

Annual Report 2021

with documents for the
Annual Parish Meeting
January 31, 2022



Growing in love of God and neighbor

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AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Appointment of the Clerk and Parliamentarian
 - Review Rules for Electronic Meeting
4. Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting; Special Meetings of the Congregation
5. Elections
 - a. Qualifications
 - b. Report of the Nominating Committee
 - c. Further Nominations
 - d. Polls open for 30 minutes
6. Treasurer's Report for 2021
7. Presentation of Approved 2022 Budget
8. Results of Election
9. General Organization and Committee Reports
10. Announcements and Thanks
11. Necrology
12. Hymn
13. Benediction
14. Adjournment

MINUTES OF 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

January 31, 2021

The meeting was held by zoom videoconferencing and telephone conferencing.

1. Call to Order

The Reverend Emily Mellott called the 183rd annual meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer

Mother Emily opened the meeting with a prayer.

3. Appointment of the Clerk and Parliamentarian

Priscilla Knapp was appointed Clerk, and Lori Rapuano was appointed Parliamentarian.

Mother Emily reviewed the rules for holding the meeting electronically, and appointed Lauren Evans, Sarah Fawcett-Lee, Nancy Matthews, John Murray and Christopher Norris to be Zoom Meeting Managers.

4. Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting

A motion was made by Carolyn Weeks, seconded by Lisa Yeh and passed by electronic vote to approve the minutes of the 2020 annual meeting. 98% yes and 2% abstained in the Zoom electronic poll, and the telephone voice vote was unanimous in favor.

5. Elections: (Please refer to pages 6 to 8 of the 2020 Annual Report for biographies of Candidates) The state dictates that the polls must be open for thirty minutes. The Diocese sets the qualifications for Vestry membership. Mother Emily read the qualifications.

A Vestry person must be a communicant in good standing of Trinity Church 18 years of age or older; a regular attendee during the past year and currently a giver of record; a person who accepts the principle of tithing and agrees to work towards it.

Candidates: Nancy Matthews offered to continue as Warden for two years; Don Smith will be completing an unexpired one-year term; Sally Campolucci, Kisha Mann and Jeff Wojcik are candidates for three year terms.

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention, a one year term, are Bob Litsinger, John Murray and Kristina Van Name. Alternate Delegates to the Diocesan Convention are Julie Bathke, Linda Carson and Bruce Lovejoy.

As there were no further nominations, Liz Louie made a motion to elect the slate of officers. Mary Barker seconded the motion, and the motion was passed by electronic vote with the Zoom poll (open for 30 minutes), and telephone voice vote at the end of the open poll.

6. Treasurer's Report for 2020 (Please refer to page 9 of the Annual Report)

Scott Hart reiterated that 2020 was a very different year. The parishioners kept up their pledges and pledge income was only 2% lower than originally expected. Plate income exceeded expectations. Outreach also exceeded its expectations. There were several anonymous gifts. Income from building use, the preschool and Christmas offerings were down. Because of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan, we only had to take \$93,700 from the endowment fund. We did not hire a youth minister as planned. Anne Dalesandro questioned whether we would get a new PPP for this year and Nancy Matthews stated that we were not authorized to get one because we did not have a 50% drop in income. Jeannette Peterson asked if the PPP loan would be changed to a grant and Scott said we have 24 weeks to get the loan forgiven.

Stella Horton questioned prior year pledges and Mother Emily explained that it is money pledged in one year but received in the next year.

7. Presentation of Approved 2021 Budget (Please refer to page 9 of the Annual Report)

Scott stated that we are hoping for continued support from the congregation and that the last quarter of the year may be back to more normal. Must-do capital items were taken out of the budget and put in the capital campaign. Mother Emily explained that through 2020 the Diocesan assessment was voluntary, and we paid what we wanted to give. In 2021 the assessment will be mandatory, which could be a \$30,000 increase for Trinity. We are working with a Board of Reconciliation for a three year plan, so by 2023 we will be paying the full assessment.

The amount to be withdrawn from the endowment for 2021 will be \$220,000. We have been budgeting \$150,000 as a sustainable draw for the last several years and anticipate taking an extra \$70,000 in 2021. We are hoping the PPP loan will be forgiven. There was much discussion regarding the PPP loan and its impact on the budget. The \$97,600 PPP loan shows as a loss in 2020 but will be profit in 2021. Mother Emily will ask Geri Trost to send out a better explanation regarding this issue. Carolyn Weeks asked if we ever repaid the endowment fund, and it was explained that the endowment fund grows and money is taken from that growth.

The budget has been approved by the Vestry and is now presented at the annual meeting. Mother Emily thanked Scott and Geri for all their work on the budget. Geri has spent a lot of time working on the PPP loan.

8. Results of the Election

Those voting by Zoom and phone voted 100% in favor of electing the slate of candidates as presented.

9. General Organization and Committee Reports

Mother Emily noted that all of the committee reports are printed in the Annual Report. By acclamation, all reports were accepted as written. Mother Emily thanked all who submitted a committee report. She stated that she had written the longest Rector's Report she has ever written and thanked the congregation for showing such adaptive strength as a community.

10. Announcements and Thanks

Mother Emily thanked all those who were completing vestry terms: Nancy Matthews, Eric Hoversen, Bob Litsinger, John Murray, Ann Sweet, and Joan Reid, who is also completing her term on the Preschool Board. She also thanked the Tech Team: Lauren Evans, Nancy Matthews, Sarah Fawcett-Lee, Chris Norris and John Murray. She also thanked everyone who reached out to others during this pandemic; those who prayed for Trinity and especially Deacon Leslie Mazzacano, who is retiring on February 14, 2021.

She announced that the church will be continuing the suspension of in-person worship until the end of February. Carolyn Weeks thanked Mother Emily, Deacon Leslie, Vernon and Maris Williams, the ushers and cleaners and everyone at Trinity. Sally Campolucci thanked Julie Bathke for doing the Bible study, and Lenny Shephard thanked Mother Emily, Deacon Leslie, Vernon and the choir.

11. Necrology:

Mother Emily read the names of those who have died this past year, and led the meeting in prayer. (See page 44)

12. Benediction

Mother Emily gave the benediction.

13. Adjournment

Michael Bathke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 p.m. which was passed by 100% zoom and phone vote. Deacon Leslie gave the dismissal.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Knapp, Clerk

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING

September 26, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Mother Emily Mellott at 9:15 am to elect six representatives from Trinity Episcopal Church to represent Trinity at a special meeting of the Burlington Convocation on October 24, at which representatives from our Convocation will be elected to serve on the Search Committee for the next bishop of the Diocese of New Jersey.

The nominees were Julie Bathke, Linda Carson, Bob Litsinger, Bruce Lovejoy, Jim Morley and Kristina Van Name. Jasmine Deplet was named as an alternate. Mother Emily asked for additional nominations and, there being none, closed nominations. Lorraine Ryan made as motion to elect the whole slate as one. Bruce Velzy seconded it. The motion was tabled until the polls had been open for thirty minutes. At 9:47 am Mother Emily closed the polls and re-opened the motion to elect the full slate of candidates. There being no discussion, the motion was approved by voice vote with no votes against and none abstaining.

At 9:49 am Bruce Lovejoy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Knapp
Recording Secretary

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING

December 26,2021

The meeting was called to order by Mother Emily Mellott December 26,2021 at 11:08 am in Trinity Church. Mother Emily opened the meeting with a prayer. There were 17 congregants in attendance and eligible to vote.

The agenda for the meeting was a vote on proposed revisions to the bylaws. The changes are to provide for the possibility of electronic or hybrid meetings of the congregation or vestry, and to implement some changes suggested at the last review of our bylaws by the Chancellor of the Diocese of NJ. Sarah Fawcett-Lee moved that we approve the changes in the bylaws. Lenny Shepherd seconded the motion.

Questions were taken from the members:

A question from Lenny Shepherd concerned Article 3 about “the corporation” and “ the parish”. Mother Emily explained the “corporation” was a legal term which created the parish. “Parish” was the entity which conducted meetings within the corporation.

Bruce Velzy commented that there might be a better definition of the two terms and the differences.

A voice vote was taken and the changes were approved unanimously. There were no “nays” or “abstentions.”

Audrey Henry moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:15 am. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Campolucci

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

WARDEN: 1 YEAR TERM

Liz Louie

As I approach almost 30 years at Trinity my last election was before the pandemic and all the challenges/changes that have occurred. I look back in awe for the strength and resilience in our Parish Community- our Rectors, the Vestry and staff and you as parishioners. I remain inspired to represent all the Trinity is and can be.

VESTRY: 3 YEAR TERM

John M. Bradley

My family and I began attending Trinity in mid-2019 and joined the parish in December of 2019. Our children, Kathryn (8) and Joseph (4) have enjoyed participating in the children’s chapel and Sunday School; they are both looking forward to having another chance to carry up the cross when children’s chapel resumes in-person programming. Most of our time at Trinity has been pandemic time, so our involvement has often been

from a distance. My wife, Camille, and I have enjoyed making sandwiches as a family for Cathedral Kitchen and contributing to other Outreach drives. This month, Lori Rapuano and I launched Trinity's Earth Care ministry, which we hope will deepen our community's spiritual and physical relationship with all of creation and our participation in the responsible stewardship of the earth.

My professional life has included a great deal of work with religious and nonprofit organizations. I have worked as an attorney for the Center for FaithJustice and Habitat for Humanity International. After those experiences, I began serving nonprofit entities as a board governance consultant and teaching nonprofit-related courses at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. I currently serve my undergraduate institution, Saint Joseph's University, in a variety of volunteer roles, including as a member of the Advisory Board for the College of Arts and Sciences and as a board member of the Alumni Association, where I am the immediate past President. A long time ago, I worked in youth and young adult ministry and spent a year in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. When my knees cooperate, I enjoy biking and running.

Don Smith

My name is Don Smith and I have been a member of the parish for eight years. In 2018 I started as an Usher at the 7:45 service, in 2019 I was a member of the Renewal Works group, in 2020 I was a member of the group that brought you The Book of Common Prayer Scavenger Hunt, in 2021 I joined the Vestry to complete one year of a term that was vacated. As a vestry member I have been working on the Capital Campaign Projects Committee.

I like to stay active I enjoy fishing, bicycling, golf, skiing, woodworking, and I can often be found at Strawbridge Lake walking my 3-year-old mini-Berna doodle.

Lisa Yeh

I have been a member of Trinity since 2009. I live in Marlton and have a daughter, Annika, who was baptized and confirmed at Trinity and is currently in high school. During my time at Trinity, I have enjoyed participating and volunteering in many ways. I was honored to serve on the vestry from 2016-2018 and led meetings of the Finance/Stewardship/Endowment commission during those years. Prior to that, I helped with teaching Sunday school for several years and helped revise the Sunday school program to more productively engage the elementary school kids. More recently I have been involved with the older kids Youth program and am currently a co-teacher for J2A. I have also enjoyed participating in other ways at Trinity through the years including as a lay reader, rummage sale, Blueberry Festival, discernment facilitator for the Capital campaign, and hand bell/summer choir.

Professionally, I have a BS in chemistry from the University of Illinois, a PhD in physical chemistry from the University of California-Berkeley and have just retired after working

for 30 years as a research scientist for ExxonMobil Research & Engineering Company. I supported fuel and lubricant product quality including emissions reduction, fuel economy, and specification setting, worked closely with refineries on manufacturing initiatives, and am co-inventor on 26 patents.

An outside activity that I'm particularly proud of is organizing an annual weekend outdoor camp for adopted Chinese-American kids living on the East coast complete with archery, boating, and Chinese cultural activities, and serving as past president of Families with Children from China of South Jersey. Hobbies include going for hikes and long walks, playing piano, reading, travel, and spending time with family and friends. I would be honored to serve on the vestry again and look forward to this opportunity to help Trinity grow and thrive.

DIOCESAN DEPUTY

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, active in the RenewalWorks process, and has filled a short-term vestry role. He services as liaison to the vestry of St. John's Maple Shade on behalf of Trinity and the Diocese. He is currently continuing study at the New Jersey School for Ministry. That has precluded current participation in the Diversity Committee and Outreach Committees. He is active in worship serving as a chalice bearer, lay reader and as part of the tech guild. He continues to provide a weekly Evening Prayer service for Trinity plus now does Evening Prayer Zoom services sponsored by the New Jersey School for Ministry.

Prior to his retirement last year, he worked as a database developer and has prior experience in administration in healthcare and legal firms. Family life, cycling, yoga, weight training, jogging, travel and visiting with friends rounds out current activity.

Abigail Merk

Abigail Merk is one of the staff singers at Trinity Episcopal. Upon accepting the job in 2017, it was evident that this community would change her forever. Her role in the Trinity Choir as soprano section leader allows her opportunities for both musical and spiritual growth with God. She is answering a call to become more involved in the

diocese and the Episcopal Church on a broader scale. She is trying a bit of everything (as much as a pandemic will allow) in her new, additional roles as lector and chalice bearer.

Abby spends a lot of time thinking about how lucky she is to have the people who ‘make’ Trinity what it is in her life. Something she loves to do is write about faith, have conversations, and hear people’s stories. Beyond the walls of Trinity, Abby takes pleasure in running, singing classical music, attending Bible studies, and examining her life through a lens of prayer and discernment.

Kristina Van Name

Kristina Van Name has been a member of Trinity for twenty years as of this month. Both her children, Connor and Kaylee, have been an active part of Trinity since their birth. Kristina has served as a delegate for the church twice in the past. She was a faithful member of the Trinity Choir before the pandemic and hopes to return soon. She was also a lay reader before the pandemic and for virtual services.

In the fall of 2019, Kristina helped coordinate on Basic Bible Study. The group took a six-month break at the beginning of the pandemic, and restarted meeting throughout the year online on Monday evenings. Two and a half years ago, Kristina facilitated the Renewal Works Committee that helped explore our parish's spirituality and help plan what we can do to help our spiritual growth.

In the past Kristina has served on the Parish Committee on Ministry who helped Kyle Cuperwich with his path to being ordained in the Episcopal Church, the discernment committee that helped bring Mother Emily to us and the organ campaign committee. She also served as the secretary and now as the chair of the Trinity Preschool Board, where both her children attended preschool from the 2.5-year-old program through PreK.

Alternate Diocesan Deputies: Julie Bathke, Jim Morley

REPORTS

RECTOR’S REPORT

It’s been a year of hope and accomplishment, challenge and change, and the strong heart of Trinity has been on display in so many ways. Our work together to plan for, invest in, and start building for the future – and present! – demonstrates the heart, spirit, and power of our community as we met our goal of securing \$1.5 million in pledges to our campaign to build Trinity stronger and more welcoming for all. And our congregation demonstrated

that heart, spirit, and power right through this year in which the Covid pandemic kept changing our expectations and plans. I am truly proud of Trinity, and so grateful to be your Rector in this time and place.

One of the best things about our Campaign for Trinity was that it brought me into conversations with so many of you about your hopes for Trinity and your love for this community. I've heard about generational traditions and recent connections that added beloved faces and personal stories to our focus on strong and welcoming community. And I've heard just how important and personal it is for you to know that our buildings and our heart grow more accessible, comfortable, welcoming, and strong. Those conversations of shared hope and commitment, shared joy and caring, really made my year. Thank you! You can read more about the progress and success of the campaign elsewhere in this report, and I'm very grateful to Lorraine Ryan and Bruce Velzy for their strong and capable leadership in co-chairing this campaign, and to John Dighton, Dave Donachy, Mark Leis, Nancy Matthews, Chris Norris and Don Smith who have begun the five-year process of managing all the capital projects we've funded!

Another major commitment to our future happened as we welcomed Mother Angie Cipolla to Trinity in May. With the strong investment of the Vestry and the help of several parents and leaders we sought a new clergy person with experience and passion in youth ministry, who would also be a leader for the whole community. Our volunteer leaders for our youth classes really stepped up to guide and support our youth during this year of transition, and into the future. Special thanks are due to Kevin Berry, Jasmine and Rafael Declet, Scott Hart, Jeff Wojcik, John Murray, Kisha Mann, Libby Curran, Lisa Yeh and Sarah Senno for the many and varied ways they serve, lead, and care for our youth week by week, and to welcome and work with Mother Angie. I'm delighted to have Mother Angie among us, and to see her carefully laying the foundation of a strong, sustainable ministry of, with, and for our youth that will benefit Trinity for years to come, even in this time when it's been so difficult to gather and celebrate and bond with our teens and younger members; and to share the leadership of worship and other ministries with her. Her work with Outreach and other ministries, too, helps strengthen the heart of Trinity.

That strong heart was on display in February as we said farewell to Deacon Leslie Mazzacano, thanking her for 17 years of ministry among us and wishing her well in retirement. Even though Covid and snow turned our planned goodbye party into a broadcast, the love and care of Trinity was powerfully present in the church that day – and the faces in the pews of so many of you who sent in photographs for the event brought strength to Leslie's heart, and mine.

We saw two more significant staff changes during the year. We said farewell to Lauren Evans, who came to us in 2016 to fill a temporary administrative need and quickly became a necessity as she managed our worship programs, worship schedules, web presence, event sign ups and more to keep us active and connected. And then we welcomed Kate Stefanko to our Trinity staff to do all of that, and to manage the daily

operations of our office and building use, as Geri Trost shifted her responsibilities to focus on our finances. Kate has quickly upgraded our communications and our internal office organization – invisible but essential work! Our staff transitions closed with the ending of the year, as Tom Pitman retired after almost ten years as our sexton, and we welcomed Kevin Moore as our new property manager / sexton with the new year.

Amid all of that change, your volunteer leadership was strong, excellent, flexible and committed. The Vestry built a strong working team to navigate the many challenges of fluctuating Covid waves and protocol, support the varied ministries of the congregation, and oversee our capital campaign and the start of capital projects. Your wardens Liz Louie and Nancy Matthews went above and beyond the call of duty, not only providing strong and wise leadership to the Vestry, but personally taking on the planning and leadership of many special events, including our first ever traveling caroling party in December, providing invaluable support in all our worship activities, and helping your rector stay sane and grounded! Special thanks also go to Lori Rapuano, our parish Chancellor, for navigating the Vestry and the congregation through the intricacies of online meetings with wisdom and a sense of humor so that our integrity and our structure were strong, and to Priscilla Knapp, who faithfully recorded our meetings so we didn't forget what we were doing through Zoom and masks and other challenges.

While all that happened “behind the scenes” of our worship and daily ministry as a congregation, the heart and public face of Trinity stayed strong as you and I found ways to gather, celebrate, learn, and serve online, and in person, and online and, and outdoors and... well! Youth and adults brought community service home, making sandwiches for hungry neighbors, and dropping them off at Trinity. Our Outreach Committee kept the faith and our focus on our neighbors during a particularly difficult year. Two excellent and different Bible Study groups provide ways for adults to deepen their faith, learn, laugh, and wonder; our God's Diversity and Racial Reconciliation ministries help us learn God's love and justice from our fellow persons.

Christine Andonie leads a core group of young Christians in prayer and learning and love online, while preparing a set of at-home lessons and resources for families who can't tune in to online chapel or Sunday School and is preparing for a return of our younger students to in-person classrooms in 2022. She has also led us in providing opportunities to bring the seasons of Lent and Advent into our homes for parishioners of all ages. Two book clubs, the Men's Group, and less structured small groups of parishioners continue to build connections. The Garden Angels did beautiful work, providing extra balm for our spirits as we put the grounds of Trinity to a workout this year, using not just the garden, but the graveyard and the parking lot as space for parties, meetings, coffee chats, a youth gathering, and even worship. We never knew how blessed we were with outdoor space – or what a challenge it can be to use it. I'm particularly grateful to the Pollack family for finding us the portable speaker system that made these outdoor events easier to hear and enjoy!

Outdoor worship scaled up this year, with a well-attended, masked-and-distanced, thoroughly joyful Easter Eucharist in our churchyard, with festive music from our brass quartet and, for the first time since March 2020, *singing* together in worship! We also worshipped outdoors as well as online for the whole of the Easter season, (only got rained out once!), and returned outdoors briefly as the “Delta wave” took off in late summer. Whether outdoors or in, our worship constantly adapted throughout the year; bringing back baptisms and choir, shifting in time and place, making better use of the internet to welcome new people and long-time friends to Trinity over a distance, and keeping our prayer at the heart of our community. I’m grateful for the expansion of sacred time and space that many of us have experienced, and for the increasing opportunities for God to find us in our whole lives, worshipping in our pajamas, exposing many of our pets to the gospel and the music of our worship, among other changes in the way we gather.

I’m also grateful to Bob Litsinger for expanding our weekly worship offerings and building a special sacred community through his offering of Evening Prayer on Zoom each Tuesday evening. Reflection on the adaptability and growth of our worship would be incomplete without special thanks to Vernon Williams who not only continually found new ways to enhance our worship with excellent music despite the challenges of Covid, but whose technical expertise and creativity behind the scenes made gorgeous worship recordings when needed and erased a lot of glitches before they got into our live and live-streamed worship.

Thanks also are due to our newly formed “Tech Guild” who do the essential and invisible work of guiding the camera for our livestreams, and generally helping you “be here” when we can’t be physically here; to our faithful Altar Guild who prepared us for an endless variety of different forms of worship, sometimes changing within the space of a day, and made sure that your church and your clergy were ready to glorify God, bury the dead, baptize the growing, and share God’s gifts week after week; and to our choir, who have learned to sing with masks on and sound as if the masks aren’t there!

In addition to the tremendous gifts I experience by living, loving, and working with all of you through all of that, in 2021 I also served the Diocese of New Jersey as a member of the Re-entering, Re-opening, and Re-imagining Task Force that worked with the bishop to guide the return of as much “normal” as possible in our lives during this year of Covid-induced changes, and to support innovation where possible and necessary. That work will be much reduced in 2022 as the diocese increasingly relies on each congregation to assess and respond to their own situation, within a broad set of guidance provided by the diocese. I also continue to serve as chair of the Discerning Our Common Call Committee, which Bishop Stokes has called the “strategic visioning” body of the diocese, helping all of our diocese to grow together around our shared call to form disciples of Jesus.

I grow in my own relationship to Jesus through all the daily prayers and tasks I share with you; through the gift of the sorrows and joys you share with me, the questions you ask, the ideas you bring, and above all, our showing up for one another – physically, virtually,

and spiritually. Over and over, this year, I hear myself saying I can't imagine navigating these last two years anywhere else, without all of you. And my heart keeps growing as you all invite me deeper into the strength of Trinity's heart.

Thank you!
Mother Emily Mellott
Rector

ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S REPORT

Joining Trinity in May has been the beginning of a new and beautiful chapter in my life and ministry. I have been passionate about youth ministry since I was in high school and joined my parish's youth council. I love the creativity and energy of teens as well as their unique ability to challenge us to think in new ways about the world and how we live in it. I am excited to continue to get to know the youth of Trinity and to figure out how I can best serve them in their faith development. While the faith formation of youth is at the very heart of my passion in ministry, formation of people of all ages brings me great joy and fulfillment. So, I was pleased when Mother Emily asked if I would oversee baptism preparation for the parish. It has been so much fun getting to know the families and helping them to understand baptism and their role in their child's life of faith. It is always a blessing for the whole Body of Christ when a new member is added through baptism. I look forward to watching these children grow in faith as they journey with us in their new life in Christ.

In addition to my formation work, I have been blessed to join the outreach commission. The passion for others that is evident in every person that serves on the commission is truly inspiring. Although the pandemic has affected how we operate some of our events, we were still able to successfully hold a Christmas in July picnic and thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for our outreach families. The food pantry also continues to operate on a weekly basis thanks to the dedication of Libby Curran and Priscilla Knapp, our food pantry volunteers. All of this ministry work is only possible thanks to the dedication of Trinity members who found ways to make these important events possible. Thank you!

While it has been a challenge to enter a new community in the midst of a pandemic, I thank you all for the warm welcome that I have received. I know that as we continue to get to know one another we will learn and grow together in new and exciting ways. I look forward to continuing to work and worship together as we follow where God leads on this ever-changing journey of faith.

Respectfully submitted,
Mother Angie Cipolla
Associate Rector

WARDENS' REPORT

The wardens and vestry devoted 2021 to maintaining the spiritual strength of our congregation and building a foundation to renew our buildings and community ties. We worked hard individually and collectively to overcome the many challenges and disappointments presented by running a church during the pandemic, and we ended the year on a joyous and hopeful note.

In 2021, the work and contributions of the wardens and vestry members included the following:

Spiritual Growth:

- Enabled worship—remote, outside, and inside—at a time when many church volunteers could not help
- Returned to “normal” celebrations including Choral Evensong, Confirmation, Baptisms, First Communion, weddings, and funerals.
- Shared our personal challenges with others in the congregation to create a circle of mutual support
- Brought the church to the homes of those with limited access to remote worship
- Prayed for those who are absent in person but not in spirit

Congregational Growth and Fellowship:

- Maintained fellowship and personal connections through limited gatherings, mostly outside in good weather or in coats, often with homemade treats!
- Identified and welcomed many visitors and newcomers
- Enabled the growth of our ministries – participating in several virtual bible study groups and racial reconciliation efforts
- Celebrated the retirements of Deacon Leslie and Tom Pitman
- Supported the hiring of our new Associate Rector, Mother Angie, to focus primarily on youth and outreach

Manage Property, Finances and Administration

- Managed the church's finances in trying times
- Supported the capital campaign – helping to bring in pledges and offering leadership pledges of their own
- Tackled the challenges of deferred property maintenance and needs for capital improvements; began to identify priority maintenance projects
- Reviewed the ongoing work of Trinity's various commissions and ministries
- Supported Mother Emily in the hiring of a new office administrator and sexton
- Adapted the ways we conduct church business to virtual interactions

Serve the needs of others

- Sustained outreach – financially and through hands-on work

- Taught Sunday School classes remotely and celebrated with those being confirmed

And last but not least, we supported the spirit and enthusiasm of our rector!

When we reflected on the highlights of the year, we thought of the outdoor Easter Sunday service, which was our first opportunity to gather together freely (without capacity limits and advance registration). We thought of the relief we feel to have the resources from the Capital Campaign to properly address overdue building maintenance, safety and accessibility issues. And Liz's and Nancy's highlights definitely included seeing Deacon Leslie's reaction at her retirement celebration, when she turned and saw the empty church filled with "people posters" from about 100 members of the congregation, and the Christmas Caroling party, when a band of merry travelers visited the homes of 11 parishioners to share fun and singing.

As we look forward to 2022, we can't wait to get back to normal, when the church and classrooms can once again be filled with people, and our activities are vibrant. We don't know when that will be, but it will come, and the vestry is dedicated to that future, as you will read in the budget report.

We feel privileged to serve as Trinity's wardens, and we are so appreciative of our passionate vestry members, who are happy to get involved wherever needed. We appreciate the time and talent the departing vestry members have provided and we look forward to continuing our work with new members. No task is too heavy with many hands to help!

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Louie and Nancy Matthews, Wardens

WORSHIP

MUSIC

As in 2020, the music program went through distinct phases in 2021.

January to September

Services in the first part of the year included organ music and prerecorded anthems sung by the Coventry Choir, our quartet of choir section leaders. The choir – Abby Merk, Shannon Lally, Steven Van Name, and Sergey Tkachenko – met on Wednesday evenings in the Parish Hall to record. Everyone in this talented and congenial group took the

recording process seriously and strove to create the most beautiful and musical sound they could.

Between Wednesday and Sunday, Vernon opened the raw recordings in audio editing software in order to create a final version. During recording the choir would sing several takes, often starting and stopping part way through. There was much laughter as mistakes were made and we had to stop and start again. The editing process consisted of identifying the best of the various bits and pieces and stitching them together into one performance. Over the course of the season the choir made around 80 recordings of anthems, hymns, and service music, many of which are quite fine.

One music highlight from this period was the outdoor Easter service which featured the brass quartet. For the first time in a year, hymns were sung by the congregation, adding a festive touch to the celebration.

September through December

Our music program made a slight recovery in the fall of 2021 as the Trinity Choir began rehearsing on Thursday nights and singing on Sunday mornings. Despite being masked in rehearsal and in church, everyone was thrilled to be together and singing again.

In a return of special musical events, the choir sang a service of Choral Evensong in November, the first since March of 2020, and Advent Lessons and Carols in December. On Christmas Eve the choir was joined by the brass quartet, presenting a half hour musical prelude before the 8:00 p.m. Eucharist.

Also starting in the fall, Maris met with two third grade choristers and our new piano accompanist, Gina Park, on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Even though they were not able to sing in church on Sundays, these enthusiastic singers learned anthems and studied music theory, performing one of their anthems for their parents during rehearsal time. This young proto-choir could very well form the nucleus of a new youth choir program to be developed in the future.

Thanks

Many thanks to our choral librarian, Susan Wojcik, who has conquered the backlog of filing, and is taking wonderful care of the choir and its music on a weekly basis. Also, many thanks to those who donated to the Friends of Trinity Music even though there were no special services taking place.

It is our hope that the church and the music program continue their recovery in 2022 so that by 2023 this period of disruption and dissolution will be nothing more than a memory.

Respectfully submitted,
Vernon and Maris Williams

LAY READERS

Lay readers have always made an important contribution to church services at Trinity, but in the past year circumstances have required lay readers to become more adaptable. During the initial Covid shutdown, for example, lay readers recorded their readings at home. After the first few weeks, lay readers were recorded during the week in church in preparation for a service to be aired on a Sunday. During the summer, readers participated at the live services held in the cemetery. More recently, readers have been regular participants at the 8am and 10 am Sunday services, and at the special Evensong services.

Due to personal health concerns, some lay readers felt unable to attend live, in-person services but were able to read for the telephone services which were held at 9am on Sundays for several months - a valuable service for parishioners unable to stream services online.

In this past year of change and upheaval I have found that lay reading has been an opportunity to hold onto something constant and meaningful in the life of the church.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Dighton

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

Eucharistic Ministers: Jeff Wojcik, Liz Louie, Dara Santos, Ellen Kurtz, Priscilla Knapp

The Lay Eucharistic Ministers contacted Cora and Elvy Williams, Edith Henderson, Lynn Sloan, Rebecca Montague, Gerri Smith, Richard and Sandra Say and Hank and Caroline Rossell, when it was no longer possible to do in-home visits because of the pandemic. A number of these parishioners advised they were watching the services electronically, and Dara Santos was asked to do a monthly check in call on these folks. We were unable to connect with a number of them by phone. At the end of the year, we are visiting John Murray at his home and Edith Henderson by phone. Lynn Sloan has indicated that she also would like phone visits when she returns to her home.

Hopefully, we will be able to resume in-person visits this year. One of the rewards of this ministry is chatting and sharing the parish news with the shut- in as well as sharing the communion service. Frequently a parishioner will ask me who I am going to visit and send their greetings along with me. A high point for me was calling Edith Henderson

after the Christmas carolers had been to her home to sing. She was so excited at having them visit her and hoped it would be a yearly event.

We will continue to need active help from parish members to keep checking on older or homebound members and letting clergy know needs as they arise.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Knapp

TECH GUILD

The Trinity Tech Guild was established in September 2020 to support the technical needs during the Sunday services as the pandemic forced services to be conducted virtually. Special Thanks to Chris Norris for the implementation support. It could not have been done without his work on the initial setup.

Each Sunday a tech support person is assigned to power on the system and operate the camera for the Sunday service which is broadcasted live either 8am or 10 am. Tech support also is there to monitor the microphones and make any sound adjustments as needed during the service.

The current members of Tech Guild:

Nancy Matthews

Bob Litsinger

Harry Wind

Jeff Wojcik

We are always looking for new members who feel comfortable operating a laptop computer and iPad.

All camera settings are preset and just need to be activated doing specific parts of the service by the tech support person in the back of the church. There is also specific operating instruction for powering-up and shutting down systems at the beginning and end of the service. No heavy lifting is required

Training and guidance are provided by the group for all new members until they feel comfortable operating the system.

Any questions or interest in volunteering, please contact Jeff Wojcik (610-945-4004)

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Wojcik

ALTAR GUILD

Unprecedented – was the word I used last year to start my discussion of 2020 activities. Unbelievable - is the word I use for 2021. The unbelievable dedication of the ladies of the Altar Guild through 2021 and the unbelievable flexibility of those ladies in adapting to the constant change in procedures over the past year. There were 8 of us who soldiered on through the year, reducing our work teams to 2 members at a time because of the pandemic limitations. Of course, we were masked and socially distanced throughout our work in the church and sacristy. Procedures could change from week to week depending on whether services were indoors, outdoors, virtual or in-person.

There were times when we had to depend on the clergy for cleanup as we could not be in the church for the virtual services. All that being said, we did prepare for baptisms, funerals and believe it or not, one wedding, as well as the weekly Sunday services. Our work force was reduced by 3 members who were unable to participate this year. We missed Jane Bucci, Nancy Phillips and Cora Williams very much. There were 2 in-person meetings of the Altar Guild once we were all vaccinated. They occurred in September and December prior to the most recent shut-down of in-person activities at Trinity. We all miss the comradery of being able to get together and share our mission with each other. We look forward to rekindling that in the future.

On a personal note, I wish to thank Mother Emily and Mother Angie who become the “surrogate” Altar Guild when circumstances dictated. We bid farewell to Tom Pitman who was a “right arm” when the ladies needed help to heft heavy items. He will be missed, but we wish him well in his retirement. Speaking of retiring, I will be stepping down and leave my position in the capable hands of Gayle Celantano and Helen Anderson. I have enjoyed my time as Directress of the Altar Guild at Trinity Church and will miss the wonderful friends I have made here. God bless, stay safe and healthy until we meet again.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Perinchief

FLOWER GUILD

As you enter our beautiful Church, hopefully one of the things you notice as you look at the Altar is the flowers. Those flowers are given in memory of loved ones and arranged by the Flower Guild.

Presently, the Flower Guild is comprised of 19 members. There are always two members working together each week. One member is the leader and responsible for formulating the design and purchasing the flowers. The leaders and the assistants work side-by-side to produce the floral arrangements. It is not required that that assistant have any experience in floral design--just a love of flowers, and a desire to volunteer to help the Church. It provides a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of our members and is also very relaxing. While arranging flowers, there is no way one can be thinking about their busy lives. In addition to the weekly arrangements, our largest responsibility is at Easter and Christmas, which is a wonderful way to enhance your enjoyment of the holiday.

Volunteering is not a huge time commitment and scheduling is flexible. Your name will come up on the schedule about once every two-three months. Flowers are generally arranged on Saturday mornings or whatever time is convenient with the leader and assistant. Schedules are created every three months, giving you the opportunity to block out weeks that are not convenient for you. If you do have a conflict, it is always easy to find a member willing to switch dates to cover for you.

EVENING PRAYER

This is the first time I've done a report on this service. Unless you've attended this service, it may be hard to image it. So, I am going to do this a little differently. I am going do this in a question-and-answer style. As the first report on this and since it is using Question and Answer format, it will be somewhat longer than might otherwise be needed.

What is this service?

It is based on the Evening Prayer Service in the Book of Common Prayer. It could be done in a formal style like Morning Prayer, but it is much more informal and shorter than what you would experience in church.

When and where is the service done?

Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. over Zoom. The service was in the Chapel when it started at the beginning of Advent at the end of 2019. Some day it might move back to the Chapel, but even then, it probably will be shared over Zoom.

Why do I do this service?

As a result of RenewalWorks I had begun to pray more on a personal basis. My daughters and I did Compline over the phone every evening and found it fulfilling. I wanted to encourage people to pray in that more informal style, so asked Mother Emily about starting a weekly Evening Prayer service with intention of encouraging people to pray. Praying together, whether on a one-time basis or a regular basis, creates a bond that can be full filling, joyful, hopeful, supportive and create a bond between people. My goal was much the same as that of Thomas Cranmer who put together the Daily Offices in the first version of Daily Prayer.

What is the service like?

Although Evening Prayer can be used for worship in much the same way we use Morning Prayer for worship, it can be trimmed down in several ways and is flexible. So, this Evening Prayer is simpler, has no music (well almost no music) and the ending is altered to use the ending from Compline. It takes less than 30 minutes. We usually get started with the service a little late but are finished by 7:30.

The other thing is different is that I “share” the service. I divide it up and try to give as many people as a can a part to read. It might be a psalm, a reading, a canticle, or a prayer. Also, things requiring a versicle and response are assigned to Men or Women as a group.

The service is shared with everyone both by distributed copy and via Zoom screen sharing.

What do you mean by “almost no music?”

We (me and the group) are flexible. Relatively early we learned that one of the participants loves to sing. One of the elements of the service is the Song of Mary. She volunteered to do that as her part of the service and sing it (on the condition she might not always do that). We accepted and everyone loves it.

However, there is a love of music. Some would like to have it, but others cannot do the service if it takes longer. To accommodate both those who cannot afford the time and those who would like music, there is an optional post service extension where I try to play 3 or 4 of the hymns from YouTube that were used in the New Jersey School for Music service in the past week.

Who and how many attend?

The “regular” group has gradually grown. There are generally 10, seldom less than 8 and seldom more than 12. Attendance is so consistent that I can take attendance. There are 7 people from Trinity 3 of whom either can no longer attend church or only with great difficulty, 1 person from Baltimore, and 4 from other churches that are fairly regular. Within the regular group there are 3 retired priests and 1 retired deacon. There are several that have other lay roles at church. There are others from Baltimore and 1 from Haiti that occasionally attend.

Are there any planned or expected changes?

Well, as I said, if the service returns to the chapel, I do want it to be shared via Zoom. The other thing currently in progress is to share the link and copies of each week’s services on the Trinity website so that being able to attend is not dependent on a weekly email. If anyone has any other suggestions, I would love to hear them.

The group as it exists is socially interactive and very open to new members. Each of you is very welcome to attend once, occasionally or often if you can.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Litsinger

SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND FORMATION

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday afternoon Bible study continues to be a source of joyful fellowship and deep spiritual insight as we meet on Zoom every week. The study is discussion based; everyone contributes; we work together to better understand God’s Word. We also laugh a lot.

We studied the Gospel of Mark during the 2020-2021 academic year. It took us nine months to get through sixteen chapters. Clearly, we like to take our time, to go where the discussion leads us. The plan had been to start the Gospel of Luke in September of 2021, but some discussions in Mark led to questions about David and, well, after a side trip into 1 and 2 Samuel, we started Luke the first week of December.

Think about joining us on our journey. You are always welcome. Sunday afternoon from 12:45 until 2ish, sometimes 2:30ish and never past 3.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Bathke

MONDAY BASIC BIBLE STUDY

Basic Bible Study meets online Mondays from 7 to 8pm. No knowledge or preparation is needed. This year we have read and reflected on a variety of Bible readings. We pull from a variety of online sources to help us with our reflections.

We started out the year with selections from the Gospel of Mark. We discussed:

- the value of friendship
- what type of soil we are (Mark 4:2-20)
- part of the miracle of the story of loaves and fishes is the miracle of people coming together in community, getting to know each other and building a trust of each other. Does this foreshadow our Eucharist and the future church?
- the nature of sin and the integrity of the body (individual and corporate)
- who the dogs represent when Jesus is confronted by the Syrophenician(Mark)/Canaanite(Matthew) woman
- how Jesus' is transformed by a challenge from a Gentile, a stranger or "other"
- the symbolism of the fig tree when Jesus enters Jerusalem
- womens' role is the stories of Jesus death and resurrection

Our exploration of Mark also had us look at our Baptismal Covenant and all four of our Eucharists.

During Holy week we explored the 7 Last Words of Christ from the Cross. Some questions we discussed were:

- What do you think enables Jesus to forgive those who are executing him?
- What does it mean to forgive?
- Does it help you to think of Jesus as "fully human and fully divine" in moments of doubt or in feelings of abandonment? Why or why not?
- What is the difference between feeling that God is absent and believing that God doesn't exist?
- What Should We Learn from "It Is Finished"?

In the Spring we got to know Elijah - The Prophet and A Prayer Warrior through readings from 1 Kings, 2 Kings and the New Testament. He shows us the importance of prayer.

Jezebel shows up in Elijah's story, so we explored her with readings from 1 Kings and 2 Kings. We questioned how bad she really was and how she was portrayed.

We read and discussed the entire Book of Jonah with the help of past sermons from Mother Emily and parts of a recorded sermon from Rev. Chris Hechert, Haddonfield United Methodist Church. Interestingly, our study of this story was around when the Cape Cod lobster diver was swallowed by a humpback whale.

This summer we used one meeting to discuss two difficult topics - Death and God using Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24 and Lamentations 3:16-26, 31-33. In John C. Holbert's commentary on Lamentations, he says, "these texts will not help us argue the origins of the world's agonies, but they will help us reflect on what we can do to face them and live with their reality. This may be the most important lesson we need to learn."

The Book of Job is a confusing story. Instead of reading it we watched a Bible Project Video for the story of Job. We also pulled in Matthew 6:25-34. Thank you to one of Mother Emily's past sermons on Job, we also listened to a recording of "Alexander and The Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day" by Judith Viorst.

In the beginning of September, we discussed Faith using Hebrews 11. How is faith defined in Hebrews and our culture? We looked at examples of faith by Ael, Enoch, Noah, and Abraham. We discussed the difference between "belief" and "faith."

This fall and however long it takes us to finish, we are uncovering the vast, sweeping story of God's extraordinary love for ordinary people, using "The Path: A Journey Through The Bible." Chapter 1 explores the two different creation stories in the Bible. We looked at the Hebrew word *adam* which can mean "human being," and not necessarily a male human being. Chapter 2 explores the story of Cain and Abel, Noah's story and God's Covenant with Noah and every living creature, and the Tower of Babel. We struggled with the idea that God is all knowing, but seems unsure in some of these stories. Chapter 3 looks at Abraham's story. We listened to part of Cantic II: Abraham and Isaac by Britten when Abraham is going to sacrifice his son. This month we will complete Chapter 4, the stories of Isaac/Jacob (Abraham's son) and Joseph (Isaac/Jacob's son). We have talked about sibling relationships. Through all the chapters we continue to discuss belief and faith. We have really enjoyed this fall looking at works of art that show the story we read that evening.

Feel free to join us whenever you are free! We would love to have you!

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Van Name

RACIAL RECONCILIATION

During Lent, Trinity relaunched the 21-day Racial Equity Challenge which offers videos and readings on a wide range of racial awareness topics. Sharon Velzy hosted an online discussion board, posting weekly personal reflections on what she was reading, hearing, and learning from the 21-day challenge materials, and encouraging others to contribute to the discussion. The Lenten program concluded with a published Litany for racial reconciliation. It is hard to gauge participation in a virtual program like this, but we saw an increase in traffic to the webpage from 31 page views in the two weeks before launch to 71 pageviews in the two weeks after launch. The discussion board had 40 page views, so clearly many members of the congregation engaged with this program.

A book discussion group met from January through May to reflect on the book White Rage, by Carol Anderson. Our goal was to educate ourselves about the history of race relations in the US, and reflect on our own personal stories in this area.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Matthews

YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The pandemic has been hard on our youth as they have missed or had drastically altered milestone events. So, we are particularly grateful that we were able to hold both our Rite 13 and Confirmation services this May. This is due in no small part to the dedication of their teachers: Scott Hart, Jasmine Declet, and Rafael Declet for Rite 13 and Libby Curran, Kisha Mann, John Murray and Jeff Wojcik for J2A.

I also had the great honor to join the Youth Ministry team in May as I began my ministry within the Trinity community. With joy and enthusiasm, I began planning for the launch of the 21-22 program year. The Journey to Adulthood curriculum that we have used for many years was acquired by a different publisher and underwent a complete revision over the summer. We launched the new cohorts in the fall with this newly revised curriculum.

The new Rite 13 cohort is being led by Rafael Declet, Jasmine Declet, and Scott Hart. While the new J2A cohort is being led by Jeff Wojcik and Lisa Yeh. The newly revised curriculum adds a third cohort called 4Ward for our oldest group of youth. For this year, we divided 4Ward into different components to make it easier to coordinate. Sarah Senno and Kevin Berry lead the service Sundays, Jasmine Declet leads the discussion Sundays, and I lead the classroom Sundays. Beginning in October, our youth classes met in an alternating in-person and virtual schedule to accommodate the needs of all our families.

A new addition to our Youth Ministry this fall was the launch of middle school and high school youth groups which meet on the last Sunday of each month instead of the traditional Sunday morning classes. We have been blessed by the leadership and gifts of Beth Brennan, John Brennan, and Sue Taylor for the middle school group and David Douglass and Kevin Berry for the high school group. Although I excitedly created a schedule of topics and events for all the youth group Sundays from September through May, due to Covid restrictions we have had to alter or delete most of the originally planned youth group nights so far. We did have a fun and successful back to school BBQ at the end of September and in December the youth groups joined the wider parish in a Christmas caroling event to some of our home-bound members.

Although many plans have been changed throughout the year, I am continually impressed by the resiliency of our youth and the dedication of the parish to quality formation. Thank you all for your dedication and flexibility and I look forward to continuing to deepen our relationships with God and each other.

Respectfully submitted,
Mother Angie Cipolla
Associate Rector

CHILDRENS CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Leading Christian Formation for children, while in a pandemic, presented a new series of challenges. My aim was to provide a meeting place for children where they could worship and enjoy fellowship with their church friends. For those who prefer not to Zoom, I posted materials for home study on our webpage. Like every ministry, I wondered who would show up? Would they feel a connection to their faith and their church? Am I doing enough?

I am happy to report, our weekly Zoom sessions were consistently attended by an average of 10 children. The group has evolved into a cohesive unit. We celebrate Children's chapel together and they are eager to recite their prayers and responses. They enjoy the children hymns I share via YouTube, and some have a "favorite" song. The children are especially excited to share their special intention when it is time to make our weekly prayer list. Together, we have prayed for Grandparents, family members, for the entire world to be vaccinated, our stuffed animals, live pets, and the whole world too. We discuss the Gospel lesson and find ways to be like Jesus in our lives. Our new curriculum, Sparkhouse, provides enriching lessons and fun activities for the children to do at home.

As the year progressed, we were able to provide a “Welcome to Communion” celebration for our group of first graders. Under Mrs. Stacy McBride’s guidance, the children were able to enjoy their special day after learning about our church and the Eucharist. A special thank you to Stacy for her efforts.

I have concluded that it is most important to provide our children and families with options. Although our connection to Trinity lives within us, we must work to maintain that bond. We must meet the people where they are. Christian Formation for children seeks to do just that. The children give our Zoom sessions “Two thumbs up!” What more could we ask for?

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Andonie

SERVING GOD IN THE COMMUNITY

OUTREACH COMMISSION

There's nothing like taking down and storing away Christmas decorations to give us a sense of the changing seasons, facing a new year and looking back at the past year. 2021 was anything but normal. The realization that the pandemic was going to continue to make our lives very different not to mention difficult for so many was apparent early on.

After that long dark winter of isolation, being able to attend the Easter Service and other outdoor services was a most uplifting experience. It gave me a glimmer of hope that some sort of normalcy, even if very different from what we were used to, was starting to emerge. With God's help, we amazing humans were adapting!

Our Parish family continued to support Outreach throughout this challenging time with "undesignated " donations and we set up the Deacon Leslie Scholarship fund for Trinity Preschool. Ongoing "hands on" support continued with sandwiches and donations for The Cathedral Kitchen coordinated by Bruce Velzy and under limited conditions Gabrielle Preller and Liz Louie continued with the monthly breakfasts at St. Paul’s in Camden. The " Gifts for New Life" virtual fund raiser that replaced the spring rummage sale enabled us to keep our commitment to fund scholarships for children at Camden Forward School and Sacred Heart School in Camden. We expanded use of our webpage and face book and were hopeful that we just might be able to do some sort of rummage sale in the fall.

The hope we received with our vaccinations that allowed us some normalcy during the summer faded as the Delta variant, the need for more boosters and then the fast spreading Omicron variant became reality.

For the Outreach Commission this meant that we really had to change how we did things and come up with new ideas. We knew we were not going to be able to raise funds with events like big rummage sales or even the Give 20 at Iron Hill. But the need for us to reach out to help our community was now even greater. For those already economically challenged the costs for goods, food and utilities were on the rise.

The Christian Caring Center was in need of coats and blankets for their code blue programs. What was originally envisioned as a drive by donation drop in our parking, the Coat/Blanket donation turned into a mini holiday yard sale. The Holy Spirit was truly with us! The weather was good and it happened to be the day of the Moorestown Santa Parade. How good it felt for all of us to be together and to be actively participating in an event that would help others. We collected over 80 coats, 16 blankets and made \$300!

We hope for a good collection of coats, hats scarves, gloves and winter footwear for the Afghan children this month also.

Unfortunately, we did not reach our goal of \$4000 to replace the fall rummage sale with our latest holiday fund raiser "Give Thanks, Give Hope". As of January 6, we had only 11 people respond with donations totaling \$1150. So for 2021 we were not able to distribute the amount of donations to all of the organizations we normally support. It was truly an uncertain and difficult year all around.

We thank all of you who have donated to the The Trinity Outreach Commission over the past year. We ask for your prayers for hope and support as we seek new ways to navigate through this difficult time so that we can, with God's help, continue with our mission of reaching out to help others.

Respected Submitted,
Barbara Benton

GOD'S DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

"We inhabit a universe that is characterized by diversity."

"Differences are not intended to separate, to alienate. We are different precisely in order to realize our need of one another."

“Isn’t it amazing that we are all made in God’s image, and yet, there is so much diversity among his people. God wanted us to glory in our differences, to confirm our differences and celebrate our diversity.”

Desmond Tutu

(October 7, 1931 – December 26, 2021)

Desmond Tutu, South African Anglican Bishop, theologian, and defender of human rights, believed that people’s inability to recognize the merits of diversity not only produced oppressive societies and divided nations, but also diminished the humanity of all peoples and weakened our ability to find common interest, promote peace and achieve the welfare of all.

In the spirit of the life and words of Desmond Tutu, the members of the God’s Diversity Committee strive to see the face of God in each other and to increase awareness, appreciation and knowledge of our country’s many diverse people.

Despite the persistence of the pandemic which forced us once again to postpone several planned educational programs and events, we nevertheless managed to celebrate diversity in many ways during the past year. On January 17, 2021, we were honored to have Dr. Stella Horton and Nicholas Williams lend their exceptional voices in a reading of Dr. Martin Luther King’s “I Have a Dream” speech. Originally delivered on August 28, 1963 during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, the message of this now famous speech, remains an urgent reminder during these challenging times, that we must renew our commitment to social justice and racial equity. The Prayers of the People read on that Sunday were adapted from Dr. King’s Thou Dear God: Prayers That Open Hearts and Spirit.

This past year, we once again celebrated men and women, from diverse backgrounds and orientations, including African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, Indigenous Americans, and members of the LGBTQ+ community and recognized their outstanding contributions in theology, human rights, social justice, law, literature, and the arts. Some, like social justice activists, the Rev. Dr. William Barber and, voting rights activist Stacey Abrams, and attorney Bryan Stevenson, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, are frequently interviewed on television and radio and are popular speakers. Others, such as Jhumpa Lahiri and Chang Rai-Lee are well known in academic circles. Several are truly unsung heroes whose contributions have been less often acknowledged. In this last category, we honored among others, the Rev. Barbara Harris, the first African American and the first woman to be consecrated a bishop in the Episcopal Church in this country, and the Rev. Grace Ji-Sun Kim, a Presbyterian minister, professor of theology and prolific writer on the experience of Korean Immigrant women in ministry.

In June, we recognized the courage and perseverance of the LGBTQ+ community and asked our congregants to join us in reflecting on the words of spiritual and national leaders who remind us that God's love and the right simply to "be" extend to all God's children. We shared the words of Bishops Michael Curry and William Stokes, Presidents Barack Obama and Joseph Biden and, most important, those of Jesus on loving our neighbors unconditionally, on dignity, safety, full equality and justice.

Toward the end of last year, when we observed Hispanic Heritage Month, Indigenous People's Day and Native American Heritage Month, we focused on the efforts of various ministries in the Episcopal Church to address the needs of these often neglected groups within our Church community and to acknowledge the painful history of the Church's involvement in the slave trade, its profiting from the Doctrine of Discovery, and its shameful role in the creation of Indian Boarding Schools which forcibly removed Native children from their families and culture. Each Sunday, we invited Trinity's congregation to join us in prayers of joy, celebration, atonement and restoration, most of which were adapted from liturgies prepared by Hispanic and Indigenous Episcopalians.

We wish to thank Mother Emily Mellott and Mother Angela Cipolla for their unwavering support in helping us fulfill our mission and for their guidance and enthusiasm as we undertake new initiatives. We are deeply grateful to Vernon Williams for generously sharing his talent and creativity with us and for the many ways he helps us celebrate the richness of human life through music. Finally, we are especially appreciative of the members of the God's Diversity Committee for their insights, diligence, good humor and loving hearts. These special people make our work joyful and rewarding and we could not hope to succeed without them.

In the coming year, we hope to continue our work with Trinity's racial reconciliation group and are presently exploring curricula to help us better understand and respect those who are different from us. In all we do, we want to remember our baptismal vow "to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being." As we enter a new year, we invite all members of Trinity to join us in the work of creating a more equal society and living Christ's command that we love God with our whole hearts and souls and minds and that we love our neighbors as ourselves.

Respectfully submitted,
Veronica Hughes
Anne Dalesandro
Co-Chairs

PRESCHOOL

We did it! We really did it! We stayed open in 2021! We were fortunate enough to only have to briefly close a few classrooms due to Covid – never the whole school. This was in part due to us keeping the children separated from the other classes in the building, more demands on the teachers with their cleaning procedures and a bigger undertaking for my husband, Jim, to keep the school as clean as possible. Our joint effort worked and continues to work.

In 2021 we were up for re-licensing and I'm happy to say we passed and are good to go for another three years. Our State inspector, Sam, was wonderful to work with and helpful in training me on the new and improved ways of submitting documents and reports.

The preschool day was certainly different with the new guidelines, and I am pleased to say that we all adapted well. I'm proud of all the children and their ability to keep their masks on for two and a half hours. The activities changed some but were just as much fun for all. In June we were able to hold our end of the year programs outside while families gathered around. Not able to visit the pumpkin farm, we did what we did in 2020 and changed the cemetery into a pumpkin field. With the help of a few parents, we decorated it for Halloween and the children enjoyed picking their pumpkins here at church.

It was so much fun; we may keep this new tradition going. This past year we were able to hold our Christmas programs for the families, one class at a time, in the Parish Hall.

As always, my thanks go out to Mother Emily, The Preschool Board, the Vestry and the Wardens for their love and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Johnson

GROWING IN RELATIONSHIP

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Inevitably the past year has been challenging with regard to welcoming new parishioners. Previously, welcome activities could be organized during coffee hour and as new members started to participate in different activities, "buddies" could be assigned to reach out to them. Weeks of shut down followed by limited outdoor worship curtailed any formal welcome activities.

With the return of live, in-person services in church in September, a new “Welcome” banner was set up in the church entrance, along with new parishioner information forms. At present, therefore, we very much rely on new attendees completing a form and then subsequently responding to Mother Emily’s email.

Coffee hour in the cloister garden during the Fall was an opportunity to welcome some of the new attendees but it presupposed that they either stayed on after the 8 am service or came early for the 10 am service.

Experience over the past year has shown how important face to face contact is in order to develop a welcoming environment. Once in-person services, coffee hour and live meetings are able to take place, the easier it will be to actively welcome new members.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Dighton

PARISH LIFE

“Life goes on”, “A Life well lived”, “What a Life!” and “L’Chiaim” (To Life!). Just a few examples of things said in the best or most difficult of times; we are all just trying to navigate it....

Our Annual Meeting gives opportunity to reflect and highlight people and activities here at Trinity. We are the Life (and Light) to each other in our families, congregation, communities, NJ (and the places we will go) and the World. I hope as you see, hear and feel the passion, energy, commitments and results Trinity IS – even with all the challenges we face.

In case you missed it, some of the things we did were:

- had parishioner picture cut outs in pews and a Retirement Drive-By for Deacon Leslie
- made sandwiches for outreach ministries @ St. Paul’s and The Cathedral Kitchen (thank you youth and other families!)
- various collections of items – food, school supplies, snacks, coats, deodorant & dental floss, etc. (thanks everyone!)
- Outdoor Welcome Reception for Mother Angie and family
- punch/coffee hour (we now meet @ 9:00 between services!)
- Caroling to spread some holiday cheer (complete with lights on our cars!)

I (we) invite you to come as/when you can. Singles, couples, families and friends
- welcome ALL!!

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Louie

TRINITY PAGE BRIGADE

The Trinity Page Brigade has been meeting since September 2019. This book club meets on the last Wednesday evening of the month via zoom. Being online has allowed us to still see one of our former parishioners who has moved out of state.

We have an optional Facebook group. The Facebook group allows us to share additional interesting information about the book.

Through the Facebook group and email we decide as a group what our next book is each month. We also try to have discussion questions posted/emailed out the night of the discussion.

We have been lucky that our members recommended 11 fascinating books this year.

January: Dear Edward by Ann Napolitano

February: The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi

March: American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins

April: Miss Graham's Cold War Cookbook by Celia Rees

May: Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz

June: The Invisible Life of Addie Larue by V.E. Schwab

July: The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

August: Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

September: As Bright as Heaven by Susan Meissner

October: The 7 ½ Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle by Stuart Turton

November/December: When the Apricots Bloom by Gina Wilkinson

Optional: The Woman in White by Wilkie Collins (still hoping to meet to discuss the book and/or movie)

We always welcome new members and hope they invite a friend or two!

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Van Name

NOTE: The Friday in person Book Club (comprised of women in their senior years) did not meet from March 2020 through early 2021, and met three times in October, November, and December 2021. The January 2022 meeting has been cancelled and future meetings have been postponed until such time as it is safe for us to reconvene. You may contact Jackie Whitfield to participate in future.

CALENDAR PARTY BASKET AUCTION

Once again in 2021 Covid concerns made gathering 120 guests in the Parish Hall to share food and to bid on auction baskets impossible. Since the 2020 Calendar Party online auction had worked very well, we decided to try it again in May 2021.

Whereas in 2020 we listed only 43 baskets and brought in \$4,706.66, this year we assembled and listed 67 but generated only \$2,944 for Trinity's general fund. The "newness" factor and excitement for online events has certainly waned, and Trinity had a couple of other campaigns in progress that probably limited parishioners' ability to support this fundraiser.

Many thanks to Lauren Evans, who set up the online auction on Trinity's website, and Vernon Williams for much help with photography, email communications to the congregation, and preparation of the auction list. Doreen Rivera, Maris Williams, Lenny Shepherd, and Alexia Shepherd assembled the baskets; Susan Satkofsky collected gift cards from 10 businesses. Several parishioners provided wonderful donations for the event, especially David Fletcher, Kate Ellison, Gayle Celantano, and Diana Wind.

We look forward to another "real" Calendar Party (perhaps 2023?) when parishioners can congregate again for an afternoon of food, fun, and fundraising!

Respectfully submitted,
Maris Williams

MEN'S GROUP

After an 18-month hiatus on account of the Covid Pandemic, the Men's Group picked back up with meetings in October and November, 2021. We reconnected in October 2021 with a light breakfast in the Church Garden. In November, we were joined by a speaker, Jay Appleton, the head of Mount Laurel's Office of Emergency Management,

who spoke about emergency preparation and response and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

We are looking forward to more good fellowship and good speakers in 2022, as well as resuming our traditional sit-down breakfast in the Parish Hall as soon as conditions allow. We also pray for the continuing recovery from health challenges of John Murray, another leader and one of the finest cooks in the history of the Men's Breakfast Group

Respectfully submitted,
Rafael Declet
Bruce Lovejoy
Roy Shubert

CARING FOR GOD'S GIFTS

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

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 two years of high teens returns on the S&P 500 index (over 17% for 2019 and just over 18% for 2020), along with a virus that does not seem to want to go away anytime soon coupled with significant supply line issues in the last 4 months of 2021 and inflation above 5%, it was hard to imagine that S&P 500 would end the year up over 28% (total return). Congress passed another massive Corona Virus package of nearly \$2 trillion in March while more than 55% of adults over 18 got vaccinated and efforts to approve vaccinations for those under 18 were underway. Though cases came down as summer arrived, so did a fairly contagious variant named Delta. With many people relaxing with wearing masks and social distancing fading, case counts began rising again. The S&P 500 had a fairly steady upward trend for most all of 2021 though not without a few hiccups along the way giving up all of an early 5% gain by early March, restoring that and more through the summer by achieving a gain of about 20% by Labor Day only to give back 6% over the next 4-6 weeks, rising above 25% by Thanksgiving and giving back about 5% in the week or so after that just as the Omicron variant showed up on our shores. After brief rise again in early December was followed by another 5% drop just before Christmas and then a “Santa Clause” post-Christmas rally to finish the year at +27%.

In the midst of all of this crazy market action, vaccines for the 12-17 age group were approved as were booster shots for the 18+ year olds which began in late September but, unfortunately, not all who had received the initial doses of the vaccine opted to get a booster shot and many of the still unvaccinated folks left the door open for the two variants to create another crisis in our medical system. While a number of businesses suffered during this period unable to get workers, supplies and dealing with mask and/or vaccination requirements left a few big holes in the economy. Many folks were still working from home (those that were still working) so technology stocks and steaming services were the big winners in the equity markets. Value oriented stocks had a brief rally from mid-February to late April but fell out of favor and Growth oriented equities again rose to the top. As the year progressed, inflation began to rear its ugly head and by September, the year-over-year rate was nearly 6% on a composite basis though many items were up much more than that amount. By year end, the annual rate was above 7%. Chairman Jerome Powel of the Federal Reserve has addressed this in connection with his frequent visits to Congress to share input on the Fed’s possible interest rate increases to help stem inflation. He believes things will calm down as we move through the first half of 2022 with supply lines getting better and the continued reduction in the Fed’s bond purchase program.

Congress finally passed the Infrastructure bill in the fall which will provide much needed funds for nearly all 50 states resulting in job creation and a need for materials in the building and construction areas for roads, bridges and related infrastructure projects. The related and more expensive social spending bill did not move due to the high cost and inability to figure out how to fund it. It is likely these items will have to be broken down into a number of smaller bills, some of which may pass before the mid-term elections this fall.

Through all this craziness with the virus, supply line issues, and such, the Endowment Fund had a net gain of about 15.6% net of fees which was slightly above the benchmark index return for our portfolio composition of 15.2%. The total equity portion of our portfolio remained at about 68% with the allocation to US stocks at 83% and international stocks at 17% of the equity portion, about a 7% swing from 2020 in favor of more US equity than international equity. The higher slant to US equities over International equity holdings proved correct as the S&P 500 index had a gain of just over 27% vs. the MSCI-EAFE international index came in just under 9%. Our fixed income allocation dropped 2% to 27% and cash was 7%.

Our Endowment income consisted of interest and dividends amounting to about \$55,100, up about 9.5% from the 2020 figure due mostly to higher dividends on our equity positions. The net realized and unrealized gain for the entire Endowment Fund was about \$473,450, or 15% of our beginning of year portfolio value. The Fund contributed \$177,934, or about 5.7% 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 \$187,000.

Following is a summary of the Endowment Fund for 2021:

Balance, 12/31/20	\$ 3,119,595
Additions:	
Interest/dividends	\$ 55,108
Net realized & unrealized gain	\$ 473,457
Withdrawals/deductions:	
Used toward church property/expenses	(\$ 177,934)
Portfolio management expenses	(\$ 22,092)
Balance, 12/31/21	<u>\$ 3,428,134</u>

Outlook for 2022

- Inflation will continue to be an issue with forecasts of between 4 and 6% with some things coming in higher such as wages, rents and energy prices.
- Interest rates will begin to rise somewhat with the tapering of the Fed's bond purchases with the 10 year Treasury Note expected to rise to about 2.75% (currently about 1.8%).
- In spite of Omicron and Delta variants (and others that may follow), group meetings and conventions are expected to return to pre-pandemic levels by 2023. Theatres and concerts continue to return to normal but with some restrictions in place for the time being (vaccinations required and masks while in doors).
- China has initiated a limitation on speculative housing investments which will create a need for that capital to be invested elsewhere (the US market is a likely beneficiary).
- Tensions in the Ukraine have put many neighboring countries on alert as well as NATO countries that are not happy with Putin's current activities along the border. This situation must end well or the investment markets could see a significant decline.
- Equity returns in domestic stocks have had three solid years of double digit returns averaging more than 21% per year during that period and will likely be lower for this year. The same is true for the bond market as yields rise, values will decline so quality and term of bonds will be key to holding on to what are likely to be modest gains.
- Stock and sector selection will likely be keys to achieving returns above the predicted mid single digits (6-7%) while returns on fixed income options will likely continue to be on the low side (1-3%).
- Recommendations – similar to last year - keep using masks in public as long as variants are present, support local businesses; exercise 3-4 times a week (to keep those pounds off while snacking more at home!) and invest wisely when the opportunity presents itself. Hopefully, by 2023 we will be able to return to a more 'real normal' and travel outside our country.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy A. Shubert, Chairman

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

After four years of utilizing the New Consecration Sunday approach to annual giving that culminates in a celebratory banquet, Trinity moved to a stewardship drive this year that was more amenable to being socially distant. Trinity had just completed a highly successful Capital Campaign in September 2021, in which our congregation rallied to exceed our stretch target of \$1.5M, to fund a variety of critically needed capital improvements. The annual stewardship drive followed immediately afterwards in October-November 2021 and hoped to build on the success of the capital campaign. As opposed to a capital campaign, which raises money to pay for certain one-time building improvements and major repairs, annual stewardship is focused on the ongoing day-to-day needs of the church and funds operations and expenses that accrue every month, year-round.

This year's stewardship drive highlighted the need to invest in the tangible resources of people, property, and technology needed to operate Trinity. Such investments allow us to live out the intangible ministries of Worship, Music, Faith Formation, and Fellowship that make Trinity a vibrant and growing community of faith. A flyer describing these intangible ministries was mailed out to the entire congregation in October along with other useful information and a pledge card. Pledges were requested to be returned to Trinity by November 7.

As of December 31, 2021, Trinity has received a total of \$420,826 from 134 pledge cards. 39 of these pledges increased their financial commitment above their last year's amount. This is a 7.8% increase in giving from these households above last year. A total of 17 new giving units (households who did not make a giving commitment for 2021) completed pledge cards. Total giving from all households completing a card is \$420,826. Adding estimates for households who have not yet completed a card and for loose offerings gives an estimated total of \$507,000 in giving for 2022, which is about flat with 2021 actual (\$41,000 lower than 2021 estimate).

Thank you for all the generous financial commitments made by parishioners for 2022, despite the many uncertainties present in our lives today. The ongoing generosity during annual stewardship and the capital campaign is a testament to the dedication and vibrancy of the Trinity community.

Thanks also go to all the volunteers who helped to make stewardship a success: Julie Bathke, Michael Bathke, Sally Campolucci, David Douglass, Nancy Matthews, Abby Merk, David Rapuano, and Lisa Yeh. Special thanks to Geri Trost who tabulated all the pledges and provided all the numbers in this summary. Thanks also for the leadership from Mother Emily and Mother Angie.

Despite the relative success of this campaign, Trinity continues to face financial challenges. The decline in membership and heavy reliance on our endowment are concerns, and there will be a team exploring ways to increase our income. We will continue to try a combination of similar and different approaches to address these financial challenges.

We will also continue to seek assistance and support from all of the congregation as we continue on this journey of making Trinity an even more vibrant and joyful church community.

Respectfully submitted,
David Rapuano and Lisa Yeh

2022 BUDGET REPORT

Summary

The vestry adopted the 2022 budget detailed below. This budget anticipates a total draw on the endowment of \$346,135 in order to balance income and expenses, which is a significantly higher draw than the draw in recent years. We do not take this reliance on the endowment lightly, but the ongoing pandemic presents significant challenges to increasing income in the coming year. After much discussion, the vestry consensus was that Trinity should continue on its current track of maintaining our strengths and investing to build for the future. This budget meets those goals in the most cost-effective manner we can find.

Impact on the Endowment

A draw of \$346,135 will represent approximately 10% of the endowment balance of \$3.43 million at the beginning of 2022. This means that if the endowment grows by 10% during the year, we will be using all of the gains to offset the budget deficit and the endowment would not grow. In 2021 the endowment actually grew at a rate greater than 10% (15.5%), but we can't assume this growth rate in 2022 or future years. Please refer to the Endowment report for more information on the endowment performance.

The endowment draw was declining over the last few years, primarily because expenses were lower as a result of staff transitions and reduced operations during the pandemic:

2019: \$232,755

2020: \$93,723 (2020 would have been \$191,323 without the \$97,600 PPP grant)

2021: \$177,934

The 2022 budget reflects the full cost of running Trinity, and the corresponding reliance on the endowment in the absence of higher income from other sources. The vestry's long-term goal is to reduce the annual budget support from the endowment to 6% of the endowment balance (which would be \$206,000 for 2022), allowing the endowment to continue to grow from investment gains.

As a point of explanation, the *total draw* from the endowment is the combination of an income line labelled "budgeted distribution from the endowment" and then a line after the expenses labelled "additional funding from the endowment". A few years ago the vestry decided that it is appropriate to use some of the annual growth in the endowment to provide income for the church budget, and we acknowledge that practice in the line "budgeted distribution from the endowment". The "additional funding" is the extra draw that we need to balance the budget. So our goal is to include income equal to 6% of the current endowment balance, and to have no need to balance the budget with an additional draw.

Comments on Budgeted Income

Budgeted Income is \$91,471 lower than 2021 actual income. This is a result of the \$97,600 PPP grant, which was recognized as income in 2021. Our major sources of income - pledge income, plate offerings and holiday offerings - are expected to be relatively unchanged from 2021 to 2022, at \$522,000.

Our pledging units (households) decreased slightly, with 134 pledges for 2022 compared to 149 pledges in 2021. However, we have 17 new pledging units for 2022, which reflects the good news that new pledging individuals and families have replaced some parishioners lost to moves and life circumstances. Please refer to the Stewardship Commission report for more information about pledges.

Looking at the sources of income, including all funding from the endowment, shows that we are primarily reliant on our congregation and endowment for funding:

- 58% pledge, plate and holiday offerings
- 38% endowment
- 2% various building uses (preschool, weddings, 12-step groups)
- 2% fundraisers and graveyard endowment

It would take some pressure off the budget if we could increase income from building use or other sources.

Comments on Budgeted expenses:

Expenses in the 2022 budget are \$174,331 higher than the projected expenses for 2021. The major increases in expenses year-over-year are:

Compensation:	\$126,198
Music:	\$14,408
Property:	\$9,601
Diocese of NJ	\$9,000

Compensation for 2022 includes an increase from 2021 of \$76,438 in salaries, comprised of added staff capacity and a 4.5% cost-of-living increase (approximately \$13,000 across all staff), per diocesan guidelines. Compensation expenses in 2021 were an anomaly because of temporarily reduced hours for some staff and a variety of staff transitions. The other big driver of higher compensation costs is \$43,230 in increased benefits expenses (social security, insurance, and pension for eligible employees).

The increase in the Music budget primarily represents the return to a full-year commitment to the choir section leaders.

The Property budget increase is driven by estimates for increases in utilities, as we return to heavier use of the buildings, insurance, and capital improvements (smaller projects for property upkeep, not projects funded by the capital campaign).

The increase in our contribution to the Diocese of New Jersey is mandated by the diocese.

Planning for the future:

We can reduce our dependence on large draws from the endowment either by reducing expenses or increasing income. The only way to significantly reduce expenses would be to eliminate some staff capacity, which would in turn reduce our ministry and programs. As noted, the vestry and Finance Committee believe that the positive momentum our congregation was experiencing before the pandemic will return, and that the sustained pledges throughout the pandemic, and the success of the capital campaign, are votes of confidence for the future of our church. Therefore, now is not the time to cut back. Instead, the vestry has committed to creating a committee to maintain a focus on increasing sources of income, both from the congregation and from other sources.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Matthews, Warden

TREASURER'S REPORT

	2022 <u>BUDGET</u>	2021 <u>ACTUAL</u>	2021 <u>BUDGET</u>	2020 <u>ACTUAL</u>
<u>INCOME</u>				
Pledges	\$ 455,000	\$ 451,022	\$ 499,000	\$ 490,532
Plate	52,000	56,389	48,500	71,332
Building Use	6,000	3,620	8,000	4,480
Prior Year Pledges	5,000	10,706	3,500	3,935
Christmas/Easter	10,000	5,905	11,200	5,733
Preschool allocated expense	12,000	11,000	6,000	7,000
Outreach Income	-	9,911	-	19,630
Budgeted Distribution from Endowment	150,000	150,000	150,000	93,723
Special Offerings	-	11,606	-	40,366
PPP Grant*	-	97,600	97,600	-
Other Income	15,500	10,728	18,000	10,967
Total Income	<u>705,500</u>	<u>818,487</u>	<u>841,800</u>	<u>747,698</u>
<u>EXPENSE</u>				
Worship	2,750	2,759	1,000	759
Music	31,262	16,854	23,912	23,654
Education and Spiritual Development	6,500	1,856	6,500	1,290
Outreach	-	9,911	-	20,630
Stewardship/Evangelism/Parish Life	4,000	457	4,000	295
Youth	4,000	842	4,000	419
Administration	33,400	26,244	31,650	28,390
Property	101,500	101,899	106,400	102,414
Capital Improvements	10,000	-	10,000	32,179
Diocesan Assessment	102,000	93,000	93,500	86,000
Salaries/Benefits/New Employee Expenses	606,223	483,393	534,140	493,990
2020 Technology Upgrade	-	-	-	25,402
2020 Tech Upgrade Special Offerings	-	-	-	(10,490)
Special Offerings Transmittal	-	11,606	-	40,366
Total Expenses	<u>901,635</u>	<u>748,821</u>	<u>815,102</u>	<u>845,298</u>
Net Loss before additional funding	(196,135)	69,666	26,698	(97,600)
Add'l Funding from Endowment for Operations	196,135	27,934	70,902	-
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 97,600</u>	<u>\$ 97,600</u>	<u>\$ (97,600)</u>

*We received a \$97,600 Paycheck Protection Program Loan in May 2020.

The full amount of the loan was forgiven in 2021 and therefore became a grant.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In 2021, the Trinity Church family demonstrated how we, with love and commitment, continued to grow our relationship to God in many welcoming ways—even in the face of a pandemic.

It was a spirit of love and commitment that enabled the Campaign for Trinity to exceed its goal of raising \$1.5 million in pledges to improve the accessibility, safety, comfort and usability of our church buildings and property—which will make Trinity stronger and more welcoming for all. The success of the campaign demonstrated that despite our frequent physical absences from Trinity due to COVID-19, our spiritual connections did not diminish, nor did our generosity.

The Campaign for Trinity began in early 2020, but paused due to the pandemic. In January 2021, Trinity’s Vestry approved resumption of the Campaign, based on an encouraging feasibility study by consultants from CCS Fundraising, and interviews with a cross-section of parishioners, which re-confirmed a deep love of Trinity and strong commitment to the goals of the campaign. A goal of \$1.5 million was established, to garner gifts and pledges to be paid over a period of 1 to 5 years.

The Campaign funds will be used to strengthen our buildings and community, to repair, replace, renew, and add what is needed. Our investment plans include the following:

Providing accessibility with a special focus on people with physical limitations

- Create barrier-free entrances to Sanctuary and Parish Hall; install a new lighting system for Sanctuary; incorporate space for wheelchairs in pews; build a wheelchair lift in current Reception Room; and create accessible restrooms on main floor of Parish Hall

Creating a comfortable and welcoming environment to improve our buildings’ usefulness to our parish community

- Air-condition the Parish Hall and kitchens; update restrooms in the Parish Hall and classroom buildings; provide new meeting and storage spaces; and renovate the kitchen spaces

Making repairs and improvements to enhance our safety and strengthen our structures

- Install new smoke detectors, fire suppression systems, and fire-safe doors; repair damaged walks, building walls, outside steps, bell tower, and graveyard wall; and replace leaking windows and old air conditioners in preschool wing

Supporting new and existing outreach programs and opportunities

- Make high-impact grants to launch or improve programs in our partner organizations in the community and across our Diocese

In early 2021, preparations were made for the solicitation part of the Campaign. This included developing materials and presentations, recruiting and training volunteers, and

strategizing ways to overcome the challenges of doing everything “virtually.” By April, the “quiet phase” of the Campaign began, seeking leadership gifts through a series of individual and small-group Campaign briefings, followed by one-on-one meetings asking for support. All of these briefings and meetings were completed by the end of June. As a result, 73 leadership gifts and pledges were made totaling \$1.3 million (\$1,292,952), laying a strong foundation for the “public” phase of the campaign scheduled for September.

Throughout the summer and early fall, the Committee built excitement for the public phase by sharing messages about the Campaign in the weekly newsletter, with quotes from early donors on why they support the Campaign. Information was also included about improvement projects as they were prioritized, approved and begun.

In preparation for the public Campaign kick-off, pledge packets were distributed to each family unit, and additional volunteers recruited to help with the full slate of activities for the fall.

On September 12, Trinity held a parish-wide Campaign kick-off event, featuring refreshments, information stations, and a video (narrated by Trinity parishioner Rick Williams). During coffee hour over the next three weeks, parishioners could learn more and drop-off their pledges.

On October 3, Trinity celebrated the successful completion of the Campaign, with a festive coffee hour in the cloister garden, featuring special cupcakes and cookies. Everyone who made a pledge received a commemorative lapel pin, featuring the Trinity logo as a thank you. As of the formal close of the Campaign, 129 families made commitments totaling \$1,509,502.

While the formal solicitation for the Campaign for Trinity is concluded, the Campaign continues, as the majority of pledges are to be fulfilled over the next several years. Reminders and updates on projects and pledge payments will continue, and for those who hadn’t had the opportunity or ability to participate yet—it’s not too late to support the Campaign for Trinity and our efforts to make Trinity stronger and more welcoming for all!

Respectfully submitted,
Lorraine Ryan and Bruce Velzy

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

In May 2021 a committee was formed to plan and manage the capital projects which will be funded by the capital campaign. The vestry will have responsibility for approving the expenditures recommended by the Capital Project committee, but the in-depth knowledge of the projects, costs, and execution plans will reside with this committee. The vestry approved an initial 5-year schedule (2021-2025) for the projects, with priority given to the fire safety projects required by the fire inspector and other projects deemed most important by the vestry and congregation. The committee is also doing its best to time expenditures with income from the capital campaign.

Several projects were completed in 2021:

- Construct state-mandated fire-rated stairwell between the entrance to parish hall and the basement under the parish hall. This included adding fire rated walls, fire rated doors and panic bars on exit doors.
- Adapting other doors in the parish hall for fire-emergency exit.
- Rebuild the bluestone walkway from Main Street to the entrance doors near Parish Hall. This included replacing, recutting and refitting some stones and regrouting the entire walkway. Other stone walkways and stairs were power-washed as part of this project. Note that a future project will be repairing the stone steps to the church.

Additional Capital Campaign projects were started in 2021 to be completed in 2022:

- Renovations to 212 west 2nd St. This project includes extensive exterior restoration, bringing interior electric service up to code, removing one stairwell to create more living space on the first floor and creating a 3rd bedroom on the second floor, replace a leaking toilet and repairs to the ceiling below it, repainting the entire interior, replacing carpeting, and replacing the dishwasher and range.
- Install a sprinkler system under the church and update the fire alarm system.
- Design for a ramp into the church from Main St.

Capital Campaign expenditures in 2021:

\$46,542 Fire-rated stairwell
\$11,671 Rebuild cloister garden walkway
\$36,623 Repairs to 212 W. 2nd St.
\$107,012 Fundraising consultants and expenses
\$13,518 Cost estimator and property survey
\$215,266 Total

PROPERTY COMMISSION

The property commission completed a number of projects at the house at 214-16 W 2nd Street (rented to a nonprofit for office space). The rent from this tenant pays for repairs, so there was no impact to the Trinity budget. There were also several costly repairs to the church HVAC system, which led the commission to conclude that the chillers for the church air conditioning should be replaced as soon as possible. This was a capital campaign project scheduled for 2025, but the vestry agreed to move this project to 2022.

Property Projects completed in 2021 - Repairs to property at 214-16 West 2nd St.

- Rebuild front porch and side porch
- Repaint complete exterior
- Repairs to part of the roof
- Repair and replace gutters
- Repair and repaint interior room from roof leak
- Replace rotted basement windows

In October, Don Smith assumed leadership of the Property Commission from Janet Murray, who served as chair for many years – Thank You Janet! We also celebrated with Tom Pitman, who retired after many years as Trinity’s sexton, and assisted Mother Emily in hiring a new sexton, Kevin Moore, who started in January 2022.

GARDEN ANGELS

Our gardening year at Trinity was much the same as 2020, a continuation of limited gathering due to the Pandemic. The uncertainty of how much social interaction is appropriate in this environment, did understandably influence our volunteers. Coupled with the fact that the majority of our volunteers are older with various health and family issues, this year was not representative of what is considered normal Garden Angels fun and pleasure.

All gardeners share the optimism of the future whenever we plant a seed. So too must we look forward to the next opportunity to grow and beautify our corners of the world. This coming spring and summer (hurry please!) can be another chance for growth and renewal. Will you join us? Our all-volunteer “work force” typically meets once a month on Saturday mornings for two hours. This time frame may not suit you and we can accommodate those who would prefer a quieter time during the weekdays.

We have some larger projects in mind for 2022. Changes to our church's physical plant in the near future will present those opportunities. Specifically making the front entrance to the church accessible for all can be a starting point for new design. If you would like to start a conversation about any garden angel topic; perennials or annuals you would like to see or feature at Trinity, cultural or maintenance issues to discuss, donations to our cause, please contact me at my email address below. To all volunteers past and present, thank you so much.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Chojnacki

Pledges From 2021

The congregation thanks all of our generous donors throughout 2021. Special thanks goes to all those who made a pledged commitment to help sustain Trinity Church in 2021:

Ferrill Alderfer
Helen Anderson
Herbert & Barbara Anderson
Omar & Christine Andonie
Thomas & Laura Bader
Frederick & Elizabeth Baldt
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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 2021, 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!

Respectfully submitted,
Geri Trost

NECROLOGY

We offer our prayers for the following members of our community who have died since the last Annual Meeting of the congregation.

Christopher W. Farren
Kathleen Magrann
Robert B. Moorer
Teresa Sedlacek
Jane Ollivier
Patricia Scheerbaum

Thomas Johnson
Joan Shoemaker Meader
Lamar Morris
Dorothy Beech Steen
Richard Yeager

*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 390

Lobe den Herren

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - - - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - - - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.

Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuereten Gesangbuch*, 1665;

harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

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THE VESTRY OF TRINITY CHURCH

Elizabeth Louie (Warden)

Nancy Matthews (Warden)

Sally Campolucci

Joan Dighton

Audrey Henry

Mark Leis

Kisha Mann

Christopher Norris

Amy Paglione

Don Smith

Jeff Wojcik

TRINITY CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Emily A. Mellott, Rector

The Reverend Angela Cipolla, Associate Rector

Mr. Vernon H. Williams, Organist and Choirmaster

Mrs. Kate Stefanko, Office and Communications Manager

Mr. Kevin Moore, Sexton

Mrs. Geri Trost, Financial Administrator

Mrs. Christine Andonie, Sunday School Director

Mrs. Maris Williams, Director of Cherub and Carol Choirs

Mrs. Nancy Johnson, Preschool Director