUAL MEETING.	3
CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION	7
TREASURER'S REPORT	10
RECTOR'S REPORT	11
DEACON'S REPORT	13
WARDENS' REPORT	16
<i>SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND FORMATION</i>	
RENEWAL WORKS	17
CHRISTIAN FORMATION - ADULTS	19
CHRISTIAN FORMATION - CHILDREN.	20
CHRISTIAN FORMATION - YOUTH	22
YOUTH GROUP	23
<i>WORSHIP</i>	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS (EM)	24
ACOLYTES	25
LAY READERS	28
ALTAR GUILD	28
FLOWER GUILD	29
MUSIC	29
<i>SERVING GOD IN THE COMMUNITY</i>	
OUTREACH COMMISSION.	33
PRESCHOOL.	34
GOD'S DIVERSITY COMMITTEE.	36
<i>CARING FOR GOD'S GIFTS</i>	
GARDEN ANGELS	39
PROPERTY COMMISSION	40
ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE	41
STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION.	44
PLEDGE COUNTERS	45
PLEDGES FROM 2019	45
<i>GROWING IN RELATIONSHIP</i>	
WELCOMING COMMITTEE	48
PARISH LIFE	49
BOOK CLUB.	50
CALENDAR PARTY	50
MEN'S CLUB	51
NECROLOGY	52
HYMN.	53

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Sunday, January 26, 2020
12:30 pm

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Appointment of the Clerk and Parliamentarian
4. Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting
5. Elections
 - a. Qualifications
 - b. Report of the Nominating Committee
 - c. Further Nominations
 - d. Polls open for 30 minutes
6. Lunch
7. Treasurer's Report for 2019
8. Presentation of Approved 2020 Budget
9. Results of Election
10. Capital Campaign Report
11. General Organization and Committee Reports, *received by title*
12. Announcements
13. Resolutions of appreciation
14. Necrology
15. Hymn
16. Benediction
17. Adjournment

Trinity Church, Moorestown
MINUTES OF 2019 ANNUAL MEETING
January 27, 2019

- I. Call To Order
The Reverend Emily Mellott called the 181st annual meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. in the Trinity Church parish hall.
- II. Opening Prayer
Mother Emily read the prayer for church meetings from the Book of Common Prayer.
- III. Appointment of the Clerk & Parliamentarian
Deacon Leslie Mazzacano was appointed Clerk and Lori Rapuano, Chancellor was appointed Parliamentarian.
- IV. Minutes of previous Annual Meeting
Motion was made by Nancy Matthews to approve the 2018 minutes, seconded by Mike Bathke, approved unanimously.
- V. Elections - Please refer to pages 6, 7, and 8 of Annual Report for bios of candidates.
Candidates: Nancy Matthews for Warden
Vestry Candidates: Joan Dighton, Mark Leis, Anne Sweet for 3-year term, Stella Horton for a 1-year unexpired term
Delegates to Diocesan Convention: Linda Carson, Bob Litsinger, Bob Winzler
Alternates: Eric Hoversen, Jim Morley, John Murray
There were no nominations from the floor, so the polls were opened for thirty minutes at 12:37 -1:07.
- VI. Financial Report: Mark Mann gave financial report for 2018
Budget vs Actual - Budgeted amount was \$753,412, actual expenses was \$731,000, income received was \$666,000 leaving a shortfall of \$64,447. The shortfall amount was taken from the endowment along with the original draw of \$110,000. For property there was an expense budgeted for \$98,500, actual cost was \$110, 346, which included extensive AC work.

2019 Budget Proposal

Mark Mann, Roy Shubert, Linda Carson, Lisa Yeh, Anne Dalesandro, Geri Trost and Mother Emily served on the finance committee. Anne indicated that without Geri Trost who provided financial information and data to the vestry and to the finance committee that without that information it would be very difficult to prepare a budget. A big thank you to Geri Trost for her invaluable contributions.

Anne Dalesandro proposed question that Mother Emily asked the finance committee to consider: Projected Income & Expenses vs Endowment along with Capital Improvements/property and Diocesan Assessment.

Pledge income \$457,000 as of 1/27/19 pledging units of 178 that is 22 below last years. Plate offerings budget \$40-46,000.

Endowment draw-value of it is to support the buildings and upkeep and should be just for property. \$150,000 represent 5.4% of endowment, with the shortfall it will make the draw at 9%. Concern that we cannot continue this big of a draw as we are eroding our Endowment. This year's draw from endowment is broken down to Property \$99,500, Capital Improvements \$51,400

Diocesan Assessment-the assessment is based on the income of pledges, plate and special offerings and draw of endowment that is not used for property. This year we are pledging \$80,000 as good faith and will be paid in increments of \$6,000 per month for 11 months then \$14,000 in December.

Compensation-2% COL increase but because of the changes in the diocese insurance costs going down it offsets the increase in compensation.

Endowment questions always seem to surface between spending the endowment as needed to bring the church up to code and safe vs. others feeling we need to be good stewards of the endowment and not spend too much from it.

VII. Elections-Polls were closed at 1:35 p.m. Mother Emily went over the qualifications to vote:

- Communicate in good standing, attending and receiving sacraments
- Must be 16 years or older, 18 or older to hold office
- Be a good giver of record, a person who accepts the principal of tithing.

Candidates listed on page 6-8 plus the alternate delegates listed above. Walt Belfield moved the voting slate as full, David McGeorge seconded, no discussion ensued, slate approved unanimously.

VIII. Rectors Report

Mother Emily reported that we are facing a lot of challenges, one being a smaller community, but we are growing internally, growing in generosity, referencing our Christmas in July and this past Christmas as examples. Outreach was up 25% and that the preschool under the direction of Nancy Johnson is at capacity with a waiting list. We have had some interesting speakers and discussions during our coffee hours this past year.

Mother Emily also reported that Nancy Johnson has stepped down as the Sunday School Director this past fall as was replaced by Christine Andonie. Mother Emily also wanted to thank the teachers and the Chapel leaders that help Christine throughout the year.

Growing in worship and spirit along with adding more Youth Sundays and enlisting the Sunday School children and youth to write the prayers of the people for those Sundays, seeing a growing energy and joy.

Mother Emily also reported that for the first time with great success we had a summer choir. Also, the small groups that have been inspiring and enriching their personal experiences with each other and God.

Growing in joy, thanking God and all of you, our vestry who have given great leadership, commitment and service. Thanking the church staff as a great gift to the rector and the dedication of support to the church and each other.

Mother Emily also thanked all who prepared the food and helped set up and those who will help clean up.

IX. General Organization & Committee Reports

Motion was made by Eric Hoversen to accept reports as written, seconded by John Murray, no discussion ensued and approved.

X. Necrology-Mother Emily read the persons who have died this past year, and all said prayer on page 52 of annual report.

XI. Resolutions of appreciation-

Appreciation to vestry members who have finished their terms, Jasmine Delet, Lisa Yeh and Joan Dighton, Anne Dalesandro

Behind the scene appreciation to Harry Wind for his gift of support on Thursday mornings and to others. To Barbara Gatinella who is always in the classroom of the 4&5-year-old, always there to help with costumes for pageant, who supplies the coffee and creamer for our coffee hours.

Endorsed resolutions with applause to all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We were called by the diocese to help and support a candidate for the priesthood-Kyle Cuperwich

Reminder to read the reports, vote for best report and to learn more about any ministry.

Reminder if you haven't taken the Spiritual Life inventory please do.

Reminder of upcoming fund raisers at Panera Bread for SVDP and Iron Hill for Outreach.

Benediction: Mother Emily gave prayer and blessing.

John Murray so moved adjournment of meeting, motion seconded, approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leslie Mazzacano". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

The Reverend Leslie G. Mazzacano Clerk

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

Warden - two year term

Elizabeth Louie

I moved from Radnor, PA 29 years ago after being married, live in Mount Laurel and have 3 children (the girls are grown and Patrick is now a freshman in H.S.!). I have an amazing career as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist in a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Hospital. I came to Trinity to be with my Grandparents and have been here ever since. I have seen and been part of a lot of change and growth, and I am honored and humbled by my election to the Vestry and the responsibility of being a Warden. My participation in ministries include: Music (kids choirs, summer choir, Lenten Soup concerts, evensongs), Outreach (St. Paul's Breakfast, Rummage Sale), Christian Formation (Sunday school, Youth), Parish Life, Blueberry Festival and others. I am encouraged by the generosity, energy and ideas we create in our Faith, Parish Family and Functions and look forward to what comes next!...

Vestry - three year term

Audrey Henry

Audrey Henry, M.D., joined Trinity Church in 2008. She served on the campaign committee for the Organ Renovation, is a regular hostess at our Calendar Parties and participant in the Centering Prayer group. In addition, Audrey has completed the two day training, Building the Beloved Community: Undoing Racism, offered by the Diocesan Anti-Racism Commission and Anti-Racism Team. She was a member of the Vestry during our Interim Period and Rector search. Currently, she serves as a liaison between the Vestry and God's Diversity Committee and shares the representation of the Music Program. Audrey is an active Princeton University alumna, serving in a variety of roles and is an active member of the Riverfront Historical Society, recently recognized by the Burlington County Freeholders for ten years of her Juneteenth lecture series. Audrey earned her M.A. in Medical Sociology from the University of Chicago, an M.D. from UPENN, and completed her residency training at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute. She currently practices Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry. Audrey welcomes the opportunity to serve Trinity and work collaboratively with the rector and fellow members. She considers it an honor to serve and to share the responsibility of the Vestry to represent our parishioners, to ensure the mission of our church, and to facilitate the forward movement and growth of our church.

Christopher Norris

Christopher Norris has been an active member of Trinity Church, Moorestown since 1995. He resides in the Colwick section of Cherry Hill with his wife Christine. He feels fortunate that his adult children, Patrick (25) and Amanda (23), had the good fortune to attend nursery, chapel and Sunday School, as well as Rite 13 at Trinity, and to be active members of Youth Group and to serve as acolytes. Mr. Norris is a former vestry member at Trinity and believes that this experience will help him to make a smooth and seamless transition to the current vestry. While on the vestry, he served as Music Program Liaison. He is also the past president of the Colwick Civic Association. In this role, he was successful in negotiating with developers and county/state officials to purchase and preserve 12 acres of mature woodlands. Mr. Norris also served as past president of the All South Jersey Band and Orchestra Directors Association. Mr. Norris is a professional trumpeter and Director of Bands at Moorestown High School, where he also teaches Advanced Placement Music Theory. He received his Master of Music degree from Indiana University, Bloomington and Bachelor of Music Education and Bachelor of Music Performance from the Philadelphia College of the Performing Arts, now known as the University of the Arts. Mr. Norris has also completed graduate level course work in Educational Supervision at Rutgers University.

Amy Paglione

I have been a parishioner at Trinity Episcopal Church since 2011. My husband, Adam, and I have two sons, Owen (13) and Colin (11). All four of us were baptized at Trinity and Adam and I were also confirmed by Bishop George Cuncell as adults. During my time at Trinity, I have served on the Vestry for the past 3 years, been a member of Discernment Committee and Welcome Committee for Mother Emily, taught Sunday School classes, hosted coffee hour and worked on numerous other committees. I am a Human Resources Manager at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, where I have worked for the past 19 years. I hold a BS (Business Administration) from Bloomsburg University, and a MS (Human Resources Management) from Holy Family University. I feel blessed to be able to serve as a member of the Vestry and represent Trinity.

Diocesan Delegate - one year term

Bob Litsinger

Bob is a graduate of the Swanee Education for Ministry program, and has provided leadership in four previous parishes. When Bob and Sandie moved to New Jersey in 2008, they found a church home at Trinity. Sandie and Bob were both very active at Trinity the first few years, but Sandie's

health limited and eventually prevent participation. Bob was glad to return to active participation at the end of 2017. Since returning Bob has been a Diocesan Representative, Sunday School teacher, a Discipleship for Episcopalians group coach, and active in the RenewalWorks process. He serves as chalice bearer and lay reader plus recently began leadership of a weekly Evening Prayer service. To the extent possible he works with the Diversity Committee and Outreach Committees. He is currently participating in New Jersey School for Ministry. When not participating at Trinity he fills his time working as a Database Developer for HealthAdvocate and with family life, cycling, yoga, weight training, jogging, travel and visiting with friends.

Lenny Shepherd

My name is Lenny Shepherd. I have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. I have been at Trinity for about 10 years now and it definitely feels like a family! I am in the choir with Alexia, my granddaughter, and we have a lot of fun while rehearsing. I have taught Sunday School for 2nd grade and Rite 13 and J2A. I also am a lay reader and have served as eucharistic minister in the past. I have seen Trinity go thru some rough patches, but we held each other up and have grown and become much more aware of what God is guiding us to learn and how to grow. It really is true that when you see a smile, it makes the day brighter! I see a sea of smiles every time we have fellowship! Thank you, Trinity for embracing us from day one!

Robert G. Winzler

Bob is proud to have served Trinity as a diocesan delegate for approximately 20 years As a member of Trinity since 1992, Bob has been a permanent usher since then. He has also served two terms on the vestry, in 1994-95. Bob was a leader on the Search Committee that ultimately resulted in Father Stowell coming to Trinity. Bob is a native of Connecticut and is an alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania. Professionally, he operates RG Winzler & Associates, Benefit Consultants in Cherry Hill and is very active with employee benefits, medicare consulting and life insurance. He is a CLU and member of the American College of Life Underwriters. He is an avid swimmer and Eagles fan. Bob has been married to his wife Lydia (a life-long Lutheran) and has a daughter Holly, a public relations strategist in Potomac, MD and vestry member at St. James, Potomac. His grandchildren, Clare and Tim, are thriving teenagers who even helped usher at Trinity when needed on a couple visits in the past.

Alternate Diocesan Delegates:

Nancy Matthews

John Murray

TREASURER'S REPORT

	2020 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET	2018 ACTUAL
INCOME				
Pledges	\$ 499,400	\$ 448,629	\$ 478,000	\$ 459,406
Plate	65,000	55,324	45,000	46,058
Building Use	13,000	10,660	9,500	9,215
Prior Year Pledges	3,500	6,708	2,000	1,379
Christmas/Easter	11,200	11,408	10,500	10,837
Preschool allocated expense	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
Outreach Income	-	17,682	-	19,505
Budgeted Distribution from Endowment	150,000	150,000	150,000	110,000
Special Offerings	-	28,947	-	23,514
Other Income	18,500	20,243	15,300	17,476
Total Income	772,600	761,601	722,300	709,390
EXPENSE				
Worship	1,000	694	1,000	1,195
Music	32,575	32,302	30,550	31,799
Education and Spiritual Development	7,000	3,766	4,000	2,637
Outreach	-	17,682	-	19,505
Stewardship/Evangelism/Parish Life	4,000	2,878	5,500	3,751
Youth	34,000	3,604	4,000	2,867
Administration	32,350	27,283	32,350	33,233
Property	102,500	105,009	99,500	110,345
Capital Improvements	29,980	59,130	51,400	6,512
Diocesan Assessment	86,000	80,000	80,000	65,000
Salaries/Benefits	499,375	483,061	485,018	473,479
Special Offerings Transmittal	-	28,947	-	23,514
Total Expenses	828,780	844,356	793,318	773,837
Net Loss before additional funding	(56,180)	(82,755)	(71,018)	(64,447)
Additional Funding from Endowment for Operations	56,180	82,755	71,018	64,447
Net Profit (Loss)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

RECTOR'S REPORT

Dear Friends,

This has been an exciting year at Trinity, and I have been delighted to hear from many of you that you share my sense of the growing energy and joy in our congregation.

At our Annual Meeting last January, we launched ourselves into the RenewalWorks program, beginning with a survey of the where we are, individually and together, in our spiritual journey toward a life centered in God. You can read more about all this on page 17. Members of the RenewalWorks team continue to pursue plans and create opportunities to grow in the love of God and to pray and explore our faith together. The increasing and well-attended adult formation options and bible studies, a new Evening Prayer service led by Bob Litsinger, and our more explanatory Advent and Christmas worship programs are just a few of the fruits of the RenewalWorks process. These are a powerful source of the increasing sense of spiritual vitality, joy and growth we share at Trinity.

Another source of that sense of vitality and growth are the welcoming initiatives launched by our Vestry, designed to help people find the connections here that make Trinity an excellent spiritual home. You can read more about this on page 48. It has been a great gift to me to meet and get to know many of the wonderful people who have found a spiritual home here at Trinity in the last year, and to learn how God has been at work in their lives. In addition, many of those who are finding a home here have brought their gifts and energy to the Outreach Committee, God's Diversity Committee, Sunday School, and all of Trinity's choirs which in turn nurture the souls of all who worship here.

In parallel with that process, as part of our development of welcoming and invitational written materials, the Vestry approved a new logo for Trinity, which you will see on the front of this Annual Report.

Part of paying attention to hospitality, connection, and spiritual vitality means ensuring we have truly welcoming, safe, and functional buildings. Small teams within and beyond the Vestry have been working quietly through much of 2019 to understand the needs and costs of our buildings, and to imagine ways the buildings can serve the community and sustain our ministry better. They have laid the groundwork for the capital campaign we are launching in 2020.

We celebrated milestones with many of our youth and children this year, including the Rite 13 ceremony in June marking a significant transition toward adulthood for our middle schoolers, our Communion Celebration in May welcoming first graders to participation in the Sunday morning Eucharist. In October, we launched a new tradition

of presenting personal Bibles to our upper elementary students making the transition into the “big kids” classes after the 9:00 am Eucharist. We also welcomed Bishop Chip Stokes to confirm 11 teens who had completed the J2A program, as well as to confirm, receive, and reaffirm six adults on May 19. The Youth Pancake Breakfasts organized by Kevin Berry each month, which support families in danger of homelessness through your laundry donations, have grown in popularity and are a lively time of fellowship every month. We are looking toward a renewal in our youth programs in 2020, putting together a team to design comprehensive, well-supported youth ministry at Trinity and hire a dedicated staff person to lead that work and support our many dedicated volunteers.

A theme of welcome, connection, and growth is emerging as I reflect on 2019, and of care and attention to nurturing everyone, of all ages and experience, in their spiritual journey. In addition to the ways we care for and celebrate one another, I have had the privilege this year of mentoring Kyle Cuperwich in his formation for priesthood in the Episcopal Church, with your help. Kyle came to us last year via a recommendation from our Bishop, and he and his son Andrew have become familiar faces at our Thursday and Sunday services, classes, and events. Kyle's preaching this summer and fall have been well received and inspiring, and he is learning much from our congregation.

Over the course of 2019, Trinity's work in spiritual growth received recognition beyond our walls. The spiritual work our Vestry is doing in our regular Bible studies as well as small discipleship groups (introduced in 2018 as “Friends with Jesus”) featured in a video at Diocesan Convention to encourage and inspire the diocese in efforts around discipleship and spiritual growth. In October, I was asked to present some of what we are doing at Trinity, along with what we are doing in the Diocese of New Jersey, at a conference for churches who have completed the RenewalWorks program. Our Bishop also visited our Vestry meeting in May to get to know Trinity better, share his vision for the diocese, thank us for our work, and engage in dialogue with our leaders.

I continue to work with our Bishop and other diocesan leaders, chairing the diocesan initiative called Discerning Our Common Call, which focuses on discipleship and spiritual growth efforts throughout the diocese. This feeds and fuels the work that we are doing at Trinity, challenges and supports my own spiritual growth, and allows me to share what I am learning from you.

My personal spiritual growth this year has been deepened and strengthened through the gift of the incredible leaders we are blessed with at Trinity. The Renewal Works team, skillfully and gracefully led by Kristina Van Name, have inspired me and challenged me to lead more spiritually. Our Vestry prayer and bible study feed my soul, and I am moved

by the questions and connections that come from the small discipleship groups vestry members are engaged in, and I am grateful for the Wardens, Nancy Matthews and Liz Louie, and the other leaders who hold me accountable for keeping our spiritual work a priority in all we do. Our outstanding parish staff are a community of spiritual support for one another and for me, and are an inspiring model of dedication, talent, collegiality, creativity, and fellowship, and I am grateful every day to work with Deacon Leslie Mazzacano, Geri Trost, Vernon Williams, Nancy Johnson, Tom Pitman, Lauren Evans, Maris Williams, Christine Andonie, Franshely Rivera, and with all of you.

From the bottom of my very full heart, thank you!

The Reverend Emily A. Mellott
Rector

DEACON'S REPORT

Do not change yourselves to be like the people of this world but be changes within by a new way of thinking. Then you will be able to decide what God wants for you; you will know what is good and pleasing to God and what is perfect. Romans 12:2

With a constant year of renewal and a perpetual flow of the spirit, I have been led to a wonderful place in my life here at Trinity. It has been another record year for my ministry, and you all made it possible. I hope you too are growing in your relationship with God and each other

Here are some of the highlights of another very busy year for you and me.

Lay Ministry/Outreach: Our M.L.K. Jr. Day of Service in January was the first for Christine Andonie the new Sunday School Director. We brought children, youth and our parish family together along with the other Churches in Moorestown to make 50+ Birthday Bags. These bags consist of everything a struggling family would need to give a child a birthday party. Cake, icing, party favors, paper goods and most of all love. We had 32 young children and 27 teenagers participate. The bags are donated to Catholic Charities in Delanco and are given out to families who come there for assistance. This special day of service is an important part of our life here at Trinity. We are taking God's love out into the world. We are showing others that as Jesus has taught us, we are to love and serve the poor, the needy, the widowed, the orphan. This ministry also shows our children and youth how to give back to the community and reinforces the ministry of Dr. King, Jr. They leave after this event mindful of those in need and how God works to help those in need through us.

Continuing our outreach to our Christmas families we held our fourth annual Christmas in July. We brought together 75+ people including parishioners to, Atsion Lake after flooding forced a last-minute venue change. We again raised more than \$10,000 that helped us give these families a day to remember. After getting together over these last four years the kids have come to recognize each other and they spent the day in the water playing "Marco Polo" At the end of the day we shared another meal together. Special guest visitors, Santa and Mrs. Claus were able to come to the dinner and the delight on the children's faces when they saw Santa & Mrs. Claus was priceless. The parish came together in an unbelievable show of community and outpouring of generosity and love for these families. We supplied a catered dinner and gift cards to Wal-Mart to help with their daily struggles of providing for their families. Our fifth Annual Christmas in July will be on Friday, July 24, 2020 hope to see you there. THANK YOU.

For 2019 our Thanksgiving food drive was another success. We were able to deliver more than 60 + bags of food and 35 turkeys (25 of which were donated by Wegmans) to the Christian Caring Center in Browns Mills. And for the first time this year we also gave to the local Ministerium Food Pantry located at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.

This year we adopted 18 families that included 50 children whose parents were asking for help in providing them and their children with a Christmas during this tough economy. Fourteen of the families were ones we have been helping for several years and we had four new families that found us through the grace of God. With your generosity, we were able to provide gifts, clothing, along with food & retail gift cards so that the families could purchase a Christmas meal and other necessities. As I shared in one of my sermons one family wrote a thank you note stating it was so heart-warming to know that there is still so much love in the world! Another family wrote that we were truly angels helping his family who have gone through some very tough times this year. This is what Christmas is all about: the birth of our Savior has given us the will to live out the Gospel message of serving others. We give hope to these families who struggle that there is something greater...LOVE.

Our small food pantry has always been a gift to many families who come through our doors. We also sometimes have food gift cards that we can give to families so they can buy fresh food products, like milk, bread, eggs, fruit and vegetables.

THANK YOU for living out your Baptismal Covenant vow of seeking and serving Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself. These ministries not only matter to us here at Trinity but also takes God's work out into the community at large. It gives us a sense that we truly are living out our vows and also help us to grow in communion with God.

On a personal note, this past fall I went to a CREDO conference that is sponsored and paid for by the Church Pension Group. It is for clergy. We were asked to explore many facets of our ministry and our personal life. In this two-week conference, I learned a lot about myself, my vocation and my relationship with God. We were asked to come up with a Rule of Life to live by and it was very eye-opening and strongly influenced my relationship with God. My practice/goal: Being honest with myself so that I can practice in fullness my call to be God's servant. I discovered that I was ignoring my health, my finances and me. God made me realize unless I am honest with myself, take care of myself I cannot be a good servant. So, I have been making small changes in my life to help me live this rule of life.

I have continued with my two *A discipleship for Episcopalians* groups. It has remained a source of wisdom, scripture, faith building and sharing with my fellow “Friends with Jesus” that I have come to rely on in my journey.

I am so blessed to work with such a wonderful staff here at Trinity. We continue to strive to be a presence of God in all who come into or call the office. I hope that we will continue to grow in our faith journey here at Trinity. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Deacon. God's blessings to you all in this New Year.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Mazzacano, Deacon

WARDENS' REPORT

2020 brings new opportunities for all of us.

Being on the vestry is a wonderful experience, especially now as we are pursuing a number of new initiatives. In case you aren't familiar with the organization structure of our church, we wanted to provide some insight regarding the vestry. There are 9 vestry members - the "board" of the church, and 2 wardens - leaders of the vestry. The vestry is supported by the treasurer, chancellor (legal counsel), and recording secretary. We all work under the direction of the rector. Vestry members are diverse; each bringing a variety of talents and points of view, and all giving substantial time in the work needed to support the church, its leaders and congregants.

Vestry meetings start with Bible study. This activity provides time for each of us to reflect, speak and hear each other, setting the tone for the rest of our meeting. During the business portion of the meeting, we discuss new programs, policies and activities intended to help the parish grow in many ways. We review the financial status and make decisions to use our resources appropriately. Finally, we hear reports from the vestry members who are liaisons to the various commissions and programs of the parish, allowing us to stay in touch with all that is happening. We conclude our meeting with the peaceful service of Compline, bringing us together again in prayer and thanksgiving to God. This pattern transforms the vestry meeting from being a business meeting to being a spiritual exercise allowing the vestry to discern and pursue God's dreams for the parish, and we are grateful that Mother Emily has transformed our meeting approach in this way.

Over the past year, the vestry has focused on a number of specific needs and growth opportunities. These include supporting the new spiritual growth programs, discussing how to serve our youth, building a structure for welcoming newcomers, planning for a capital campaign to address long-standing property needs, and seeking new sources of income beyond pledges to support our ministry. Many of these are works in progress, and are described in the individual reports in this book.

Every member of the congregation is welcome to attend vestry meetings, which are generally held at 7-9 pm on the second Tuesday of the month. We also invite you to share your thoughts and dreams with us so that we can represent the diverse viewpoints in the congregation. And finally, we ask you to keep the vestry members and wardens in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Louie and Nancy Matthews, Wardens

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Spiritual Growth and Formation

RENEWAL WORKS

Renewal Works team: Julie Bathke, Melissa Clemmer, Simone Cochrane, Megan Culbertson, Joan Dighton, Bob Litsinger, Bruce Lovejoy, Bill McBride, Jim Morley, Esther Pearson, Don Smith, Steve Sweet, Cora Williams; led by Kristina Van Name and Mother Emily Mellott

Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ~ John 4:13-14

In the fall of 2018, Mother Emily and the Vestry decided to support Trinity's desire to grow spiritually. Mother Emily put a Renewal Works Team together to work through the Renewal Works process offered by the Forward Movement. This process looked at where our congregation was spiritually and where there were areas to support spiritual growth. Before the team began to meet, each member of the congregation was invited to take a spiritual life inventory.

When Mother Emily asked me to lead the Renewal Works Team I was intrigued, but very doubtful that I was the right person. I love singing in the choir and coming to church. But, I did not consider myself to be very knowledgeable about the Bible or very religious outside of church. When I took the spiritual life inventory, I was even more unsure. It was a comfort to discover the members of the Renewal Works Team were at different levels of their spirituality, and there were people similar to me. I assumed everyone else was going to be way ahead of me spiritually.

We worked and grew as a team while we looked at Trinity and made plans to support the church's spiritual growth. We learned what spiritual growth is: Actively deepening our relationship with God, with neighbor, with the world, and with ourselves. It sounds a bit scary, but it is also comforting because I knew I was already doing some of this.

Learning about spiritual growth, working with Mother Emily and talking to other congregation members really inspired me to want to know more. I decided I wanted to know more about my Christian beliefs. I was scared to jump in too deep. One Sunday during coffee hour a friend shared their positive experience with reading Forward Day by Day, daily devotionals from the Forward Movement. I decided that reading a short Bible quote, a reflection and question was a good way to dip my toes into learning more. I don't love each day's message from the devotionals, but there were many over the summer when I was struggling with life that got me through the summer. I started to see maybe God is truly with me.

I was excited that Forward Movement decided to create a personal spiritual life inventory. I wanted to know where I was spiritually. This fall I was still towards the beginning of my spiritual growth. I enjoyed most of the weekly emails with suggestions to grow spiritually that I chose to receive after I got the result of my inventory.

This fall Mother Emily ran a Bible Basics class. It gave me confidence that it's ok that I don't know much about the Bible, but also led me to see why I want to know more about it. Since my experience with Renewal Works, I keep wading further into learning more. I now help facilitate a Basic Bible Study on Thursday evenings. I affectionately call it Baby Bible Study. We are taking baby steps into learning more through reading and sharing our own life experiences. I also keep adding to my list of books that will help me learn more about the Bible and my beliefs, including a book that connects my love of yoga.

I invite you to dip your toes into growing spiritually. Or be brave and come swimming!

Your Renewal Works team has planned ways to help us all deepen and enrich our spiritual lives at every stage of life and growth. If you would like to read more about what your RenewalWorks team discovered and planned please pick up the two reports found in the tower entrance. You also can look at the posters on spiritual growth that are hung around the building.

If you would like to get your own personal guide to your spiritual journey try "Renewal Works for Me" at <http://renewalworks.org/resources/rw4me/>. You'll take the Spiritual Life Inventory to map your own spiritual landscape, and get tips for your journey. You'll also be able to receive weekly emails with prayer and spiritual life suggestions tailored for where you are, and where you're growing.

If you have questions or comments, please share them with Mother Emily, Kristina Van Name, or another member of the Renewal Works team - we'd love to hear what excites you, challenges you, and inspires you!

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Van Name

CHRISTIAN FORMATION - ADULTS

Bible study doesn't have to be stodgy, or overly serious all the time. Walk by the Reception Room on Sunday between the 9:00 and 11:15 services; you'll hear plenty of laughter and lots of interesting discussion. At the beginning of the year the class studied Romans, Thessalonians, and Philippians. Mother Emily referred to the class as "Adventures with Paul." The name stuck.

In Lent, Mother Emily led a five week Wednesday evening course called "Back to Basics" which led more than 20 people through the baptism service in the prayer book and how we live our faith. Laughter mixed with profound reflection throughout the class - sometimes both at once! On Sunday mornings in Lent the Outreach Commission offered a series of Faith in Action presentations between the 9:00 and 11:15 am services.

This summer we tried out an informal, and reflective study of Genesis in the Trinity garden from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. In the fall, Mother Emily led a three-session "Bible Basics" course on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings for everyone who feels like they might want to read the Bible (or "should" read it) but don't know how. That led us to more formal, in depth, all year Genesis study, and, you guessed it, the class is called "Adventures in Genesis."

In addition to those of us having "Adventures" a smaller group meets for Bible study and reflection during Children's Choir rehearsal. You don't have to be the parent of a chorister to join. This group meets on Thursday from 6:00 to 6:45 pm.

The Adventures class is structured to accommodate folks who can't commit to being there every week. Any Sunday, grab a cup of coffee and join us. We have Bibles, we have a Prayer Book, we have informational hand-outs, and we have people eager to welcome you. One friendly word of warning, the last person to class usually gets to sit on the Eldridge Johnson red sofa. Ouch!

With Mother Emily's guidance, the classes are free to choose what to study. We aren't sure where we will adventure next. Perhaps we will follow the Episcopal Church's Good Book Club with a study of the Gospel of John. Then, there is always Exodus and Joshua to complete the story cycle begun in Genesis. And, if anyone is interested in Leviticus . . . Anyone? . . . Anyone?

Adult Bible study has come about as a result of our responses on the Renewal Works survey in January 2019. Clearly, there is interest. Last year, the Adventures Class averaged six to seven people each week. This year we fill the room with 12 to 15 people

most weeks. The Thursday night group started with just two people. Two more have joined. The summer garden group was usually a faithful three to five in our lawn chairs by the fountain. There was a squirrel who showed up from time to time, but she didn't add much to the discussion. Mosquitos and bugs were not invited.

Through Trinity's participation in Renewal Works, we recognize our desire to be a spiritually vital congregation. We are each called to discover "scripture's rich meaning for our spiritual journey." Join your fellow Trinitarians on Sunday mornings, Tuesday evenings, or summer evenings to learn about God's Word.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Bathke

CHRISTIAN FORMATION - CHILDREN

While celebrating my son John's birthday at a local trampoline park, I heard someone call "Mrs. Andonie! Mrs. Andonie!" I turned around and standing in front of me was one of our Sunday school students. She ran to me and gave me a big hug. It was at that moment, I felt the magnitude of my role within the congregation. I was flooded with childhood memories of singing in my church choir and how fond I was of Miss Anne, my fourth grade teacher and choir director. I remembered how amazing it was to see her out in the world. I would call to her, "Miss Anne! Miss Anne!" I remember how much I respected and admired her love for God and her commitment to us students. Imagine how cool it was to run into her as a college student working at Philadelphia Museum of Art! Sure enough, I called "Miss Anne! Miss Anne!" She gave me a huge hug and said "Just call me Anne." There it was, she saw me as an adult and she was happy with who I had become.

As Director of Christian Formation for Children, a.k.a. Sunday School Director, I have the privilege of introducing our children to their Episcopalian faith. Week after week, the children learn lessons from the Gospel, while either attending a chapel service or church or both. They also learn how to identify parts of the church, parts of the church service, and all about our holy holidays. Most importantly, they learn that we are a church family.

There is a great energy taking place within our church family. A deeper connection abounds. Our teacher rotation has increased somewhat and friendships have formed. We band together when shorthanded, and assist each other when needed. In fostering this energy, we hope to add more volunteers and aim to provide new programming for next year.

Inspired by our First Grade class outing to the Living Nativity in Mount Laurel, we hope to offer more opportunities for the children of our congregation to enjoy fellowship and fun. We are excited to collaborate with the God's Diversity Committee to expand our celebration of Black History Month. Our Good Shepherds Club will meet in the chapel, during coffee hour, each Sunday in February with a member of the committee. We will engage in a meaningful discussion of civil rights and hear firsthand accounts of life during times of injustice. On YAC Pancake Sundays, the Good Shepherds Club sits together and enjoys breakfast along with a craft relevant to that day's Gospel. During Advent and Lent, they participate in special programming such as "Journey to Bethlehem" and "Jerusalem Marketplace."

We are blessed with a dedicated nursery caretaker who has formed a bond with many of the little ones. She is a constant for them and sure does it show. Miss Fran is a source of comfort and joy for them. It is a great relief for me to know I can count on Fran each week.

We are further blessed by our dedicated Chapel team. They make learning about church and the Gospel fun for the children. Nancy Matthews leads the children through Godly play storytelling. She makes our time together special and impactful. Bruce Lovejoy, razzle dazzles the crowd with his cheerfulness. He brings the lessons to life with his enthusiasm. Rafael Deplet has a knack for connecting with the children. He makes stories relatable and always has a song for the kids. Stacy McBride, our first grade teacher, and I share chapel duty one week each month. Stacy brings a joyful spirit and leads the crowd with great dedication.

I am grateful for my role. What an honor it is to inspire future generations of leaders within our congregation, and watch them blossom. I am excited to be part of the energy and commitment that is Trinity Episcopal Moorestown.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Andonie
Sunday School Director

CHRISTIAN FORMATION - YOUTH

I continue to oversee and plan the Journey to Adulthood Curriculum that covers the Rite 13 (sixth & seventh grade) and the J2A class (eighth & ninth grade).

A new class of students have begun the two-year Rite 13 program this fall. Teachers Jasmine and Rafael are again leading this class on their first leg of the Journey to Adulthood. Scott Hart has also joined the Declets to help teach. We will have a Rite 13 ceremony in the Spring of 2020.

Our J2A class is also in its first of two years as these youth begin their journey toward confirmation in the Spring of 2021. We have recruited new teachers: Libby Curran, Kisha Mann, John Murray and Jeff Wojcik.

To build community we had a joint retreat of both the Rite 13 and J2A classes. This pass fall, 19 youth and the six teachers along with me and Mother Emily spent a weekend at Harvey Cedars, NJ. The youth had a wonderful time getting to know each other and the adults. During the retreat we had bible study, skits, fun activities and Mother Emily and the youth wrote the prayers of the people for our October Youth Sunday.

As part of Christian Formation, I also coordinate and facilitate Baptisms. For the year ending December 2019 we baptized 8 individuals. I feel so blessed to be a part of this sacrament of Baptism every time we have one here at Trinity. I enjoy watching the new members grow and become stronger in their faith and in their relationships with God and their church family.

In 2019 we continued our Youth Sundays where the youth of our parish participate in the worship service by reading lessons, leading the Prayers of the People, preaching and ushering. It is wonderful to see these younger members of our parish encouraged and doing a wonderful job at all three services. I am so proud of them all. Mother Emily continued to work with different Sunday school classes, throughout the year to write the Prayers of the People for Youth Sundays. Alexia Shepherd a senior last year gave a great sermon.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Mazzacano, Deacon

YOUTH GROUP

Trinity's Youth Group is looking forward to a great year!

We have started to update to the Youth Group Room with a foosball table, and Bluetooth stereo and will meet most Sundays after the 9am Service starting January.

Leaders of the group, Andrew Chojnacki and Maddie Cook have committed to contacting, and coming up with fellowship activities with fellow teens and young adults.

Ideas include Weekend Pizza parties and Game Night starting in February.

The Y.A.C. continues to support our community with our 2nd Sunday Pancake Breakfasts, and collecting laundry detergent for "at risk" families.

Please keep an eye out in the Trinity bulletins and emails for these activities where your child (10th grade and up) can participate and fellowship with others their age at Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Berry
Youth Group Mentor

Worship

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (EM)

Eucharistic Ministers exercise an extraordinary ministry for their local community of faith by bringing communion on Sunday to parishioners who are unable to attend services. This ministry allows those who are visited to participate in the sacred life of the Church. The EM's are handling the outward visible sign of the inward and spiritual grace received in the Body and Blood of Christ. By being commissioned at the end of the worship service to go out to give the Holy Eucharist to the shut-ins , they continue the communal act of worship and include those members they visit in the embrace of the entire community of the faithful, in the certainty that they remain an important part of our parish family.

The Eucharistic Ministers give a visitation report to the Deacon, sharing observations of the visits and any follow-up that is needed. These reports also show how this ministry effects not only those who are visited but by the EM's themselves...for example a recent report went like this:

“JA” stated when asked how he was doing, he responded “fair to middling,” his wife responded that she was tired and overwhelmed with being the caretaker but did speak about now taking care of herself too. They both were very appreciative of the visit, very involved in the service. Their 3-year-old great-granddaughter was with us too. We spent a long time talking, something they seemed to need for themselves, very positive, faith-based conversations. JA spoke about how he wasn't well enough to walk last time with Deacon Leslie and looks forward to her next visit.

This visit obviously brought joy to both the EM and the shut-in and showed the connection we have in relationship to God and to each other.

This is a ministry that gives hope to the shut-ins that God is still present in their lives even though they may not be able to come to church or worship as they use to. This ministry also encourages and rewards us in keeping God present through the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

If you feel like this is a ministry that you want to be involved in please contact Deacon Leslie through the church office and email her at lmazzacano@trinitymoorestown.org .

This past year we have had four faithful Eucharistic Ministers, Jeff Wojcik , Ellen Kurtz, Priscilla Knapp, Harry Wind along with me to visit seven shut-ins.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Mazzacano, Deacon

ACOLYTES

I am responsible for the scheduling and the training of the acolytes that serve at all three services on Sunday as well as special services at Christmas and Easter and our Evensongs.

An acolyte is a person who helps with religious services. They help keep the service flowing in a very reverent, and respectful manner. This ministry gives the youth of our church the opportunity to serve God as well. It also builds confidence in our youth as they are seen by the congregation performing their duties at the services. Serving God and being an active participant in the service it helps build their relationship with God and the clergy, who very much appreciate their assistance.

Over the years I have seen our acolytes mature and grow in their faith and understanding the Episcopal church. I have witness shy, timid youth grow confident as they perform their duties with pride and a sense of reverence in what they see as an opportunity to serve God and the parishioners.

Alexia Shepherd has grown leaps and bounds in her life here at Trinity and I have seen her mature. Even in her first year of college she continues to serve as a Crucifer and is co-head acolyte with Jesse Horn. She continues to be a great leader for our acolytes.

We currently have 23 acolytes. We have new acolytes that started this year and several that have moved up to the Crucifer position. This is an opportunity for our young people to participate in a ministry that is important to the corporate worship here at Trinity Church.

If this is a ministry that you feel you as a youth or as a parent would like to become involved in, please reach out to Deacon Leslie.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Mazzacano, Deacon





LAY READERS

Lay reading is an opportunity for every parishioner to formally participate in Trinity's worship services. Currently 47 parishioners are on the roster to serve as lay reader or chalice bearer. From time to time meetings are held to discuss ways for readers to improve their verbal delivery. Readers also have access to online help. Websites such as biblespeak.org and blueletterbible.org help readers to read unfamiliar names and words. biblestudytools.com and bible.oremus.org help the reader to understand the context of the particular scripture reading so they will read with greater understanding. Of course making sure ones glasses are clean also helps!

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Dighton
Layreader Chairperson

ALTAR GUILD

There are 13 "merry ladies" of the Altar Guild who gather weekly in work groups to sweep and dust, polish and shine silver/brass, fill candles with liquid wax, set out unleavened bread, decant wine, grape juice and change hangings for the appropriate season - do you know the liturgical colors for each season. As a member of the Altar Guild you could acquire knowledge of this sort! We enjoy our work and the company of each other as we share our experiences and support one another during our ups and downs.

We meet as a whole twice a year, Advent and Lent, with Mother Emily and Deacon Leslie when they share their knowledge and guidance. (Refreshments are always served.) During mid-winter Deacon Leslie treats us to brunch where we socialize and share our holiday experiences. In June we gather for an indoor potluck picnic with the Flower Guild and Garden Angels. (Always fun and good food.) We really are party people!

Though we are a "merry group", we are dedicated to our ministry and our work to contribute to the liturgical life at Trinity. We celebrate the individual ministries of Geri Smith and Sandra Say, both of whom retired from the Altar Guild this year after many, many years of devoted service. We thank Mother Emily and Deacon Leslie for their continued counsel and assistance, Tom Pitman for his contribution of brawn and coffee, Geri Trost and the office volunteers for their assistance with clerical and technical intricacies, and Gayle Celantano, Joan Willet, Carolyn Weeks for their contributions to the inner workings of the Altar Guild. God bless you all.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Perinchief

FLOWER GUILD

What are two people from the Church congregation doing each Saturday morning in preparation for the Sunday services?

They are arranging the flowers to be placed on the altar for the Sunday service. People enjoy the beauty of flowers and those who get to work with them enjoy a therapeutic value in creating something that enhances the Sunday services.

The Flower Guild would like to share this pleasure with more parishioners. It is a chance to do something enjoyable and contribute something to the Church without a huge commitment of time.

The Flower Guild is comprised of 19 members who, on a rotating basis, create floral designs for Sunday services. There are six leaders who have the responsibility of planning the design and purchasing materials and the leader and member work together on an arrangement. A member's name comes up 3 or 4 times a year. It is a 1-2 hour commitment to work on Sunday flowers and all are asked to help, as their schedule permits, with Easter and Christmas decorating.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Ruff
Flower Guild Chairperson

MUSIC

Trinity's music ministry strives to provide the parish and community with inspiring music for Sunday morning liturgies and for special events. **Seven vocal choirs** enhance our worship: three youth choirs, as well as the Trinity, Coventry, and Chamber Choirs, plus the relatively new Summer Choir. For many of us, the renovated **pipe organ** still sounds new and exciting, adding its rich, inspiring sound to our services. As in previous years, there were special services and concerts in 2019, and an active **Friends of Music** which made our schedule of special musical events possible.

THE CHOIRS

Our choirs are the heart of the music program. While the main goal of the choirs is to lead the singing in our worship services, they also give our choristers the opportunity to make music together, and enjoy social time as well — a great combination!

Adult choirs

- ▶ **Trinity Choir** has been blessed recently with some new members, including a soprano, an alto, a tenor, and two basses! The choir currently has 16 members (6 sopranos, 5 altos, 2 tenor, and 3 basses) who enjoy singing and socializing together. Rehearsals are pleasant and productive and our singers enjoy working together to make beautiful music for our liturgies. In 2019 the choir sang two services of Choral Evensong as well as a Spring Concert.
- ▶ We have a couple of new singers in the **Coventry Choir**, which is made up of our four choir section leaders. This choir leads the music at the 11:15 service, singing, anthems, canticles, Anglican chants, and motets. They also sing motets occasionally at the 9:00 service.
- ▶ In June, the **Chamber Choir** sang a special service of Choral Evensong as a Pre-Convention event before the American Guild of Organists Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention which was held here in South Jersey. The church was full of organists from around the country as well as Trinity parishioners, making it a most memorable occasion.

Youth choirs

- ▶ The **Canterbury Choir** (currently 11 choristers in grades 4 and up) is has a mix of older high school girls and younger boys and girls. In addition to singing about once a month in church, the choir sang a service of Choral Evensong. Youth choirs are constantly changing as choristers come and go, but this particular choir is outstanding and a great joy to work with.
- ▶ The **Carol Choir** (grades 2 & 3) currently has 6 choristers, evenly divided between girls and boys. They bring great energy and commitment to their singing and take pride in learning to read music and earning their ribbons.
- ▶ The **Cherub Choir** (10 choristers in grades K & 1) enjoys learning the basics of choir with Maris's encouraging direction.

Summer Choir

- ▶ The **Summer Choir** (open to all) had mixed success in 2019, as uneven attendance was an issue over the course of the summer. We hope to improve this situation in 2020, because everyone agrees the choir makes a big difference to our summer services and is worth continuing.

MUSIC STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to our talented staff of musicians and excellent volunteers who contribute so much to our parish's musical life. In addition to the many volunteer choir members (and their parents!), several people have special roles to play:

- ▶ **Maris Williams** conducts the Carol and Cherub Choirs, and organizes and directs the Christmas Pageant
- ▶ **Abby Merk, Shannon Lally, Shane Beatrice, Ryan Dailey** – Trinity Choir section leaders who also comprise the Coventry Choir (11:15 choir)
- ▶ **Jaclyn Kim** – high school student who is regular piano accompanist for Carol Choir
- ▶ **Carmelita Housner** – occasional piano accompanist for Canterbury Choir
- ▶ **Alexia Shepherd and Maggie Hartsell** – Choral Apprentices – Maris is passing along her choral directing experience to these two talented young musicians. Alexia works with the Carol Choir, and Maggie works with the Cherub Choir.
- ▶ **Susan Wojcik** – choral librarian. Susan keeps our library and choir folders well organized. Many thanks for all the work you do!
- ▶ **Dixie DePietropolo, Alberta Fuller, Liz Louie, Lenny Shepherd, Maris Williams** – our music hospitality volunteers who take care of the receptions after our special music events as well as the Soup Luncheons after the Wednesday organ recitals in Lent.

MUSIC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019

While much of our attention goes toward preparing for weekly worship services, we also look forward to the special services and concerts that are an important part of parish life.

- ▶ Among the highlights of 2019 were two Sunday afternoon concerts. **Michael Pollock** presented a trombone recital in January, and in February, **Keith Spencer** gave a thrilling concert of the music of **Paul Robeson** to a packed church.
- ▶ The **Spring Choir Concert** with chamber orchestra featured major works by Haydn (*Missa brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo*), Rheinberger (*Stabat Mater in G minor*), and Durante (*Magnificat*) as well a number of shorter works sung by the Canterbury Choir.
- ▶ Lenten noontime series of five **organ recitals and soup luncheons**
- ▶ **Advent Lessons and Carols** with the Trinity and Canterbury choirs

- ▶ Five services of **Choral Evensong**
- ▶ The **Christmas Pageant** was a play by Maris Williams called *The First Christmas*. About 35 people were involved, and the lead was played by Rick Williams.
- ▶ **Christmas Eve and Easter** services with brass quartet
- ▶ **Holy Week** services sung by the Trinity and Coventry Choirs

FRIENDS OF TRINITY MUSIC

The Friends of Trinity Music exists to fund the special music events that are not part of the regular parish music budget. These events include the Evensongs, Advent Lessons and Carols, the Spring Choir Concert, Sunday Afternoon Concerts, and the Lenten Organ Recital Series. There are currently 100 names on the list of generous donors that appears in our programs. To help generate interest and increase attendance, we do our best to publicize our events:

- ▶ A music brochure is produced and sent to our mailing list
- ▶ We advertise by sending emails through the Constant Contact website

MISCELLANEOUS INFO

I am in my third year as Dean of the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Our chapter is hosted the Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention in July 2019. Trinity Church was one of the venues. Our renovated organ was on full display during a recital by Princeton University organist Eric Plutz.

As always, Maris and I thank Mother Emily, the Vestry, and the parish for your ongoing support of the music ministry at Trinity.

Respectfully submitted,
Vernon Williams

Serving God in the Community

OUTREACH COMMISSION

Thank you all for your support during 2019! I am always amazed at the extent of “hands on” and financial support from Trinity’s parishioners, friends and families helping our Church reach out into the community giving help those in need through support to vital organizations..

I am happy to report that again this year we were fortunate to have raised through Rummage Sales, Iron Hill fundraisers and Monthly Pew Envelope donations just under \$18,000 which went back out into the community. Our spring and fall rummage sales accounted for over 50% of Outreach income. Thanks to Dixie Depietropolo for all her hard work as Chairperson along with everyone who donated, worked, cleaned up and of course shopped to make our Rummage Sales such a big success. The “leftovers” were donated to several organizations and the remainder was picked up by GreenDrop. Even the unusable ripped and torn items were taken to recycling.

Our 2019 Funding Supported:

- Sacred Heart Church Christmas basket distributed in Camden
- Children’s Education at Sacred Heart School
- Sponsoring a child at Camden Forward School
- Teacher Appreciation at Camden Forward School
- Project Interaction and Camp Faith outreach programs in Camden
- The Interfaith Hospitality Network
- Scholarship for a Child to attend Trinity Pre School
- Christian Caring Center serving Burlington County
- Food Bank of South Jersey
- Habitat for humanity
- Good Counsel Homes
- St Vincent De Paul
- Deacon Leslie’s Discretionary Fund

As a “hands on ministry”, some Outreach members also serve on the boards or work at the organizations we support. Thanks to Gabrielle Preller, Trinity has two “Breakfast Clubs” that regularly make and serve breakfast to about 100 people several Sunday Mornings a month in Camden through Project Interaction. They are always looking for

volunteers. Helping others through hard times, volunteers work with St Vincent De Paul, serve lunch at the Cathedral Kitchen in Camden and attend Partner Day giving support to the children we help to educate.

The Christian Caring Center in Browns Mills is a vital organization administering to the homeless and those in need in Burlington County. Thank you all who helped make sandwiches and donated snacks and drinks monthly during their renovation that lasted until July and continue to help support their ministry with your donations of blankets and coats.

My hope for 2020, as always, is that God grants all of us the means, knowledge and ability to continue his work to help others. Below is the prayer we pray at the close of every Outreach meeting. Please pray with us and continue to pray for those we serve.

Respectfully Submitted

Barbara Benton

Gabrielle Preller

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help, that in all works begun, continued and ended in You, we may glorify your Holy Name and finally by your mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen

PRESCHOOL

2019 has been a year of several “firsts” for the Preschool. Who would have ever thought that the Preschool would host a golf outing? After a rainy weekend and text messages flying on a Sunday night we decided to go ahead and have our First Annual Golf Outing on Monday, May 6th. The sky was a beautiful blue, the greens dried up and 35 golfers, 10 volunteers & Mother Emily arrived at the Field Club in Moorestown ready for a fun packed day. We had parents, grandparents, former parents, parishioners & friends participating in the event. It was a huge success thanks to Pat Tadley orchestrating the entire day and the wonderful and accommodating staff at the Field Club. We will kick off the Preschool’s 20th year celebration with our Second Annual Golf Outing on May 11, 2020.



Another first for the Preschool was our Art Show. Each student made a special piece of art that was framed and displayed on stage in the Parish Hall. The timing was right – the Art Show took place during the week of Preschool Sunday. What fun it was to show off the children’s work!



Our Parent Volunteer Group raised money in 2019 to purchase new toys for the classrooms. Each teacher was given a lump sum of money to purchase what they wanted for their rooms. The children loved getting the new toys! Many thanks to the Parent Volunteer Group!

The 2019 enrichment programs thrived as well as the five weeks of summer camp. Trinity held its 17th annual Pizza Night and the “Juggling Hoffman’s” delighted the families with their show. The children of the Preschool continued to participate in several of the Church’s outreach programs. They helped with the Thanksgiving food drive, adopted a large family at Christmas and made bedside bags for sick children at CHOP.

As always, I like to thank the Clergy, the Preschool Board, the Vestry & Wardens, the Preschool & Church Staff as well as our Parish Family for all the support I have been given these last twenty years.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Johnson
Preschool Director
856-235-1840

GOD’S DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

“We have become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams.” Jimmy Carter, 39th President of the United States and Nobel Peace Prize Winner.

“We should all know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.” Maya Angelou, American poet and civil rights activist.

Each time we, as part of the Trinity community, recite the Baptismal Covenant, we promise, with God’s help, to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves and we promise to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.

It is in the spirit of the words of President Carter and Maya Angelou, and our commitment to faithfully live the tenets of the Baptismal Covenant, that the members of the God's Diversity Committee strive to see the face of God in each other and to work toward a more just society. In the past year, we have tried to do this in small ways at Trinity, through a variety of activities. We began the year with our observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. In place of a sermon on January 20th, three parishioners, Dr. Stella Horton, Kisha Mann and Bruce Lovejoy, read excerpts from a chapter in one of the last books written by Dr. King before his assassination and skillfully brought Dr. King's words to life for us. The title of the book is **Where Do We go From Here: Chaos or Community** and the message of the chapter, "The World House," which is the urgency of seeking unity in a divided world, is still very relevant today.

In celebration of Black History Month, on Sunday, February 24th, our committee, in conjunction with the Friends of Trinity Music, presented the *Paul Robeson Song Book* performed by Mr. Keith Spencer, an acclaimed baritone soloist from the Philadelphia area. Mr. Spencer, accompanied by a pianist and violinist, celebrated with words and song, the extraordinary life of Mr. Robeson, a New Jersey native son.

Throughout the year, the Committee recognized the contributions of outstanding Americans, in the areas of religion, literature, science, civil rights, and social justice. Each Sunday during Black History Month, Women's History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month and Native American History Month, the members of the God's Diversity Committee prepared brief biographies, published in the Parish Notes, of a group of remarkable individuals whose lives and contributions to American society continue to inspire us. Among those honored this past year were Pauli Murray, the Rev. Rena Karefa-Smart, Anna Julia Cooper, Alice Paul, Bishop Minerva G. Carcaña, Dr. Hector Perez Garcia, Joy Harjo and William Apess.

Nancy Johnson, one of our members, works closely with Christine Andonie, Trinity's Sunday School Director, planning diversity awareness activities for youth. This past year they focused on the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the contributions of prominent black and Hispanic Americans, and developed a new educational unit on Native American history and culture. Another member, Dr. Stella Horton, a former educator, presented a special class to the Good Shepard Club during Black History Month. She spoke primarily about notable black leaders in the struggle for freedom but also shared her personal experiences growing up and teaching in the South.

In late September, the Committee invited the congregation to watch the short documentary, “The Lunch Date” and participate in a discussion of the film led by the Rev. Canon Jayne Oasin, a valued member of our congregation and a former social justice officer of the Episcopal Church and anti-racism trainer. During the discussion, we explored what we bring to our interactions with each other and examined how our implicit views of race, class, privilege and entitlement affect the way we see and value each other. Following the discussion, we all had lunch together in the Parish Hall.

Our goals are articulated in the opening sentence of our mission statement: “With God’s help, to actively celebrate and advance the principles of acceptance and inclusion as a critical way of inspiring actions that reflect the teachings of Jesus Christ.” Our primary objectives are: to increase awareness, appreciation and knowledge of society’s many diverse people; to provide programs, spiritual services and other activities, that demonstrate the beauty of various cultures; to cultivate opportunities for inclusion, acceptance and understanding; to move through the world with open and accepting hearts as a way to strengthen our community and spread the word of God; to enable individuals to identify, develop and use their spiritual and other gifts to cultivate prophetic witnessing; and to develop and exemplify a set of core values that include excellence, accountability, transparency, and respect in all that we say and do.

We wish to thank Mother Emily Mellott for her continuing support in helping us to fulfill our mission; Deacon Leslie Mazzacano for her endless enthusiasm and hard work; Vernon Williams for generously sharing his talent and creativity with us; and the members of the God’s Diversity Committee for their willingness to work hard, share their gifts and insights and for their good humor and loving hearts. These special people make our work joyful and rewarding and we could not hope to succeed without them. As we enter a new year, we invite all members of Trinity to join us as we continue to seek a more equal society and do as Christ commanded us – to love God with our whole hearts and souls and minds and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Respectfully submitted,
Veronica Hughes
Anne Dalesandro
Co-Chairs

Caring for God's Gifts

GARDEN ANGELS

Have you ever stepped into an empty church and felt a satisfying solitude, a calmness taking over your mind? I feel that way in the presence of nature, quiet forests, majestic mountains prevail over the quickening pace of everyday life. Gardening can provide a quiet meditative respite as well. A chance to reflect on events, seek spiritual strength or just revel in the wonders of plant life.

Many have their interest in gardening rooted in early childhood experiences with a family or loved one. Planting a tree or raising seedlings may have been their first connection with the natural world. We relive these associations with our predecessors and nature when we volunteer with the Garden Angels.

Garden Angels are part of the loving, caring, responsive family here at Trinity Church. Though our efforts may not be obvious to all, we contribute to a sense of place and familiarity that we all enjoy at Trinity. Just as the Flower Guild adorns the altar each week, so too can we set the stage for a wonderful spiritual day of worship. We gather at least one day a month, during the growing season to maintain the gardens, enjoy fellowship, and trade stories of success and tribulations of growing plants.

I encourage anyone to come and get some soil underneath your fingertips, enjoy good company and revel in the beautiful edifice of our church. If you would like to contribute in any way, please contact me at kenchojnacki@gmail.com.

Wishing health and happiness in this new decade,

Ken Chojnacki

Garden Angels Chairperson

PROPERTY COMMISSION

A church home that provides worship, fellowship, service to the community and much more should be a place that is safe, comfortable and hopefully attractive. Several projects were completed during 2019 and a few were started.

The fire marshal has required us to install a fire suppression system over the range in the kitchen, this has been done. Please note that when using the burners and/or the oven the fan must be turned on. There is a sign that makes this clear.

The base stones of the columns between the church office and entrance to the sanctuary are being replaced. Six columns have been addressed and there are fifteen stones being held to continue this project. Each base requires at least two stones, work will continue until all stones have been used. The bell tower has been inspected by a structural engineer and repairs will happen in the near future. Repairs to the copper roof were completed, posts and chains were added to the newly re-sealed parking lot and new stones were added to the memorial garden walkway. Another important project was the removal and replacement of the floor tiles in the Sunday school area which included a large classroom and three landings.

Besides finishing the work on the columns and the bell tower, new projects are as follows:

- install a fire rated door in the church office
- remove and replace upheaved sidewalk on West 2nd Street
- repair rotted wood around the chapel windows
- repair rotted wood on and around the second floor porch

Many thanks to Tom Pitman for all he does to help identify and co-ordinate the necessary work it takes to maintain and repair our properties.

I appreciate the advice and support that I receive from Mother Emily and thanks to Geri Trost for her record keeping and help.

The members of this commission meet with me usually on the first Monday of the month and provide insights and opinions on the work that needs to be done with intelligence, knowledge and humor. We try to keep the meetings to an hour and we do laugh!

As always, please email me with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Murray
jmurray721@gmail.com

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE
Committee Members
Roy A. Shubert (Chairman)
David Fletcher
Mark Mann

Purpose

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is five-fold:

- To assume financial responsibility for the physical assets of the parish and to provide a permanent source of funds for their maintenance and preservation from Endowment Fund income and appreciation.
- To contribute to the parish programs as determined by the Vestry a portion of the investment income not required for the above objective.
- To ensure the preservation of the purchasing power of prior gifts to the fund by adherence to a prudent investment policy.
- To provide a source of contingency funds for use in the event of a major financial emergency.
- To recognize and record the terms of grants and bequests that specify the purpose for which principal and/or income may be directed.

Objective

To achieve a growth of income and principal on investments that will preserve the real purchasing power of the fund, while providing a predictable and constant cash flow while adhering to sound investment guidelines.

Highlights of Operations

After a very volatile year in 2018 ending with a nearly 20% decline in the S&P 500 index in the fourth quarter, we started 2019 with a good four months and the S&P 500 index was up just over 17% by the end of April. A small pullback in May of about 6% was followed by another strong two months and by the end of July, the index was up nearly 21% for the year. August saw yet another 6% decline - seems to be a pattern from the previous two years - but over the last four months of 2019, another 15%+ rise produced the best return since 2013 at about 31.5%. The markets seemed to shake of much of the bad news (noise) coming from Washington, started and stopped trade talks, imposition of tariffs and the continuing impeachment matter. The positive things that kept the

market trending upward include a continued decline in the unemployment rate (down around 3.5% by year end), low inflation, low interest rates after three rate reductions during the year by the Federal Reserve, lower but decent Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, corporate earnings growth and fairly strong corporate balance sheets.

In 2020, the “noise” will continue and likely be more deafening as we head into the elections later in the year. Consumer confidence and spending is likely to continue to be the chief driver of GDP as well as low unemployment, low inflation and rising wages. GDP growth should increase to about 2.5% for 2020 and it is likely that we will not see any change in interest rates (by the Fed) during an election year. Recent trade deals with Mexico and Canada as well with China earlier this month with more to come should help keep the markets moving upward.

On the fixed income front, long-term Treasuries had a good year gaining more than 14% while the short term Treasury index gained just about 3.5% and Barclay's Aggregate Bond Index rose about 8 ³/₄%. It is expected that fixed income returns will return to a more normal level in 2020 - something under 3% for short term bonds and mid single digits for longer term bonds.

For 2019 the Endowment Fund had a net gain of about 17.5% net of fees. This was somewhat below the blended benchmark index return for our portfolio which was about 22%. The equity portion of our portfolio remained at about 80% in US stocks and just 20% in international stocks. A higher cash position and underperformance in our international equities relative to the S&P 500 were the primary reasons for our slight underperformance vs. the blended benchmark figure.

Our Endowment income consisted of interest and dividends amounting to about \$60,000, down slightly from the 2018 amount. The net realized and unrealized gain for the entire Endowment Fund was about \$441,300, or 18% of our beginning of year portfolio value. The Fund contributed \$232,756, or about 9.5% of our beginning of the year balance, towards the church's operations, mainly the areas of property and utilities and our annual diocesan payment. Our normal target for support of operations is 6%, or about \$147,000. The bequest funds received in 2019 essentially reduced the actual contribution from our beginning endowment balance to about \$56,500, or just about 2.3%.

Following is a summary of the Endowment Fund for 2019:

Balance 12/31/18	\$ 2,443,663
Additions:	
Interest/dividends	\$ 60,068
Bequests received	\$ 176,205
Net realized & unrealized gain	\$ 441,315
Withdrawals/deductions:	
Used toward church property/expenses	(\$ 232,756)
Portfolio management expenses	(\$ 17,837)
Balance 12/31/19	\$ 2,870,658

Outlook for 2020

- Consumer confidence and spending should contribute to a decent year in the markets along with continued low inflation and unemployment and rising wages among the lower and middle classes.
- Europe's troubles may soon be coming to an end and could finally see a 'bottom' to their markets and increased trade should help strengthen things abroad. Brexit enters its third year but should see an end in the first half of 2020 which should boost confidence and economic performance.
- Federal Reserve policy should keep interest rates stable throughout the year unless there is a significant slowdown in growth patterns or much higher inflationary trends appear, either of which could cause the Fed to act. Assuming no negative issues surface by mid-year, it is unlikely that we will see any interest rate action either way the last half of the year.
- Equity returns will likely be lower for the year - most 'talking heads' are predicting something in the mid to upper single digits (6-8%) while fixed income returns are forecast to be in the lower single digits (3-5%). Of course, these are the same folks who predicted the S&P 500 index would increase at these same levels for 2019 and they missed that by more than triple!
- Recommendation - buy a good set of noise cancelling headphones and let the market action dictate how things progress. Invest wisely when the opportunity presents itself.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy A. Shubert, Chairman

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

The Fall of 2019 marked our third year utilizing the New Consecration Sunday approach to annual giving. This approach is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the givers to give for their own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. New Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" This New Consecration Sunday approach focuses on tithing and percentage giving as an appropriate faith commitment for which God's grace empowers us.

One distinctive feature of this approach is the opportunity to make our giving commitments for the next year during a Sunday worship service, followed by a festive meal that celebrates the generosity of the whole congregation. Another popular feature is that this approach does not require calling parishioners individually to ask them to give - the entire program is focused on the context of Sunday worship, and personal decision making of how our giving helps us in our relationship with God.

Throughout late September 2019 and on every Sunday in October, speakers from Trinity Church provided their testimony regarding their personal stewardship and the impact it has had on their religious and family lives. Consecration Sunday was held on October 27, 2019 and followed by a catered celebration after each service.

The New Consecration Sunday Committee Chair, Amy Paglione, thanks Sarah Senno, Joan Dighton, Nancy Johnson, Jim Johnson, Anne Sweet and Linda Carson for all their dedication and time to the Consecration Sunday committee this year.

As of as of December 31, 2019 a total of 167 giving units completed Estimate of Giving Cards. 94 of these giving units increased their financial commitment above their last year's amount. This is a 18.8% increase in giving from these households above last year. A total of 20 new giving units (households who did not make a giving commitment for 2019) completed Estimate of Giving Cards. The total giving from all households completing a card to date is \$497,320. Based on last year's giving records, we can expect to receive approximately \$22,000 from people who have consistent giving patterns during the past twelve months but have not turned in a card yet. Based on the average total of loose offerings during the past three years, we can expect to receive \$45,000 during the coming year from that source. This gives us an estimated total of \$564,320 in giving for 2020, a 12% increase over 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Paglione

PLEDGE COUNTERS

Eight very dedicated volunteers work in rotating weekly teams comprised of four members who meet Monday mornings to sort, count, and record parishioners' financial contributions for the continuing ministry of Trinity Church both within and outside the church building. Each process requires several verifications to insure complete accuracy in the handling and recording of cash and checks. The activities of the volunteer counters working in conjunction with Geri Trost helps to facilitate the work of the Parish Manager.

Respectfully submitted,
David Fletcher
Pledge Counters Chairperson

PLEDGES FROM 2019

The congregation thanks all of our generous donors throughout 2019. Special thanks goes to all those who made a pledged commitment to help sustain Trinity Church in 2019:

Kathleen & Thomas Adams
Ferrill Alderfer
Helen Anderson
Herbert & Barbara Anderson
Omar & Christine Andonie
Thomas and Janet Bader
Jeff & Cathy Bailey
Rieke Baize
Frederick & Elizabeth Baldt
William & Mary Barker
Frank & Susan Batastini
Michael & Julia Bathke
Elizabeth Beatty
Walter Belfield
Barbara Benton
Kevin Berry
Carole Blair
Dorothy Blair

Diane Blinn
William & Kim Bolton
John & Elizabeth Brennan
Daniel & Heather Briggs
David & Teresa Britton
Thomas & Fabiene Brown
Jane Bucci
Cecilia Campolucci
Jean Capece
Len & Wendy Carber
Cathryn Carroll
Linda Carson
Gayle Celentano
Donald & Nancy Chambers
Ken & Aimee Chojnacki
Joseph & Melissa Clemmer
Gregory & Lauren Cobucci
Donald & Simone Cochrane

Michael & Kim Conurso
Sherry Conklin
William & Beth Cook
Robert & Robin Crowl
Robert & Megan Culbertson
Lewis & Lowry Curran
Marguerite Daubert
Benjamin Davies
Rafael & Jasmine Delect
Ned & Denise Dempsher
Joan & John Dighton
Thomas Dodd
David & Carol Donachy
Daniel & Jessica Drechsler
Robin & James Dryden
Craig Ebner & Steven Butler
Frank & Katherine Ellison
Alexandro & Mellissa Estrada
Wayne & Kathleen Farren
Kevin & Beth Field
Richard & Rita Fitch
David Fletcher
Peter & Claudia Fletcher
George Flynn
Don & Sarann Foster
James & Geraldine Fox
Ryan & Susan Francis
Richard & Alberta Fuller
Barbara & James Gattinella
Glenn & Lisa George
Jeffrey & Linda Gola & Cecil
Robert & Elizabeth Gorman
Timothy & Patricia Hadden
Christine Hallam
Scott & Amy Hart & Sprague
David & Jeanine Haskell
Audrey Henry
Susan Hogan
Alexander & Carol Hoinsky
Robert Holston

Edward & Katherine Horochiwsky
Stella Horton
Eric & Dorothy Hoversen
Veronica & William Hughes
Lois & Bill Janney & Rose
Loretta Johns Lill & Bob Lill
James & Nancy Johnson
Douglas & Christine Keleshian
Brian & Cynthia Kerr
Priscilla Knapp
Peter Knerr
Ellen Kurtz
Mark & Suzanne Leis
Samuel & Shelley Lippincott
Robert Litsinger
Gregory & Elizabeth Louie
Bruce & Beverly Lovejoy
Kathleen Magrann
Philip & Jenn Major
Mark & Kim Malatesta
Mark & Kisha Mann
Edward & Jan Marcinkevich
Chris & Nancy Matthews
Leslie & John Mazzacano
William & Stacy McBride
Joseph & Barbara McDonnell
Thomas & Cathy McGarry
David & Deborah McGeorge
Joan McKeon
William McKittrick
Joan Meader
Steven Meader
Emily Mellott
Abigail Merk
Margaret Mikuta
Daniel & Dawn Miller
Robert & Maureen Moorner
Christian & Heather Morgan
James & Anne Morley & Dalesandro
John & Janet Murray

Shawn & Rebecca Naugle
Christopher & Christine Norris
Jayne Oasin
Michelline Ormerod
Adam & Amy Paglione
Edwin & Hollis Pearson
Esther Pearson
Vincent & Diane Penna
Anthony & Kathleen Perez
Judith Perinchief
Nancy Phillips
Thomas Pine
Cheryl Pisa
Steven & Gabrielle Preller
Elsie Priestley
Richard & Sandra Rapp
David & Lori Rapuano
Joan Reid
Harry & Victoria Rice
Brian & Helen Richards
Nelson & Doreen Rivera
Charles & Marion Robinson
David & Sally Ross
Henry & Caroline Rossell
Lorraine & Joseph Ryan & Tufaro
John Salmon
Maxine Sams
Gerald & Susan Satkofsky
Richard & Sandra Say
Patricia Scheerbaum
Michael & Michelle Seaman
Todd & Sarah Senno
Nanette & Steven Sheerin
Roy & Lydia Shubert
Lynn Sloane

Chelsea Smarr
Donald Smith
Geraldine Smith
Michael & Megan Smith
Craig & Amy Snodgrass
Matthew & Tammy Solitro
Jerry Steinberg
Beverly Stevenson
Steven & Anne Sweet
David & Susan Taylor
Ronald & Norene Taylor
Herbert & Jean Thomas
Tiffany Thornbar
Daniel Topolski
Michael & Kristina Van Name
Bruce & Sharon Velzy
Kathleen Veston
Richard & Rachel Vojir
Scott & Amy Wallace
Carolyn Weeks
Mick & Julie Weeks
Jaye West
Jackie Whitfield
Joan Willett
Cora & Elvy Williams
Rick & Jocelyn Williams
Vernon & Maris Williams
Robert Wilson
Harry & Diana Wind
Robert Winzler
Jeff & Susan Wojcik
James & Eva Wolfe
Elsa Wood
Lisa Yeh
Steven & Jennifer Yocum

We give thanks to God for all of our generous donors.

If you thought you had made a pledged commitment for 2019, but don't see your name above, please contact Geri Trost at (856) 235-0811 or at gtrost@trinitymoorestown.org, so that we can correct our omission. Thanks!

Growing in Relationship

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Meeting and Welcoming Newcomers

This year several Vestry members convened a “Welcome Committee” to assess and improve how Trinity welcomes people who are new to the church. These people might just be visiting for a service or they might be seeking a new church home. In any case, we want to make sure everyone can find what they need, both literally and spiritually. Our plans were informed by an Episcopal Church program entitled “Invite, Welcome and Connect”. While the parish office and clergy have always tried to identify and reach out to newcomers, we thought it would be helpful to put more structure in place and get more members of the congregation involved in the welcoming process. Over the past year we have done the following to make visitors and newcomers feel more welcome and make connections in the church:

- Added directional signs to the Parish Hall, classrooms, restrooms and church. Depending on which entrance one uses, it is not always clear where to find everything.
- Created a new, more visible Welcome card for the pews and a colorful, professionally-designed Welcome brochure to provide information about the church and how to get involved.
- Designated a volunteer “Welcome Coordinator”, currently Joan Dighton, to check each week for newcomer cards, make sure letters go out, and maintain a chart of newcomers and their contact information which is shared between the rector and the warden.
- Designated a Greeter to stand at the Welcome banner at the church entrance after every service. To make scheduling easier, the greeter is often one of the layreaders.
- Matched many of the newcomers with a “buddy” who has been at Trinity for a while and may share common interests. The buddy may talk to the newcomer at coffee hour, invite them to special events at the church, or answer questions about how to get involved. In short, the buddy's role is to help newcomers connect with the church.
- Held a newcomer brunch last summer to further increase connections between new members and older members.

This process is having a positive impact! Since we started keeping more formal track of newcomers in the Fall of 2018, 29 new families or individuals have come to Trinity and filled out a Welcome card. Many of these people come to church regularly and have become active in the congregation. Another positive sign is that 19 new members made pledges for 2020.

We encourage everyone to be part of the welcoming effort by introducing yourself to someone you don't know after church, and reaching out to someone standing alone at coffee hour or other events. Some people worry that they will “make a mistake” and introduce themselves to someone who has been coming to church for many years. If you do, that’s ok, you will make a new friend who will be flattered that you took the time to say hello! We have probably all felt the awkwardness of standing somewhere alone or being new to a group, so we hope that Trinity can help newcomers feel at home quickly.

Respectfully Submitted by Nancy Matthews, on behalf of the Welcome Committee: Joan Dighton, Eric Hoversen, Amy Paglione and Anne Sweet

PARISH LIFE

Parish Life encompasses everything “social” and a general feeling of how we are all connected to our parish community, ministries and each other. Over the past year we have lost some treasured members of our parish family to various life events. Those same events have also brought us new faces whom YOU have welcomed. Thank you for your engagement and please know there are plenty of ways to become or remain involved. As you read through this report, we have identified ministries and representatives that you can contact. We also look for hosts for coffee hour (we will guide you!), call on cooks/bakers for our food events and welcome other ideas for creative, connected and spiritual adventures and opportunities for growth. This is YOUR Church and together WE make it! I am the Church, YOU are the Church and WE are the Church together! See you on Sunday!

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Louie

BOOK CLUB

If you enjoy reading, making new friends, sharing information on new books, movies, plays, sports, current events, etc. join us at the Book Club meetings. We get together the 3rd Friday of each month throughout the year at 1:00pm for approximately two hours. The meeting place is in the Parish Hall's Reception Room October through May. During the summer months, we meet at a different location. The emphasis, of course, is on the books. We read and discuss all types of books, and they can be on any subject. The person who recommends a book, is the discussion leader for that month. In September, we select books for the next season which begins in October. We have a group of really nice people consisting of twelve members. Join us for fellowship, fun and refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Whitfield, Chairperson

CALENDAR PARTY

Trinity's 10th Calendar Party occurred on May 5, 2019 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Table hostesses included Kristina Van Name and Kate Ellison, Liz Louie, Leslie Mazacanno, Christine Andonie, Susan Reillo, Anne Sweet, Cathy Bailey, Doreen Rivera, Audrey Henry, Amy Paglione and Sarah Senno, Lenny Shepherd, and Maris Williams. Doreen and Maris collected items for baskets and put them together; Vernon Williams created a beautiful program listing auction items for attendees; Deacon Leslie, Jenni Bettler, Lisa and Annika Yeh, Karen Douglass, Beth and John Brennan assisted with tickets; Dan Drechsler kept the action moving for the raffles as MC, John Murray assisted in the kitchen; and Trinity Youth helped as table servers and basket deliverers to winners. Net proceeds totaled \$4,661.

Respectfully submitted,
Maris Williams

MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club meets the first Saturday of the month at 7:30am. There are no Men's club meetings during the months of July, August and September. We are pleased to say that we have a consistent 15-20 member's showing up for the breakfast meetings. Please feel free to come and share in our fellowship as we are always looking to grow our group.

The Men's Club had a very solid year with many members taking part in the breakfast meetings and spending time and fellowship with one and other. Our core group and some newer members continue to embrace God's presence with sustenance, fellowship and knowledge.

We have had several speakers over the past year from many walks of life presenting interesting and timely topics. This year we were blessed to have several very interesting and enjoyable speakers. In February we had Cornelius Salvaterra speak on his days as a quarterback for the University of Pittsburgh as well as Evolution. April brought us Mike King a Lieutenant Colonel-JAG at the Joint Base at Maguire. In May Randy Bricker spoke on his trip to Israel. June was one of our Favorite speakers Bob McElwee, a retired NFL referee who shared many stories and perspectives on the NFL today. In October, Mark Leis coordinated a wonderful presentation on the Article 5 Convention of States to amend the US constitution. Our final speaker for the year was our own Eric Hoversen speaking about his family business, Comarco. Along with Rene Ramos they offered up a tasty demonstration on Eggplant Bacon, a new product that Comarco is going to market with in 2020.

During the summer many members of the Men's Group joined in fellowship at the Philadelphia Phillies to enjoy a meal in the executive dining room and later cheer the Phillies on. Thanks go out to Roy Schubert for coordinating this truly enjoyable outing!

Once again, our year ended with a special breakfast in December hosted by the Evergreens. It is a wonderful treat to be able to reflect on the past year and enjoy a wonderful breakfast put on by the excellent staff at the Evergreens. Thanks to Hank Rossell for coordinating this lovely event.

Once again, The Lord's presence moved us to prepare a Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner for the parish as well as preparing a Mother's Day reception for the well deserving Mom's and their families in the parish.

In closing, I want to thank all of the members of the Men's Club who help prepare, set up, tear down and make this group a wonderful part of the Trinity Episcopal Community. We look forward to seeing you in 2020 for another exciting year!

Respectfully Submitted,
John Murray and Eric Hoversen

NECROLOGY

The Burial Office has been read for the following persons since the last Annual Meeting of the parish.

Rieke Baize

Dorothy Blair

Nancy Ann Corbett

Paulette Derlin-Burnham

Patricia Fletcher

Clyde F. Gaylord, III

Nellie Wolfe Gaylord

Nancy Gunderson

Elisabeth Kichline

Susanne H. Lippincott

Samuel Joseph Louie

Joan McElhinney

Hugh McGlashon III

John H. McKeon

Robert E Perry

Amy McKeon Wallace

*Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer.
Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them;
and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power,
work in them the good purpose of your perfect will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

HYMN

488

Jesus Christ our Lord



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
 Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in my dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931);
 tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt.

Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927

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THE VESTRY OF TRINITY CHURCH

Elizabeth Louie (Warden)
Nancy Matthews (Warden)
Joan Dighton
Audrey Henry
Stella Horton
Eric Hoversen
Mark Leis
John Murray
Amy Paglione
Joan Reid
Anne Scheideler Sweet



TRINITY CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Emily A. Mellott, Rector
The Reverend Leslie G. Mazzacano, Deacon
The Reverend John F. Salmon, Jr., Assisting Priest
The Reverend Canon Jayne J. Oasin, Assisting Priest
Mr. Vernon H. Williams, Organist and Choirmaster
Mrs. Geri Trost, Financial Administrator
Mrs. Lauren Evans, Programs Administrator
Mrs. Nancy Johnson, Preschool Director
Mrs. Christine Andonie, Sunday School Director
Mrs. Maris W. Williams, Director of Cherub and Carol Choirs
Ms. Franshely Rivera, Nursery Caregiver
Mr. Thomas Pitman, Sexton