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## RESOLUTIONS

Accepts all reports as printed and explained. Recognizes with gratitude and appreciation the work and service of all Council members who will be leaving the council. We thank them for their leadership and commitment to the congregation over the past years. They are: Katie Roche and Heather Wehrenberg

Recognizes with heartfelt appreciation all volunteers, participants, committees and volunteer task force members, other groups and individuals who gave of their time, talents and resources to Trinity during this past year, and acknowledges the generosity of many other members who have been a part of our ministries. Our church is stronger because of your commitment, involvement and contributions. Thank you again for your gifts and ministry.

Expresses a special thank you and well wishes to Bonnie Houger, our Outreach Coordinator, who retired in October, and to Avery Bird, our Children's Ministry Director, who left at the end of June and Mindy Mader, our Office Business Administrator, who left in April. We wish all of them many blessings and good health in the years ahead.





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# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Annual Fall Congregational Meeting October 10, 2021

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER**--Purpose of Meeting:
  - Meeting called to Order at 10:15 A.M. by Craig Martin, Council President.
  - The purpose of this meeting is to ratify Trinity's Constitution, introduce the Building Renovation Committee, and elect Council members for 2022 Council vacancies.
- 2. **OPENING PRAYER:** Pastor Terry
- 3. **CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM**--Secretary Confirms the Presence of (50) Voting Members: • The Secretary, Cathy Johnson, confirmed a quorum, with 63 voting members in attendance.
- 4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** MM by Larry Guilfoile to approve the Fall Meeting of the Congregation Agenda. MS by Colleen Guilfoile. MP.
- 5. **BRIEF REVIEW OF ROBERTS RULES FOR THIS MEETING**--Jeff Fuge, Parliamentarian:
  - Advise as ballots are introduced.
  - Approve ballots as presented.
- 6. **RATIFICATION OF CONSTITUTION FOR TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH:**
  - Coke Guilfoile--a Special Congregational Meeting was held in June, and the Congregation voted to accept the approved Council recommendation to adopt the updates to the Constitution, Bylaws, and the Continuing Resolutions of Trinity Lutheran Church of Lindstrom.
  - The results were sent to the Synod, and the final draft of the Constitution was approved for the final ratification process.
  - Today, the Congregation will be asked to ratify the Constitution by a written ballot. They will be given the choice of a "yes" or "no". There was a motion made by voice vote to approve the ballot as presented. MM by Katie Roche to accept the ballot as presented. MS by Jeff Fuge. MP.
  - The written ballot for ratification was tallied, and Ratification of the Constitution, Bylaws,

- and Continuing Resolutions of Trinity Lutheran Church of Lindstrom was passed unanimously with a sixty-two to zero positive vote.
- Pastor Terry noted that the Bishop said Trinity's Constitution is one of the best ones she has read. Good job.
7. **INTRODUCTION OF BUILDING RENOVATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS**--Pastor Terry:
  - Approximately \$500,000 has been set aside in the Mission Investment Fund for building renovations.
  - The Building Renovation Committee is composed of five members so far, and Trinity is looking for an additional one or two members.  
**1. Gail Seaver 2. Joe Thimm 3. Jon Meredith 4. Jenna Wojcik 5. Matt Mitchell**
8. **VOTE ON CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTION:**
  - The candidates on the written ballot are:  
**1. George Popa 2. Michelle Kok 3. Diane John 4. Colleen Guilfoile 5. Sherry Holt 6. Nancy Johnson, nominated from the floor and added MM by Jeff Fuge to amend the ballot with Nancy Johnson's name added. MS by Gary Moe. MP.**
9. **REPORT ON OUTCOME OF VOTE:**
  - All Council candidates, including the nomination from the floor, were approved by a majority vote.
  - The elected members are: 1. George Popa 2. Michelle Kok 3. Diane John 4. Colleen Guilfoile 5. Sherry Holt 6. Nancy Johnson
  - The elected members start their new terms in January, 2022.
10. **OTHER:**
  - David Johnson raised a question related to Trinity's policies regarding people who want to give a special gift to a capital improvement need other than what the new Building Task Force has addressed. Could such a gift be implemented before the new renovation project is completed? Coleen Guilfoile and David Johnson will meet as part of a Special Project Committee to look at spending and gift policy and bring proposed changes back to the Council for further discussion.
11. **CLOSING PRAYER**--Pastor Karri MM by Larry Guilfoile to adjourn. MS by Coke Guilfoile. MP. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M. Minutes submitted by Cathy Johnson, Secretary

# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Special Congregational Meeting Minutes  
June 27, 2021

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

MM by Craig Martin, President, to call the Special Congregational Meeting to order.  
MS by Larry Guilfoile. MP.

**CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:**

Cathy Johnson, Secretary, confirmed a quorum of eighty-five voting members in attendance.

**PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING:**

- Colleen Guilfoile, Council Liaison for the Trinity Constitution Update Committee, said the purpose of this meeting is for the Congregation to vote to accept or reject the approved Council recommendation to "adopt en bloc the updates to the Constitution, Bylaws and the Continuing Resolutions of the Trinity English Evangelical Lutheran Church." The vote will be done by written ballot.
- Coke (Colleen) explained that the vote needs a two-thirds positive majority to pass. Next steps (steps quoted from Trinity English Lutheran Church Constitution Frequently Asked Questions 2021):

- 1. "The Synod office is notified of the results, if affirmative." Bishop Lull will have thirty days to "read the final draft of the Trinity Constitution and affirm that it is ready for ratification."
- 2. "The Congregation is notified of another meeting, this time for ratification of the Constitution. Ratification must be by a two-thirds vote."
- 3. "A second Congregation meeting takes place (quorum must be present). Following this meeting, a full, final copy that includes the changes will be sent with the effective date to the Synod office..". This meeting will take place in October, 2021 at the Congregational Meeting.
- Once it has been ratified, the process will be done until sometime in 2022 or 2023.
- Coke thanked everyone for all their input and work during the last sixteen-seventeen months on updating the Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolutions. She said we are blessed to move forward.

**PAPER BALLOT RESULTS:**

the written, paper ballots were collected and counted. The results are eighty-one YES to accept the recommendation, and four NO to reject the recommendation. Recommendation passed.

**ADJOURN:**

MM by Marcia Smith to adjourn the meeting. MS by Nancy Johnson. MP. Meeting adjourned. Minutes Submitted by Cathy Johnson, Secretary

# ABOUT US

**VISION**

Trinity views the story of Jesus Christ as life-changing Good News that simply must be told to all.

**MISSION**

Trinity is a place where we CONNECT, GROW & SERVE with the love of Jesus Christ.

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# ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION AGENDA Trinity Lutheran Church February 27, 2022

“Connect, Grow, & Serve with the love of Jesus Christ”

### Call to Order

### Opening Prayer- Pastor

### Confirmation of Quorum - *The Secretary will confirm the presence of fifty (50) voting members*

### Voice Vote - Action

*Action requested: Suspend rules of order related to paper ballot voting and allow voice vote on all matters during this meeting.*

### Approval of the Agenda - Action

*Action requested: Approve the agenda as presented.*

### Approval of Minutes of May 23, 2021 Budget Mtg, June 27, 2021 Special Mtg to Approve

### Constitution & October 10, 2021 Fall Cong. Mtg - Action

### Introduction of Parliamentarian & Review of Robert's Rules of Order - Information

### Pastoral Reports - Information

### Financial Business:

### 2021 Year-end Budget Review - Information

*The Treasurer shall present a review of the 2021 Financial Statement*

### External Audit Committee Update - Information

*The Audit Committee shall present the results of its audit of the Church's 2021 finances*

### 2021 Budget, Treasurer

### Presentation of the 2022 Budget

*Questions and Clarification*

### 2022 Budget Vote - Action

*Action requested: Approve the 2022 budget as prepared by the Finance Committee and approved by Council until the Congregation could meet for final approval*

### Elections:

### 2022 Nominating Committee Election - Action

*Action requested: Elect 4 church members to the 2022 Council Nominating Committee:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

### 2022 Endowment Election – Action Two positions

### Other Business:

### Update from Building Renovation Committee - Information

### Annual Report Resolutions - Action

*Action requested: Approve the 2022 Annual Report Resolutions*

### The Lord's Prayer

### Adjourn

Dan Calhoun's recommendation is to hire a Music Director first and see what skills remain to be filled. The MTF is moving forward with its search for a Music Director and will start looking in June. David Johnson said that we need to prepare to pay more for these music positions.

During the summer of 2021, Trinity will have one inside service every other week and one outside service every other week. The inside service will be traditional music, and the outside service will be contemporary music. The MTF emphasized the importance of including youth in the music program.

- Annual Report Resolutions--Action: MM by Katie Roche to adopt the Annual Report Meeting Resolutions. MS by Mary Haglund. MP.

- David reminded the Council members present that there will be a brief Special Council Meeting following the Annual Meeting to elect the four Executive Officers.

### 4. CLOSING PRAYER--Pastor Terry

### 5. ADJOURN: MM by Larry Guilfoile to adjourn. MS by George Popa. MP. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Cathy Johnson, Secretary



In February 2020, the Council put together a charge for a Building Committee. The action plan did not move forward because of the Church shutdown due to the pandemic. The Capital Improvement Committee paused, but is now working with the ELCA consultant

Jolene Wille asked for the Congregation's vote to approve a formal Building Committee. The building needs updates in order to expand activities and share God's love.

MM by Jolene Wille to authorize the Church Council to create a Building Committee with not less than five members. MS by Larry Guilfoile. Discussion/Question: Q: A member asked if any people are stepping up? A: David--Yes. Q: A member asked if the Council will make sure that people appointed to the Committee are knowledgeable and not just people with desires? A: David--We have good professionals and people with experience available--answer well noted. MP.

Mission Exploration Team Update: The Team worked on a profile, as part of the hiring process, to identify the strengths and skills needed in a new, part-time, Associate Pastor. They held small group informational, question and answer meetings for church members. The Synod has confirmed that there is a big gap in people considering that position. During the pandemic, one-third of the clergy are resigning or retiring.

The Council and MET have renewed the covenant and call for another year with Pastor Karri Anderson. Trinity renewed Pastor Karri's contract for one year with the Synod's approval, and she is staying on staff at Trinity as the part-time Associate Pastor. The Council and Finance Committee will look at and address the salary and benefit package. MET is pausing and will not be submitting a Ministry Site Profile or a Call Committee.

**Music Task Force Update:** Trinity needs a Music Director. Mary Haglund said the purpose of the Task Force is to evaluate the needs of the music program at Trinity. Their charge is to:

- 1. Review current and past history of Trinity's music program.
- 2. Look at types of music.
- 3. Prepare recommendations.
- 4. Summarize skill sets for new positions.

**In October 2020, they started to:**

- 1. Canvas other congregations for information.
- 2. Speak with people from past music positions or involvement with music at Trinity.
- 3. Reach out to the Congregation via a survey about their concerns, likes, and dislikes. The MTF received one-hundred-seventeen results.

**The majority of survey results from members agreed that:**

- 1. Music is a vital part of Trinity.
- 2. Members prefer the organ over the piano.
- 3. The Contemporary Service draws younger people.

# PASTOR'S REPORT



## “CHALLENGE . . . RESILIENCE . . . CHOICE”

### CHALLENGE

Many of us had hoped that the pandemic and Covid-19 would end as we began a new year. Instead, here we are, still struggling to find our way. As we look back on 2021, it was a year filled with challenges. We are still dealing with a myriad of ongoing concerns. A divided political climate . . . The struggle to recreate community after Covid . . . Living in the midst of uncertainty . . . Financial distress for individuals, businesses and churches. . . Loss & grief from the death of loved ones, hurt relationships and isolation. Concerns for our children and for their development in a struggling and chaotic world. These are just some of the realities we faced together in 2021.

### RESILIENCE

Bishop Janice Riggie Huie reminds us, *“We are not like rubber balls that simply bounce back. In fact, it feels more like climbing a glass wall at times. That’s why resilience is at the heart and soul of faith.”* At a fall workshop she invited us to see congregations as “reservoirs of resilience” . . . rooted in a family tradition, and in our collective family story.

It is helpful to understand that our resilience is not found merely in our stories of success or victory, nor in stories of defeat and victimization. It is found in our stories of death and resurrection. It is what Bishop Riggie Huie calls an *“osculating narrative,”* filled with the ups and downs of our daily life. That’s why it is important to ask:

- 1. What are you thankful for in these days?

- 2. What brings you JOY?
- 3. What gives you HOPE for tomorrow?

Richard Rohr also helps bring things into focus as he states, **“Transformation most often begins not with starting something new, but when something falls apart!”** This may be the most important reminder as we look back to 2021. As we do that, let us also ask . . .

- 1. What losses or anxieties have you experienced in the last 20 months of the pandemic? Who or what has been most helpful to you in these times?
- 2. How have we, as a congregation, experienced this season of uncertainty?
- 3. What has given us joy and gratitude?

### CHOICE

In looking back at some of our Trinity Stories, there are many that stand out and remind me of how our choices help define our story of resilience and faith.

**Elijah** is one of our amazing young people. He is surrounded by Mom and his grandparents as he navigates these uncertain times. Elijah had his first communion class and we celebrate his love for Jesus and his joyful faith. But this past year, Elijah tested positive for Covid, and a short while later, discovered that he is diabetic. This really put some challenges before his whole family. But they pulled together, and when I see Elijah, almost weekly, it is so precious to see his smile, his enthusiasm, and his joy for life.

**Our ReStart Task Force** tirelessly considered research and data on Covid protocols – making recommendations to keep our community safe. Thank you!

*(Continued on page 6)*

(Continued from page 5)

**Anna** graduated from high school and has been a college student during the pandemic. It is not anything like what she had imagined this time of her life would look like. College online and in person has presented its challenges. Isolation can take its toll. It has been wonderful seeing Anna’s engagement at Trinity while on her break. Through volunteering and working at a nursing home and staying connected to her community as she develops her skill set for a nursing degree. Hers is a resilient story staying on course through the choices she makes as *she* connects with others, grows in her learning and serves others in work and volunteering.

**Our musicians** have stepped up when it has been difficult to fill our music director position. The contemporary band leads worship regularly in a blended format. Choir members have come together to provide beautiful music for our 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary and during the Christmas season. Thank you, Twyla, for your work to coordinate and bring this group together.

**Clark and Margueritte** celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Quite a testimony after only a 3 week romance! Theirs is a powerful story of how they have embraced faith and life together throughout their lifetime!

This is the Story of Our Community . . . never giving up. Pressing on, working together, striving to *Connect-Grow-Serve*, especially in uncertain times. This means we have a rich heritage of:

- Always transforming: as individuals who are loved by God.
- Baptism: sealed with the Holy Spirit & marked with the Cross of Christ forever!
- Service to one another: from Lindstrom and Chisago City to Guatemala and beyond.
- The duality of being saint & sinner: realizing that things are sometimes both/and.
- Knowing that Christ is with us in our struggles, and God’s Word is a living document to guide us.

In his book, *A Hidden Wholeness*, Parker Palmer writes:  
*“The deeper our faith, the more doubt we must endure; the deeper our hope, the more prone we are to despair; the deeper our love, the more pain its loss will bring: these are a few of the paradoxes we must hold as human beings. If we refuse to hold them in the hopes of living without doubt, despair, and pain, we also find ourselves living without faith,*

*hope, and love. . . We are reminded that human nature, like nature herself, can hold opposites together as paradoxes, resulting in a more capacious and generous life.”*

From *The Cottage* by Diana Butler Bass:  
*In so many ways, the pandemic and the multiple crises of these days have heightened this paradox: We feel doubt, despair, and grief precisely because we know faith, hope, and love. The things we see as “bad” actually affirm the gracious gifts of a full life — in the same way that shadows give depth and dimension to a painting. If you feel overwhelmed by doubt, despair, or grief, don’t push them aside or deny their presence. Instead, let them guide toward their paradoxical kin: Faith, hope, and love abide.*  
As Joshua in the Old Testament, modeled and affirmed before the people . . .

*“Choose this day whom you will serve . . . as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”*  
Joshua 24:15

Thank you for our shared partnership, as we serve together, in times of challenge, resilience and choice.



Pastor Terry I. Nordheim  
Trinity Senior Pastor



Question--David-- "Are there any other nominations for a three year term on Council?" MM by Gary Moe to close nominations for a three year term on Council. MS by Sherry Holt. MP.

**ELECTION RESULTS:** All on the Slate were elected; write-ins will be contacted.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE--2021:**

1. Colleen Guilfoile
2. Nancy Johnson

**ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE--2021:**

1. Cinnamin Theisen

**CHURCH COUNCIL--2021:**

**ONE YEAR TERM**

1. Sherry Holt

**TWO YEAR TERM-**

1. David A. Johnson

**THREE YEAR TERM-**

1. Heather Wehrenberg
2. Jackie Otte
3. Linda Popa
4. Gary Peterson

**3. OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Authorization of Formal Building Renovation Committee--Action: Pastor Terry said the Capital Task Force was created in 2019. There were three phases of renovations to address, and the estimated pre-pandemic cost was \$762,098.

**PHASE I:**

1. Restroom update--bring upper bathrooms to ADA compliance.
2. Replacement of the flat roof over Fellowship Hall, offices, and hallway.

**PHASE II:**

1. Replace carpet in the sanctuary, balcony, and stairs.
2. Possible repairs or updates to the organ.

**PHASE III:**

1. HVAC replacements for the sanctuary.
2. Fire alarm system and security system.

1. The Bequest Task Force started in December 2019. Gail Seaver headed the Committee, and it established recommendations on how to use the Pearl and Elmer Nelson undesignated bequest dollars of \$718,795, the total as of December 31, 2019. They recommended that the funds be divided into five categories, one of which is the Building and Facility Needs in the amount of \$503,156. At a Special Meeting of the Congregation on December 4, 2020, there was a vote by written ballot on a motion to approve the BTF recommendations, and the vote was 100% positive for approving the BTF recommendations.



- 1. Total income for 2020 was \$560,255.44.
- 2. Total expenses for 2020 were \$513, 977.64.
- 3. Trinity received Payroll Protection Program (PPP) funds of \$57,971 that were used for payroll. The loan was forgiven.
- 4. Payroll increased due to the added position of Matt Mitchell for technology and multimedia, twelve months of salary for the part-time Interim Pastor, Karri Anderson, and twelve months of salary for the Children's Education Director.
- 5. The Benevolence Giving in 2020 found on page forty-six was \$153,744.01. The congregation continues its generous giving.

Audit Committee Report--Information--The Audit Committee Shall Present the Results of its Audit of the Church's 2020 Finances:

Paul Ives said the objective of the audit was to review financial reports and to see if they were presented properly and free of material mistakes. The conclusion was that the statements were presented fairly. The audit committee is independent, reviewed annual reports, reconciled cash, investments, endowment, debt, reviewed payroll, and computer systems. They found no variances, and they determined that financial statements were presented with no material misstatements.

David discussed having an external audit. He presented some "pros" and "cons" of having one done. A con is that it is expensive--a pro is that the church has large funds that should be looked at beyond the limitations of a review. The Council approved an outside, external audit, and it will take place this coming year. The Executive Committee and Council will work out the time.

2021 Budget--Treasurer--Presentation of the 2021 Budget--Questions and Clarification: Sherry said the proposed budget can be found on page forty-eight, and she asked if there were any questions on the income portion. There were none. Under the expense portion, the personnel stays about the same except for a small budget for a potential Music Director. A member asked if the Youth Budget for 2021 is reduced? Sherry said the Youth receives funds from a member who gives directly to the youth dedicated account.

2021 Budget Vote--Action: Action Requested--Approve the 2021 Budget as Prepared by the Finance Committee and Approved by Council Until the Congregation Could Meet for Final Approval: The Council proposed a continuing resolution budget when the Church could not meet because of the pandemic. MM by Colleen Guilfoile to approve the 2021 proposed budget. MS by Pam Lukens. MP.

. ELECTIONS: • 2021 Nominating Committee Election--Action--Adopt Slate of Nominees as Stated on the Ballot: MM by Leroy Mitchell to adopt the ballot as presented. MS by Larry Guilfoile. MP.

Question--David--"Are there any other nominations for the Nominating Committee?" MM by Larry Guilfoile to close nominations for the Nominating Committee. MS by Leroy Mitchell. MP.

Question--David-- "Are there any other nominations for the Endowment Committee?" MM by George Popa to close nominations for the Endowment Committee. MS by Katie Roche. MP.

Question--David-- "Are there any other nominations for a one year term on Council?" MM by Pam Lukens to close nominations for a one year term on Council. MS by Leroy Mitchell. MP.

Question--David-- "Are there any other nominations for a two year term on Council?" MM by Pam Lukens to close nominations for a two year term on Council. MS by Gary Moe. MP.

# ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT



*I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9*

Dear Community of Trinity,  
Though COVID is no longer a new and unknown entity, it still remains central in the planning and execution of much of our ministry. Wearing masks is still a part of our daily lives and much thought is given to the size and arrangement of social gatherings within our building. Zoom remains an important option for our meetings.

Early in the year, after conversations with Bishop Lull and with Trinity leadership, the MET team (Mission Exploration Team) put their work on hold and the decision was made to extend my call for another year. A new covenant was formed along with a small change in the focus of my work. I now oversee the Worship and Music Committee, and planning for Sunday and Wednesday worship. I continue to work on strategies for Adult Education and have developed an Adult Education Advisory Team. This group will begin meeting in the early part of 2022. I am working with the visitation team; doing scheduling and training, and I remain involved in pastoral and congregational Care and the everyday needs of the congregation. I regularly attend council and staff meetings as well as synod interim meetings. We will reevaluate the associate pastor position this spring and make decisions about what the next steps will be at that time.

2021 began with the need to meet over two nights for confirmation and via zoom as well. This fall we

were able to resume our Wednesday night gatherings and worship, although attendance remains diminished. The Restart team met regularly through mid-summer. Though they are no longer meeting on a regular basis they continue to monitor the COVID situation and offer recommendations when needed. The Community for Creation Care Team (CCC) continues it's work and I'm proud to say was named a Climate Justice Congregation by the Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL) in December.

I introduced a new year long book study on *We Make the Road by Walking* by Brian McLaren that was introduced in October and has a following of about 10 people. Each lesson stands alone, and anyone is invited to join at any time.

I was blessed to take a weeklong training this spring on *Leadership and Anxiety in the Church* through the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. Their work in this area is groundbreaking and has already helped me in my ministry.

Despite the lasting limitations that COVID has placed on us, our ministry here at Trinity continues to be vibrant and flourish. I want to thank the incredible staff I serve alongside for your support, your passion, your creativity and your commitment to this community of faith. Thank you as well to you, the congregation, for inspiring me each and every day to do the work necessary so that we can *connect, grow and serve* with the love of Jesus Christ!

Grace and Peace to you all, Pastor Karri

# YOUTH DIRECTOR REPORT



*Do your little bit of good where you are.*

*It's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world. –Desmond Tutu*

We are grateful for all the youth and adults in our congregation and community. As you share your time, energy and love at Trinity, in so many spaces and places in our world, as you are making a difference with God's grace. Thanks for sharing your little bit of good around!

**Youth Ministry Team** This team evaluates, plan activities and discuss business/financial items. We are always looking for new members to help guide and shape the youth programs. Our conversations are through emails as the members of this group are busy parents and meetings are hard to schedule.

**Elementary Youth Group (grades K-5<sup>th</sup>)** This youth group meets on a Sunday afternoon (once a month if possible) for games, prayers, snacks and fun! Many of these activities are for **the whole family**. Confirmation youth help lead and play with this group. In 2021, we began to meet again in the fall with a Sunday afternoon event, Play and Pray Day in November, and the Advent Celebration in December.

*The Jr. Youth and Sr. High groups below have changed throughout the pandemic. We are grateful to be able to meet with them in person and have had many of our youth activities return during 2021.*

**Jr. Youth Group (grades 6-8)** This group is full of energy! They meet three Wednesdays a month (after Confirmation classes) to play, pray and learn more about themselves and their faith. Thanks to the adults for their help.

## **Activities the Jr. Youth participated in 2022**

Reading scripture and more for our online & in person worship services.

Making cards and gifts for our shut-ins and health care workers

Luther Point Bible Camp in Grantsburg WI  
Klein Ranch Bible Camp in SD

Fall Mystery Trip  
Confirmation Retreats (in the fall)  
Advent Celebration

**Sr. High Youth Group (grades 9-12)** The Sr. High youth group constantly changes due to their schedules, even in the pandemic. We continue to find ways to provide activities and learning experiences for them. Workcamp is a major part of our Sr. High program, along with those who serve in Sunday School, Confirmation, Jr. Youth Group, and at retreats.

## **Activities the Sr. Youth planned and participated in 2021:**

Help with Confirmation – retreats, small groups  
Workcamp (mission trip) to Huntington, West Virginia  
Boundary Waters Canoe Trip  
Helping with the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreat  
Workcamp Soups to Go

# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Annual Congregational Meeting  
May 23, 2021

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 10:30 A.M. by David Johnson, President.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Pastor Karri Anderson.

**CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:** Cathy Johnson, Secretary, confirmed a Quorum of fifty-two voting members in attendance.

**VOICE VOTE:** Action--Action Requested: MM by Sherry Holt to suspend rules of order related to paper ballot voting and allow voice vote on identified matters during this meeting. MS by Pam Lukens. MP.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Action--Action Requested: MM by Larry Guilfoile to approve the agenda as presented. MS by Katie Roche. MP.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2020 BUDGET MEETING AND OCTOBER 4, 2020**

**SPECIAL MEETING:** Action--Action Requested: MM by Larry Guilfoile to approve the February and October minutes as presented. MS by George Popa. MP.

## **INTRODUCTION OF PARLIAMENTARIAN AND REVIEW OF ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER--**

Information: Jeff Fuge said there will be a written election ballot to elect members of the Nominating Committee, the Endowment Committee, and Church Council. An individual will be recognized if he or she wants to speak during the meeting.

**PASTORAL REPORTS:** Pastor Terry and Pastor Karri--Information: A big thank you to the staff for all of their hard work during the last year. They had to face many difficult challenges in dealing with Covid-19, the pandemic, and how to keep Trinity's ministry moving forward. A big thank you to the Congregation for partnering in ministry together by delivering bags of goodies to church members, involvement in the Calling Tree and reaching out to church members to maintain connection during the temporary shut down.

## **1.**

### **FINANCIAL BUSINESS:**

- 2020 Year-end Budget Review--Information--The Treasurer Shall Present a Review of the 2020 Financial Statement: Sherry Holt is presenting the report in place of Diane John who is on a mission trip to help open an orphanage in Mexico. Diane is staying in Texas and will return to Minnesota in about six months.

Sherry said that the financial report starts on page forty-four of the 2020 Annual Report:





2022 Proposed Budget				
Income		2022		2021
Envelope-Pledged	\$	321,000	\$	340,000
Envelope-Unpledged	\$	114,618	\$	113,440
Loose	\$	10,000	\$	10,000
Sunday School	\$	250	\$	500
Nelson Annuity Transfer	\$	24,462	\$	24,933
2020 Cash Reserves	\$	27,253	\$	27,253
Bequest Transfer-Staffing	\$	21,763	\$	-
Sub-Total	\$	519,346	\$	516,126
Lenten Offering	\$	4,000	\$	4,000
Easter Offering	\$	3,000	\$	3,000
Thanksgiving Offering	\$	800	\$	800
Christmas Offering	\$	4,000	\$	4,000
Sub-Total	\$	11,800	\$	11,800
Initial Offering	\$	450	\$	450
Checkbook Interest	\$	15	\$	15
Sub-Total	\$	465	\$	465
Totals	\$	531,611	\$	528,391
Expense				
Benevolence	\$	29,500	\$	30,000
Personnel	\$	402,251	\$	405,066
Educational Ministries	\$	2,500	\$	500
Youth	\$	1,300	\$	1,300
Witness & Outreach	\$	-	\$	-
Service Ministries	\$	150	\$	-
Stewardship Education	\$	500	\$	500
Worship & Music	\$	8,310	\$	7,700
Finance	\$	-	\$	-
Administration	\$	39,100	\$	38,425
Building/Maintenance	\$	47,000	\$	43,900
Council	\$	1,000	\$	1,000
Totals	\$	531,611	\$	528,391

Workcamp Cookies by the Plate for Easter and Christmas  
Workcamp Painting Party  
Graduation Breakfast & Graduation Signs on the church lawn

**Combined Activities for Jr. and Sr. High Youth:**

The following activities are for all youth in grades 6-12. A few of the activities listed below are fundraisers\* to help youth raise money for camps and their youth accounts for camps and other youth activities. **Fundraisers** are hosted throughout the year and the money is divided among the youth who work.

Youth Services in March (Online Lenten worship), May (Outdoor worship) and in person service in

October (Camp Sunday) and December (Advent/Christmas Service with Sunday School).

Wednesday Worship and Suppers  
Day Camp and Play & Pray Day Counselors

Harmony in the Park concessions\*  
Karl Oskar Weekend events- Food Tent & Family Bingo \*



Pizza Party and Planning Meeting for 2021-2022  
Outerwear Fair helpers

Silent Auction\* (to help with camp costs)  
Small Town Christmas Gift Bags (made by confirmation students)

Luther Point Bible Camp Winter Retreat at Luther Point

The **area church activities for grades 6-12** were put on hold for 2021.

**Confirmation**

Our confirmation program includes 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Currently, we have **35** youth in 2021-2022 confirmation year. The beginning of 2021, we met in small groups on different days and times, , with some joining class time on zoom. Thanks to Pastor Terry and Pastor Karri for taking turns to work with Linda and each small group. This fall, five Confirmation youth from Chisago Lake Lutheran, Pastor Steve Cruys and Stacy Johnson, their youth director, joined us on Wednesdays for Confirmation classes and youth group. We thank the small group guides who began helping in the fall and for their commitment to serve on Wednesday afternoons. **Thanks to our leaders in 2021:** Noah Fritsche, Darin Straub, Kevin Marquis, Sue Wehrenberg, Laura Nugteren, Sherry Holt, Cinnamin Theisen and Katie Roche. We appreciate your time, energy and desire to share your faith with our young people!

The Confirmation youth participated in **fall retreats**. The kids were so excited even if the retreats weren't overnight. Thanks to the parents and other adults willing to chaperone at the retreats. We are grateful for their time and energy!

The **Faith Friend program** was put on hold in 2020 and part of 2021. In the fall, we were able to reestablish the program. Each **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grader** is paired with an adult who serves as their **Faith Friend** (adult mentor). This adult spends time talking with this youth about their faith and daily life. Thanks to all who have served, listened to and prayed for our youth. The youth enjoy time with their Faith Friends. The **6<sup>th</sup> graders** meet the same night as Faith Friends for **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Club**. It's good to meet with them again. This group has discussions along with creating cards and gifts for Meals on Wheels and our shut –ins. The gifts made are greatly appreciated.

The **8th graders** hear from speakers about relevant topics, to help them to see faith as part of everyday life. The topics include: sexuality, alcohol and drugs, communication, exercise mind, body and soul, bullying, mental health, volunteering, and the internet. The **6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>**

**grade** youth learned about the Bible in the beginning of the year, and in the fall, they began working on the Small Catechism.

**Affirmation of Baptism** - We confirmed 19 youth in September. They wrote faith statements and created stoles to share the story of their faith journey so far.

**Spiritual Growth and Service Opportunities**  
Our youth have many opportunities to grow and serve in their faith through Sunday School, confirmation, Bible camps, retreats, lock-ins and youth groups.

- **Service projects** include acolyting; reading scripture; helping with Sunday School, CIA, day camp, and K- 5<sup>th</sup> grade youth group; leading worship services; and other projects. Thanks to Larry & Colleen Guilfoile for help each week with our acolytes.

- **Improv** We miss having an improv troupe this past year and hope to train a few kids in 2022.

**Camps** We were able to attend summer camps in 2021. The youth love these experiences and the challenges that happen at camp. The economy continues to have an impact on the number of youth able to go to camp; many received camperships to assist them.

**10** elementary, middle school youth went to **Luther Point Bible Camp**

**7** youth and 3 adults went to **Klein Ranch in South Dakota**



**11** youth and 5 adults went to **Workcamp in Huntington, West Virginia**

**4** youth and 4 adults went to the **Boundary Waters Canoe Area**

In May, we had 8 adults go to the **Boundary Waters Canoe Area** on the adult canoe trip.



**Thanks to everyone for their support and kindness!**

**Thanks to the youth and adults who are part of all these programs!** The activities help provide hands-on, teachable moments for youth and adults. Together we play, work, and grow as the body of Christ! **Thanks to all who chaperone, drive, serve Wednesday meals, help with fundraisers, and more.** Special thanks to the adults who helped with summer trips: Sue Marquis, Darin Straub, Christian Schmidt, Karen Mortenson, Noah Fritsche, Kim Anderson, Krista Overgaard, Mitchell Keene, Jolene Erdman **and** the many parents and other adults who help us prepare for these trips. These trips and activities wouldn't be possible without your prayers and support. Thanks to the young adults who helped with our fun night, and the fall retreats.

**Thanks to everyone for your prayers! We covet them.**

**The many ways TLC members support us**

- **Recycling** your pop cans helps with youth trips, gas for the van, and other activities. Thanks to the **Spit & Shiners** for taking the pop cans in to be recycled.
- **Camp Sponsorships** help youth whose families may be struggling to cover the cost of camp. The youth and families appreciate these generous gifts!

OPERATIONAL RESERVE		
Balance		
01/01/2021	\$	14,438.08
Interest Earned	\$	7.18
Balance		
12/31/2021	\$	14,445.26

MISSION INVESTMENT FUND

Balance 12/31/2020	\$ 848,706.60
Interest earned	\$ 19,902.93
Sub-total Additions	\$ 868,609.53
Second Sunday Withdrawals	
ELCA Disaster Response	\$ (1,490.00)
Safe Haven	\$ (612.00)
Shobi's Table	\$ (462.00)
Sub Total Second Sunday With-	
drawals	\$ (2,564.00)
Other Withdrawals	\$ -
TLC Endowment Fund	\$ (77,254.00)
Staffing Bequest	\$ (12,264.92)
Sub Total Other Withdrawals	\$ (89,518.92)
Sub-total Withdrawals	\$ (92,082.92)
Balance 12/31/2021	\$ 776,526.61

Second Sunday Match from Mission Investment Fund

Beginning Balance	\$ 70,000.00
2016 Expenditures	\$ 2,785.00
Balance 12-31-16	\$ 67,215.00
2017 Expenditures	\$ 13,022.93
2017 Additional Gift from P/E	
Nelson Bequest	\$ 8,590.65
Balance 12-31-17	\$ 62,782.72
2018 Expenditures	\$ 12,088.48
Balance 12-31-18	\$ 50,694.24
2019 Expenditures	\$ 11,357.13
Balance 12-31-19	\$ 39,337.11
2020 Expenditures	\$ 5,763.86
Balance 12-31-20	\$ 33,573.25
2021 Expenditures	\$ 2,564.00
Balance 12-31-21	\$ 31,009.25



2021 ADDITIONAL BENEVOLENCE

GIVEN TO	AMOUNT
ENDOWMENT RECEPIENTS	\$ 71,482.63
SECOND SUNDAY OFFERING RECEPIENTS	\$ 2,564.00
COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL	\$ 96.00
FAMILY PATHWAYS	\$ 1,022.00
LUTHER POINT BIBLE CAMP	\$ 3,000.00
TAPESTRIES OF LIFE	\$ 20.00
LINDSTROM BOY SCOUT TROOP 159	\$ 300.00
ANONYMOUS SANTA	\$ 600.00
LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE	\$ 2,300.00
HIRAM LODGE/FAMILY PATHWAYS	\$ 500.00
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF	\$ 700.00
OPEN HANDS MINISTRY	\$ 500.00
ELCA FOR CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY	\$ 2,705.00
NEW PATHWAYS	\$ 2,000.00
SAMARITAN'S PURSE	\$ 2,385.00
ILAG-GUATEMALA	\$ 2,000.00
FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 93,174.63

Dedicated Accounts and Special Gifts				
	12/31/2020 Balance	Receipts	Expenses	12/31/2021 Balance
Camping & Youth	\$ 12,047.98	\$ 15,354.00	\$ 6,438.73	\$ 20,963.25
Music/Worship	\$ 13,218.83	\$ 14,765.00	\$ 1,665.82	\$ 26,318.01
Education	\$ 18,444.74	\$ 8,100.38	\$ 6,210.87	\$ 20,334.25
Property	\$ 18,322.56	\$ 13,081.13	\$ 4,491.42	\$ 26,912.27
Misc.	\$ 107,058.57	\$ 64,539.74	\$ 96,367.51	\$ 75,230.80
Outreach Funds	\$ 15,213.84	\$ 7,484.25	\$ 6,984.46	\$ 15,713.63
Building Fund & Cap. Imp. Fund	\$ 8,564.71	\$ 12,473.25	\$ 200.00	\$ 20,837.96
Continuing Education Acc'ts.	\$ 7,519.09	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 8,519.09
Helping Hands Funds	\$ 9,671.97	\$ 1,470.00	\$ 4,504.99	\$ 6,636.98
Mission Investment Fund	\$ 848,706.60	\$ 19,902.93	\$ 92,082.92	\$ 776,526.61
Total Dedicated Accounts	\$1,058,768.89	\$ 159,470.68	\$ 220,246.72	\$ 997,992.85

- **Camperships** are given to each youth going to camp to help with the cost.
- **Workcamp** Thanks to all who made donations in many ways! These donations help to buy lumber, paint, nails, etc. at camp for the homes that will be repaired.

...”be still and know that I am God”... I know God is listening. My prayer is that God, our Savior and Spirit, continues to guide us, gives us strength through each day as we connect, grow and serve with one another in his love. Looking forward to more adventures on this faith journey with you!



**Silent Auction** Thanks to many of you for your donations to the silent auction! We raised \$1700 in 2021 to help with 2022 camps and events. This is always a fun event and a blessing that helps make our summer camps and other events possible.

**I am blessed to be a part of the family at Trinity. I am thankful ...** to be a part of a staff that loves to play, pray and laugh and for many amazing volunteers! We are blessed. Our communities and schools see our youth as an important part of daily life! I’m grateful for my continuing education time at the 2021 ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza (online) and the online Recharge Conference with our youth and children’s volunteers. I love planning and helping with Contemporary and Wednesday Worship services. Thanks to my husband, Dean, for his patience, love and humor! And thanks to God for His patience, guidance, challenges, hearing my prayers, love, compassion, grace and forgiveness....

I am ***humbled*** by God’s grace and power as He works through me. It is truly an honor to serve at Trinity, with so many youth and adults. As I whisper these words each day

# Children’s and Family Ministry



They say God has a plan for you. I’m glad God called me to Trinity a decade ago. In August, a space was created for me to have conversations with God. I was hired in September as the Children and Family Ministries Coordinator! I have enjoyed this position tremendously and am excited to continue to create into the next year. I would like to thank everyone for the support, feedback, prayers, and the many ways you have encouraged and gifted me along the way.

I want to give a big Thank You to Avery Bird for her time and energy as our Children’s Ministry Director. She began in November 2019



and finished her ministry with us in July. During the first part of the year, Avery created online Sunday School lessons and zoomed with the CIA (grades 3-5) on Wednesdays. In the spring, the CIA were able to meet in person. The CIA kids picked up garbage that was on the church property.

We thank Avery for organizing and leading Daycamp in June. Our theme was “Wading in the Water with Jesus”. The kids had a blast, loved being with each other, and being in the

green space. Every day the activities included water, and most days, the kids got wet somehow. We are thankful for the green space. What a gift! Thanks to all the youth and adult volunteers who made this week possible!



Many new things have been implemented due to the continuing pandemic. Even though wearing a mask is not required, it is highly recommended. Air purifiers have been placed in the basement where Sunday school and CIA (our Wednesday night program) are held.

Sunday school has had a whole new look this year. Family worship is encouraged at 9:00. Children’s messages are shared most Sundays.

The kids are learning and listening during worship. When we have a baptism, it becomes our children’s



## Balance Sheet

Current Assets		12/31/2021	12/31/2020
Checking Account-General	\$	43,387	\$ 52,167
Operational Reserve	\$	14,445	\$ 14,438
2020 Cash Reserves	\$	27,253	\$ 27,253
Savings Account	\$	222,466	\$ 211,062
ELCA Mission Investment Funds	\$	776,527	\$ 848,707
Checking Account-Youth	\$	19,968	\$ 13,492
Certificate of Deposit (Youth funds)	\$	2,575	\$ 2,524
Endowment Fund Investment	\$	1,158,960	\$ 1,103,029
Endowment Fund Income	\$	32,738	\$ 32,738
Endowment Fund Change in Value	\$	228,456	\$ 155,346
Endowment Fund Checking	\$	3,441	\$ 8,670
Endowment Fund Withdrawals	\$	(430,685)	\$ (430,685)
Sub-Total of Endowment Funds	\$	992,910	\$ 869,097.82
Temporary Cash Holdings	\$	-	\$ -
Stock Certs. Held for Sale	\$	-	\$ -
Total Current Assets		\$ 2,099,532	\$ 2,038,741
Fixed Assets			
Land, Building, Stained Glass	\$	2,873,559	\$ 2,873,559
Rental Property	\$	-	\$ -
Personal Property	\$	357,458	\$ 354,458
Vehicle	\$	41,220	\$ 41,220
Depreciation Allowance	\$	(404,198)	\$ (385,301)
Total Fixed Assets		\$ 2,868,040	\$ 2,883,936
Total Assets		\$ 4,967,572	\$ 4,922,677
Liabilities			
Dedicated Funds Payable	\$	1,151,972	\$ 1,206,220
Misc. Endowment Fund Contributions	\$	454,521	\$ 435,225
Line of Credit	\$	-	\$ -
Member Deposits	\$	2,700	\$ -
Total Liabilities		\$ 1,609,193	\$ 1,641,444
Equities			
Equity	\$	3,762,577	\$ 3,666,534
Allowance for Depreciation	\$	(404,198)	\$ (385,301)
Total Equities		\$ 3,358,379	\$ 3,281,232
Total Equity and Liabilities		\$ 4,967,572	\$ 4,922,677

All inter-fund transfer balances have been eliminated properly.



# FINANCIAL REPORTS

## Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

	As of		As of	
	December 31, 2021		December 31, 2020	
<b>Receipts</b>				
Pledged Envelope Offering	\$	325,161.81	\$	376,738.14
Non-Pledged Offering	\$	133,925.00	\$	96,462.00
Loose Offering	\$	7,561.53	\$	6,575.84
Easter & Lenten Offerings	\$	6,201.00	\$	6,543.69
Thanksgiving Offerings	\$	1,139.00	\$	1,110.00
Christmas Offering	\$	2,520.00	\$	4,030.00
Sunday School Offering	\$	55.21	\$	86.00
Initial Offering	\$	1,149.00	\$	434.00
Checkbook Interest Income	\$	7.18	\$	13.92
Special Gift-P/E Nelson	\$	-	\$	10,311.06
Other Receipts	\$	-	\$	57,950.79
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>477,719.73</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>560,255.44</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Benevolence	\$	30,000.00	\$	30,000.00
Personnel	\$	374,852.98	\$	395,739.99
Christian Education	\$	524.14	\$	486.27
Youth	\$	1,087.36	\$	1,893.57
Witness and Outreach	\$	-	\$	-
Service Ministries	\$	-	\$	-
Stewardship Education	\$	9.16	\$	476.92
Worship & Music	\$	6,871.09	\$	4,659.24
Finance	\$	-	\$	-
Administration	\$	35,638.11	\$	39,009.82
Building and Maintenance	\$	39,317.85	\$	40,711.83
Misc. Short Term Funds	\$	-	\$	-
Council Expenses	\$	892.11	\$	1,000.00
<b>Total Operating Disbursements</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>489,192.80</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>513,977.64</b>
<b>Receipts less Disbursements</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(11,473.07)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>46,277.80</b>

message. The children come forward and share in celebrating the special day. A gift is given to the baptized child. This Includes a blanket (thank you, Blanket Ministry) a Trinity mug, a prayer bear, and a little welcome notes. The children are excused from service after the Apostles' Creed and head downstairs. They enjoy their own fellowship time (snacks and lemonade included.) announcements, sometimes music, followed by a group lesson. The attendance has been low enough to combine all ages together (Pre-k to 5<sup>th</sup> grade). The Sunday School kids read, crafted, ate, and played as they learned lessons and stories from the Bible.



On Wednesdays, after school has been a whole other energy, which I enjoy. We have about a dozen 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders who attend CIA (Children in Action). A bus picks the kids up from the elementary school and delivers them safely to Trinity. In the fall, the kids immediately ran to the garage, set down their bags and ran to the green space. They love and need the space. Most of September and October's lessons were held outside. Getting familiar with the Bible was a goal, along with the 10 commandments. We created friendships and grew our faith in God.

In October the 3 and 4 year olds received their prayer bears. 2nd and 3rd graders received their children's Bible.



In December, we paused Wednesday nights. A Christmas program was created (thank you, Linda, for writing it!). The youth and children came together on December 12<sup>th</sup> to lead worship. The Sunday School youth did a great job with the Christmas program. We celebrated baby Jesus being born and had a birthday party December 19<sup>th</sup>. So much to celebrate!



Christmas was followed by a break and time to slow down and pause, giving people grace and space with season of sickness upon us. I keep planning... planning a mom's room, dads' room, prayer room, craft room, classrooms, and my office. The basement is transforming! There are plans for the future. Lots of plans. I'm learning. Learning how to manage and implement all the great ideas.

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time. I enjoy conversations.

Emmy



# OUTREACH COORDINATOR



**Outreach Coordinators  
Bonnie Houger (retired) and  
Katie Werman-Roche**

As we read about Trinity’s history on our website we think about the risk that 11 families took 120 years ago to become the first English speaking congregation in the Chisago Lakes area. How hard these families worked for something that they were passionate about as they listened to and followed God’s voice. Taking risks, welcoming others, and reaching out in loving service is a strong thread in Trinity’s history which has helped Trinity Lutheran Church to grow over the years. I’m sure those families had doubts and faced many obstacles.

Similarly, the past few years have been very challenging for us in different ways; we’ve had to alter how we worship and many of our programs as we strive to reach out in new ways to do God’s work. Our hope is that we will look back on these challenges and know that we followed God’s voice, just as those original families did, toward new beginnings.

Trinity continues to be a generous congregation, willing to face new challenges as we continue to Connect, Grow and Serve others. We have kept the promises we made to support programs such as Path to Home, Jesus El Buen Pastor, and external non-profits that continue to need funding through programs like 2nd Sunday 2nd Offering.

Even though we were not able to host transitioning families, we supported housing for the families at hotels, provided gas cards and grocery gift cards. Hotels will continue to be utilized in 2022 until we can safely host in our buildings again this Fall.

We continue to honor our commitment to our partner church in Guatemala, Jesus El Buen Pastor, through prayer, monetary donations, and communication when possible. We were able to connect with their church council through a video chat in December. We look forward to connecting more in the new year. We look forward to the day a delegation of Trinity members can personally deliver the new Baptismal Font that was constructed here at Trinity and reconnect with our brothers and sisters in Christ in person.

We were able to reinstate our 2nd Sunday 2nd Offering program in October, November, and December for Lutheran Disaster Relief, Safe Haven Foster Shoppe, and Shobi’s Table, and greatly bless these organizations with your generosity. Our 2nd Sunday 2nd Offering donations continue to be matched with funds from the Pearl Nelson Bequest funds.

Amidst an uncertain year, our members have worked tirelessly to stay in touch. Mid-year the Calling Tree was temporarily put on hold, yet many members have made new friendships and continue checking in with each other. We have also continued delivering monthly Care Packages to dozens of our members to remind them that they are cared for and we are thinking of them. They contain treats made by Trinity



confidence lead to improved patterns of financial support). An audit sets habits of fiscal responsibility to assure that when/if there is turnover in personnel there will be continuity in accountability, and nothing will fall through the cracks.  
*Who will be performing the audit?*  
Akins Henke & Company

During 2021, the Dedicated Account list was cleaned up. With approval from each committee, Dedicated Accounts with small balances or inactive accounts were closed with the money moving to another Dedicate Account. This will help when money is gifted to Trinity.

The Special Projects Committee worked with Pastor Terry and Twyla to create a Gift Policy. The final copy will be available early in 2022. Thank you to Coke Guilfoile and David Johnson for their help in creating this much needed policy. The Gift Policy will provide guidance to those who wish to give Trinity either monetary or physical gifts.

2021 Budgeted Income \$528,390.91  
2021 Actual Income \$477,719.73  
2021 Budgeted Expenses \$528,390.91  
2021 Actual Expense \$489,192.80

In 2021, Trinity did not meet Pledged Offering, however, the Non-Pledged Offering ended above budget thanks to a one-time gift from a member who has since passed away. There were NO transfers from the 2020 Operational Reserves or the Annuity.

Respectfully submitted by Sherry Holt,  
Treasurer

“

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 4:6-7*





# FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Members:** Dan Calhoun, Denise Calhoun, Dale Fredell, Paul Ives, Gary Moe

**Staff:** Twyla Mitchell, Pastor Terry Nordheim

**Council:** Craig Martin and Diane John (Treasurer January through April 2021)

Each year begins with the Finance Committee working closely with the bookkeeper in putting together a balanced budget for the Trinity Congregation. This process starts during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the previous year, however, in January, decisions need to be made on how to budget for the current year. The Finance Committee keeps the Trinity Mission Statement, Connect, Grow and Serve, in mind while working through the numbers. At the time of the January Finance Committee Meeting, there was still much uncertainty on when Trinity would return to in-person services, so there was discussion on how the budget would reflect that. Thank you to Twyla for pulling together the information needed to creatively put together the 2021 budget.

Paul Ives prepared a Depreciation Policy that was approved by the council at the April 2021 meeting. An inventory list was also created and is kept in the office. Thank you to Paul Ives, Matt Michell, Twyla Mitchell and Diane John for your many hours of work in creating the Depreciation Policy and the Inventory List.

There were many conversations in 2021 regarding having an External Audit completed. In April, the council approved hiring an

accounting firm to complete the audit for year end 2021. The audit is expected to start at the end of January 2022 with a report back to Trinity at the end of June 2022.

## *What is an audit?*

A congregational audit is an independent evaluation of the financial records and internal controls of the congregation, for the purposes of providing an opinion on the reasonableness of the congregation's financial statements and recommending improvements to its internal controls. An audit involves completing a set of procedures that, in the judgment of the auditor, will present the evidence or information needed to provide an opinion on the financial statements of the congregation. These procedures also provide insight as to whether a congregation's internal controls are adequate.

## *Why do an audit?*

An audit is the best way we know of protecting the individuals the congregation elects to offices of financial responsibility, from unwarranted charges of careless or improper handling of funds. It protects the congregation's reputation and builds the trust and confidence of the financial supporters of the church in the way their money is being accounted for (trust and

members, communion kits, devotionals and fun items. Additionally, we have done a few rounds of Care Package assembly and delivery to our members. Several families volunteer to drive and help deliver those Care Packages and connect with the recipients.

Our 2021 Mission Festival "God's Work Our Hands" was a rejuvenating morning of coming together outside for Worship and participating in several mission project stations. The Blood Mobile through the Memorial Blood Centers was also on site. A total of 28 units of blood were collected which helped to save and sustain 84 lives. After sharing all of our efforts throughout the morning, we all came together to enjoy a picnic lunch served to us by Deutschland Meats- German music and all!

Shari Schultz and Doug Kraft serve as navigators for Trinity through The Mental Health Connect. They work hard to bring us current and new information about Mental Health. Reach out to either Doug or Shari if you have any questions or need someone to talk to, they are here to guide you to the appropriate resources.



The Outerwear Fair was held outside so we could ensure the safety of everyone volunteering and shopping. Thank you to everyone that donated items and to the volunteers that helped others find just-the-right winter outfits. Many children and their parents will be warmer this winter because of your generosity. Many heartwarming stories were shared during the three days of distribution. As the cold days continue, many families and community workers have stopped in over the past several months for winter wear that we continue to distribute to meet the needs of those in search of warmth.

We partnered with Deutschland Meats once again this Thanksgiving to provide 100 Thanksgiving meals to Trinity members and

emergency responders. Deutschland made the meals, our members baked the delicious pies, our youth provided fun crafts, and our members delivered the meals. They were so appreciated!

In December, nearly a hundred coats as well as hats and mittens were delivered to Open Hands Midway for their January Coat Drive and Distribution. This delivery was made possible due to the donation of winter wear to Trinity throughout the year by Trinity and community members. All of the items were welcomed with much thanks!

Katie's first project was preparing and coordinating the Angel Tree. We partnered with the Chisago Lakes area Schools, Lutheran Social Services, and Chisago County to assist families in our community in need. Each family was gifted with a homemade blanket provided by our Blanket Ministry and



homemade cards. Trinity members generously donated over 200 gifts for 19 families. Members donated over \$1,000 for grocery gift cards, gas gift cards, and gift certificates to local restaurants. We have received many kind messages sharing how overwhelmed with joy these families were upon receiving these gifts.

**Bonnie Houger & Katie Werman Roche**

As I am retiring from the Outreach position at Trinity I am very excited to welcome Katie Werman Roche to carry on with our Outreach Ministry. Thank you for all your compassion and willingness to reach out and serve. It's been an incredible opportunity for me to be on staff and to work with you **my Trinity Family!** We have experienced many changes and new adventures and I look forward to continuing side by side with you to see where God leads Trinity the next 120 years. Blessing to you and thank you!

**Bonnie Houger**



# MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY REPORT

In 2021 we continued to update and change technology at Trinity. Below is a list of changes made.

Associate Pastor, Bookkeeper, Children’s and Family Ministry, and Outreach have received Laptops.

Working to implement a new church website and access for members to view an online church directory.

Made changes to Live-stream and in person worship by adding different visualization software.

In 2022 the hope is to create a new technology committee and establish timelines for upgrades and changes. I’m also hoping that in 2022 there will be significant changes as we move to the Faith Life system so our members can access information by their mobile device or via the web. We are looking to add a better connection and communication with the congregation with these changes. We have been pushing the boundaries on ministry at Trinity and hope that we can continue to make even bigger strides as we go into 2022.

Report by: Matthew Mitchell

# CONGREGATIONAL REPORT

	Adults & Children (under age 14)	Adults
<b>Baptized Membership at end of 2020</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>926</b>
<b>Members received in 2021</b>		
• By Baptism (children 14 years and younger)	10	0
• By Baptism (adults 15 years and older)	0	0
• By Affirmation of Faith	0	0
• By Transfer from ELCA congregations	0	0
• Members Reactivated	0	0
• Associate Members Received	0	0
• “Attender to Members” who joined	0	0
• Youth Confirmed in 2021	19	19
<b>Total Members Added</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Members Removed in 2021</b>		
• By Death	11	11
• By Transfer to other ELCA congregations	3	3
• Dropped by members’ Request	0	0
• Dropped because members Moved/No Transfer	0	0
• Dropped by Inactivity	0	0
<b>Total Members Removed</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>
Statistical Adjustment	0	0
<b>Total Members in 2021</b>	<b>1083</b>	<b>931</b>

- **Average In Person Weekly Attendance (5/1 - 12/31/21) during Covid-19 : 101**  
(Weekly attendance includes Wed. worship and other midweek services)
- **Average Online Weekly Attendance (01/01/21 - 12/31/21) during Covid-19 : 110**  
(Weekly attendance includes Wed. worship and other midweek services)



2021  
PARISH  
ACTS



Baptisms:	Wren Carolyn Smith	April 3	Pastor Terry
	Emery Louise Stenson	May 2	Pastor Karri
	Waylan Lee Shanahan	June 6	Pastor Terry
	Astrid Jo Bishop	June 13	Pastor Terry
	Tucker Michael McGowan	June 27	Pastor Karri
	Victoria Fox Miron	July 18	Pastor Terry
	Kennedy Josephine Buckley	July 25	Pastor Terry
	Tanner Steven Hemme	October 10	Pastor Terry
	Ivy Jane Tatinger	October 17	Pastor Terry
Funerals:	Ezalana May Melton	October 17	Pastor Terry
	Vern Mollan	May 15	Pastor Terry
	Marlene Prazak	May 16	Pastor Karri
	Pauline Sarazin	June 12	Pastor Karri
	Ace Johnson	June 18	Pastor Terry
	Larry Johnson	June 25	Pastor Terry
	David Carlson	July 24	Pastor Terry
	Jake Nase	September 18	Pastor Karri
	Shirley Mollan	September 25	Pastor Terry
	Mark Ostrom	October 2	Pastor Karri
	Jim Carlson	October 22	Pastor Terry
	Dick Danielson	November 5	Pastor Terry
Weddings:	1		
First Communions:	4		
Confirmations:	19		
New Members Received:	0		



CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

On behalf of the Church Council, I am honored to recognize the extraordinary effort of our council members, committee members, volunteers and staff to continue the mission of Trinity. Trinity has much to be thankful for and the Church Council is grateful! With the continuous challenges that COVID has brought during the past year, our members have continued to answer the call. Early in the year, Church Council was still conducting virtual meetings, and anyone who has experienced large group meetings know the challenges! Thankfully, the Council started to again meet in person, which has provided for excellent interaction between one another. Below are some significant issues that the church council has dealt with during this past year:

- Throughout the 2021 year, COVID concerns were frequently being reviewed by the ReStart Committee, which in turn, would make recommendations to Council. The Council recognizes the efforts of the Restart Committee who continues to monitor COVID reports.
- The Council approved of the hiring of Rachel Molina following Mindy Mader's resignation.
- Finding a Music Director/Organist/Choir Director still continues to bring challenges to the council. Current postings are out on multiple websites. The unique talents and gifts that are needed for each/all of these positions make it a challenge to find candidates available. Efforts to fill these vacancies will continue into 2022.
- Council approved the hiring of Emmy Lundeen as our Coordinator of Children's and Family Ministry following the resignation of Avery Bird. The timing couldn't have been any better as the summer was ending and the new school year was starting up.
- During the fall congregational meeting in October, the congregation ratified Trinity's Constitution that had been worked on for over a year; with specific recognition to council members Colleen Guilfoile and Terry Hogenson for their hard work, along with Jeff Fuge.
- With the retirement of Bonnie Houger in October, Katie Roche was hired in November as

Trinity's new Outreach Coordinator. Bonnie's shoes will be tough to fill, but Katie's enthusiasm, experience, and community connections make her an excellent replacement!

- The Council formed a Building Renovation Committee which will review the work that was done by previous task forces (2011 and 2019) and to explore any new information that may be relevant to Trinity's current building needs. There is a talented group of people that has volunteered for this group and I trust that their committee will guide us in the right direction with building improvements.

This is just a taste of the work the Council completed this year. We have a special group of Council members that bring expertise and experiences from many walks of life. We are only a small part of a team of people that make Trinity Lutheran the small-town gem of a church that it is. I would encourage you to get involved- volunteer for a committee, attend a council meeting, ask questions of your council members. If you're not sure what committee or level of involvement you want to make, that's okay. Contact staff or council members to see what interests you. We all have gifts that we can share with one another!

This past year was earmarked as Trinity's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There is so much to look forward to during this next year as changes come about through the year. Please join me in making Trinity Lutheran a place that members and visitors alike can continue to make it a place to Connect, Grow and Serve with the Love of Jesus Christ for many anniversaries to come!

Respectfully Submitted-  
Craig Martin



## ALTAR GUILD REPORT

Pam Deimel, President, Diane Johnson, Vice President, Karen Seaver, Secretary, Pam Swenson, Treasurer

Our mission as an Altar Guild is to care for the sanctuary of the church, furnish suitable vestments for the altar, and be custodians of the altar linens and all the furnishings of the sanctuary.

**Membership includes:** Pauline Anderson, Peggy Boike, Pam Deimel, Kelly Duncan, Becky Dudley, Cheryl Fish, Colleen Guilfoile, Katsy Hanson, Carol Johnson, Diane Johnson, Pam Lukens, Bunny Lumby, Carol Lundholm, Joni Mattson, Caroline Norelius, Pat Moe, Sandy Nickelson, Georgiana Peterson, Karen Seaver, Patty Schimke, Pam Swenson, and Kay Tate. Marci Carlson and Sherry Holt are on sabbatical. Mary Schmitz has requested to be placed on the substitute list.

Welcomed new members: Nancy Carlson, Marlys Hafner, Kathy Hogenson, Karin Vukich, and Juli Wilcox.

Accepted resignations from: Vicky Berquist, Marilyn Heldt, Mary Nelson, Marlene Olson and Jeanette Peterson. We wish to thank Vicky Berquist for her seven years of service. Since she lived so close to Trinity, she was called on many times for "can you go over to church" requests.

Marilyn Heldt during her eight years of service was very willing to help with the Easter Garden and deliver Easter flowers to shut ins.

Jeanette Peterson served for ten years. She assisted with the Easter Memorial Garden as well as serve two months in a row during the busy seasons of Lent and Easter.

Thanks to Marlene Olson for her 11 years of service. She and Dorothy Leach were



instrumental in helping to organize All Saints Sunday. They started out with lighting votive candles for many years for members and then changed over to battery operated candles for safety reasons.

Mary Nelson has been an Altar Guild member for over forty years. Her mother-in-law, Lil Nelson, was a charter member of the Guild formed in May, 1955. Mary has always had lush flower gardens and would furnish lovely bouquets during church summer months. We thank her for all the many years of devoted service.

The start of the 2021 new year continued with the Covid-19 shut down for our in-house services. Linda Rambow led the group of Dean Rambow, John Pemble, Pastor Terry Nordheim, Pastor Karri Anderson, and Matt Mitchell to perform altar guild duties.

A Holy week prayer vigil was created for Lent (March 31, April 1 and 2). Members could attend five in-house stations or view the U-tube video. The five stations were an "Invitation to Hope," "The Light of Hope," "Hope in our Broken Places," "The Banquet of Hope," and "Anchored to the Cross in Hope." This time of prayer brought a sense of renewed hope.

On April 4, the Easter service was held outside. Easter Memorial Garden flowers were placed in the sanctuary and outside. Most flowers were delivered to Trinity shut-ins on Easter Monday. Altar Guild members were asked to return to full duties the weekend of April 10-11. Another set of flowers were delivered for our first in-house service for 2021. The following Sunday services altered between inside and outside services during spring and summer months. Pre-packaged grape juice and wafer communion cups were ordered following Covid-19 standards.

New Altar Guild procedures were developed for our return. Special thanks to Diane

ordained this past year for service in the Saint Paul Area Synod. They include Pastor Tammy Wilkerson, Pastor Teleen Saunders, Pastor Amy Mihelich-Smith, Pastor Linqing Chu and Pastor Bristol Huffman Reading.

In addition, during 2021, 20 persons were installed in new calls in congregations or in specialized ministries. That's a lot of call committee meetings, prayerful deliberations, and congregational meetings. How grateful we can all be that this work did not stop during the disruptions of the pandemic.

Amid the many changes in our communities, strong ministry requires lifelong learning. We are grateful to be in the third year of a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment to support the ongoing learning of pastors and deacons. In 2021, the nine members of the first round of the Second Act Cohort, for pastors and deacons in years four through 10 of public ministry wrapped up their two years together. Ten other pastors and deacons will form a second cohort in early 2022. They will be accompanied by mentors, more experienced clergy with a commitment to walk with rising leaders. Also, the Kubernesis Seminar, for those discerning a call to senior leadership positions, continues to meet quarterly and is eagerly anticipating their capstone sailing trip adventure in August of 2022. A third cohort for Leaders of Color continues to explore how best to invest the resources from the Lilly Endowment to deepen community, learning and support.

It is not enough to have strong, agile pastors and deacons; resilient lay leadership is also necessary for congregations to thrive. This past year, five congregations participated in a Liberating Structures cohort, learning together how to embrace new opportunities for deepening faith and expanded commitment to others beyond the congregation's walls. Three additional congregations are pursuing a tailor-made renewal process. Six congregations have participated in community listening and engagement training. Do you recognize your congregation's involvement here? If not, the synod staff is here to assist you.

While mission support for synod and ELCA churchwide work has been shared at 96% of that budgeted for the year, many congregations do worry about money matters and seek to strengthen their stewardship

skills. This past year, nine congregations – perhaps including yours participated in a year-long training called Stewardship for All Seasons. It is good to remember that none of us need to navigate these days without encouragement from others.

Pandemic restrictions on global travel challenged the synod's long-standing partnerships in the Iringa Diocese of Tanzania and in Guatemala but Zoom and video connections opened new ways to be a church that is both local and global. We are especially grateful that in March, Astine and Ryan Bose were able to begin their two years of volunteer service with Bega Kwa Bega in Iringa. God has shown us and our global partners new ways to be connected, habits which will endure long after the pandemic winds down.

Let me end with a special word of thanks to the synod staff. Along with Ryan and Astine Bose, Rolf Lowenberg-DeBoer joined the staff as an assistant to the bishop in March. Other staff include Michael Gold, office assistant; Pastor Justin Grimm, director for evangelical mission and assistant to the bishop; Peter Harrits, director of Bega Kwa Bega and assistant to the bishop; Deacon Krista Lind, assistant to the bishop; Anna Marsh, executive assistant to the bishop; Alicia Rodriguez, office manager; David Roinas, synod finance administrator; and Mary Smith, director of communications.

It has been a wild ride of a year and yet at every rollicking turn along the way, God's faithfulness has sustained us and those we are called to serve. **Hold fast**, we can say to one another. Please know what a joy it is for all of us to serve with you in the Saint Paul Area Synod.

Yours in God's service –

Bishop Patricia Lull



# SYNOD BISHOP'S REPORT



***“Let us hold fast to the confession of our faith without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.”*** - Hebrews 10:23

This past year has been a wild ride. COVID-19 vaccinations opened a roadway to imagine more in-person gatherings just as political rancor made it less attractive to be together with those with views other than our own. Summer brought better weather for worshipping outdoors, fall programming was planned, and then a rise in infections from the Delta variant caused new caution and restraint in our church gatherings.

Across the synod, book groups were launched, tackling tough questions of racial justice and long overlooked inequities in communities of color. Leaders embraced important soul work to understand their own bias and resistance to change. Congregation councils wrestled in new ways to understand what it means to be the church today. Live streaming became common place in sanctuaries large and small.

Looking back, 2021 was both a tough year and a transformative time. Last January, did any of us really think we would still be wearing masks and keeping social distance the following Christmas? Yet, when challenged in so many ways, in congregation after congregation, we learned to **hold fast** to

God’s promised faithfulness; a wild ride indeed.

Undeterred by not being able to gather in person, at the digital Synod Assembly in mid-May, we launched the synod-wide Planting Hope Campaign. Over the next two years we will work together to raise \$2.75 million dollars to deepen the Spirit’s work within and beyond the 109 congregations and mission starts of the synod. Your participation will help us:

- Invite neighbors into life in Christ;
- Renew the congregations of the synod;
- Raise up the next generations of leaders;
- Invest in a transformative project on the East Side of St. Paul with Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota.
- The congregational phase begins now in early 2022 with congregations setting aside six weeks this year to introduce the campaign and to invite financial participation. More information on the Planting Hope Campaign can be found at <https://spas-elca.org/planting-hope/>.

This synod places high emphasis on raising up the leaders needed for the work of this synod and across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Currently, 38 persons are in the candidacy process, preparing to serve as deacons or pastors. Five candidates were

Johnson, Cheryl Fish and Kay Tate for developing new processes. We found we had to be very flexible in developing weekly changes. All services returned to the sanctuary by the end of October. Masking was highly encouraged. Our All Saints Sunday was beautiful and meaningful. Not only did we recognize members who had died the last year, but also the passing of other family members and friends outside of Trinity. Two bouquets of red carnations, baby’s breath, and leather leaf were ordered. Members lit candles and placed them on wooden crosses in remembrance of loved ones. Spit and Shine and Altar Guild decorated the church for Christmas. It was wonderful to get together again. A special thank you to staff for serving the volunteers a brunch. It is always appreciated. As usual, Linda purchased small white poinsettias from the Chisago Lakes senior class and Altar Guild

provided the red poinsettias from a local nursery and the senior class. We always receive compliments on how beautifully the church is decorated for the season. We would like to thank the Endowment Committee for a \$500 gift to our treasury and another \$500 to refurbish brass candlesticks and vases. Witness and Outreach has promised an additional \$200 for the candlesticks and vases. Again, a thank you to Sandy Nickelson for maintaining the baptismal and funeral banners. Thank you to Mary Schmitz for making baptismal napkins and Gary Peterson for making our communion bread. Many thanks to Kay Tate for spending four days cleaning and organizing the sacristy. Thanks to Coke and Larry Guilfoile for continuing to assist the acolytes. Submitted by Pam Deimel, President

Altar Guild Annual Treasurer's Report Jan 2021-Dec 2021			
Balance on Hand, January 1, 2021	\$788.15		
RECEIPTS			
Altar Guild Offerings	\$36.00		
Memorial	\$20.00		
Memorial gift from Trinity	\$1,000.00		
Trinity Endowment Committee Award (for All Saints, Christmas, candles and misc supplies)	\$500.00		
Witness and Outreach Donation	\$200.00		
Endowment Committee (finishing brass candlesticks)	\$500.00		
Memorial Gift in memory of Dorothy Stene from her grandchildren	\$2,000.00		
Total Deposits	\$4,256.00		
TOTAL Deposits and Balance on Hand			\$5,044.15
DISBURSEMENTS			
The Rose Garden (poinsettias)		\$186.00	
Floral Creations - baptismal roses		\$93.90	
Red Carnations All Saints Sunday, Baby's breath, leather leaf		\$90.00	
4 Red Poinsettias from CLHS Sr Class		\$64.00	
Palm Ashes		\$12.50	
Palms and Pots (2)		\$43.66	
Easter Flowers Lakes Floral		\$790.00	
Pillar Candles		\$28.08	
Sandy Nickelson (ribbon for baptismal banners)		\$80.90	
Joe Deiter's metal finishing brass candlestick vases		\$700.00	
Banker Statement Fees Lake Area Bank (12 mos)		\$36.00	
Thank you for John Pemble		\$50.00	
Thank you for Matt Mitchel		\$50.00	
Thank you for Dean Rambow		\$50.00	
Thank you for Linda Rambow		\$50.00	
TOTAL Disbursements			\$2,325.04
Balance on Hand December 31, 2021			\$2,719.11



# WITNESS AND OUTREACH

**Witness and Outreach Mission and Purpose Statement:** *“called to empower, equip, enable and encourage God’s people to faithfully share the amazing love of God in Christ with the world.”*

Committee members include Rachel Carlson, Linda Popa, Bonne Houger (out-going Outreach Coordinator), Katie Roche (in-coming Outreach Coordinator), Shari Schultz, Doug Kraft, Mary Adams, Terry Hogenson, Karin Vukich, Carol Lundholm, and Colleen Guilfoile (Council Liaison and Chairperson)

Committee members who have served in the past but who are no longer on the Committee are Pauline Anderson and Lisa Rudquist. We thank them for their years of service. We also want to thank Bonnie Houger for her many years of faithful service as the Trinity Outreach Coordinator. Her boundless energy, never ending smile and creativity have been a blessing to our committee and to Trinity. A big welcome to Katie Roche as Trinity’s new Outreach Coordinator. We are looking forward to serving Trinity, the Chisago Lakes Community, the world and our Lord together.

In Matthew 5:16 we read

*“Let your light so shine before me, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven.”*

## **Witness**

Trinity has a long history of “bearing witness” and being welcoming to others. In 2021, due to COVID, Trinity was unable to hold new member classes. We are looking forward to hosting our first New Member class at Trinity

in February with Pastor Terry. We are thankful for technology that allows people to streamline into our Services and attend Services on-line. We are also aware people walked by and listened to the Outdoor Worship on Sundays while services were held in the green space and others sat on their porches across the street. We are not always aware of how God uses our congregation to bear witness but are grateful to be messengers of his peace.

## **Card Ministry**

The Card Ministry’s mission is to maintain contact with members of Trinity who are unable to regularly participate in church life. They do this by sending them occasional cards/notes to let them know the church is thinking about them. Kathy Hogenson is presently coordinating this program and is looking for volunteers. You can contact her at 651-208-1137 if you wish to inquire about participating or if you have cards you would like to donate. We thank these women for their on-going ministry and service.

In Matthew 28:19 we read *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...”*

## **Outreach**

In 2021 Trinity once again supported the **PATH TO HOME** program, but due to the Pandemic, our support was done outside of our church property. We “hosted” in several times this year but since we could not have people inside our building, we paid for our guests to be in motels and provided money for their food expenditures. It is wonderful to know Trinity is still generous in their financial response to assist in providing housing and food even when we cannot have physical contact with others in need of this service.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Members:** Avery Bird (Children's Ministry Director, November 2019 – July 2021), Emmy Lundeen (Children's and Family Ministry Coordinator, September 2021- to present), Alisha Peterson, Katie Roche, Jolene Nielsen, Laura Nugteren, Joleen Rein, Cinnamin Theisen, Jill Eislefder, Kellye Skelman, LuAnn Werner, Nancy Johnson, Linda Rambow, Jackie Otte

The start of 2021 still had COVID dominating the headlines and preventing a return to "normal" with full, in-person activities. Avery Bird offered online Sunday School lessons. She kept the CIA kids (3-5<sup>th</sup> graders) engaged with Zoom classes until early spring when the weather finally permitted them to meet in person outside. In the spring, the Christian Education committee met to plan Daycamp. "Wading in the Water with Jesus" Daycamp was held in June. The Sunday School age kids loved this week – in person and outside in the green space each day! We are grateful for all the youth and adult volunteers who helped each day. The green space is a blessing to all at Trinity in so many ways.

The summer of 2021 brought an opening to the Children's Ministry Director role as Avery Byrd stepped down from her position. On behalf of the Church Council and the entire congregation, we would like to thank Avery Bird for all her hard work and contributions leading our children and growing their relationship with God every week. After careful consideration, the Council expanded and changed the role to Children's and Family Ministry Coordinator. After several qualified candidates applied, interviews were held and, in September, we were excited to welcome Emmy Lundeen to this new position.

**Sunday School/CIA** Immediately upon starting her new role, Emmy brought forth new ideas on how to engage not only the Sunday School children but create a welcoming space for all

family members. Worship was changed to a single service on Sundays to allow families the opportunity to worship together until after communion. Once children venture downstairs to Sunday School, they find new rotations and activities. Even new gathering spaces were created for moms and dads to connect, grow and worship together while their kids are attending Sunday School!!

CIA continued in person on Wednesdays. The children continued to strengthen their relationship with God and explore their faith through fun and educational activities.

**Confirmation** Classes resumed in September with 40 middle school youth attending. The fall provided an opportunity to resume the amazing service projects they perform in person as acolytes, ushers, reading scripture during worship services, and serving suppers, just to name a few. In the fall, Trinity also opened its arms and welcomed the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Chisago Lake Lutheran into our Confirmation program. This is a great way to work together in Christian Education.

While attendance in both Sunday School and CIA is down, in part due to COVID concerns, Trinity is blessed with an amazing congregation who are willing to volunteer their time and talents each week to help with all of our children's and youth activities. We thank all our amazing volunteers for their time and dedication to ensure these programs continue to run successfully, we truly could not do it without you.

2021 seemed to have a familiar feel as we moved toward 2022 with Delta and Omicron variants spreading like wildfire, and uncertainty brewing once again about how to move forward. But throughout 2021's up and downs, one constant remained, Trinity's amazing staff and volunteers, with the full support of the congregation, continue to adapt and go above and beyond to ensure the continued connection, spiritual growth and success of our youth. We are truly blessed.

Jacki Otte, Council Rep

Other Outreach efforts in 2021 included The OUTERWEAR FAIR. This event took place in October and was held outdoors. Many were served during the event, finding coats, snow pants, boots and other items for winter. Thank you to Trinity members for their ongoing support. Thank you to our wonderful Trinity volunteers who braved the cold to help with set up, assisting our clients and then putting it all away and packed items to go on to other locations. November found us once again sending shoeboxes out for OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD. A total of 271 shoeboxes were packed as Trinity sent the love of Jesus Christ to the children of the world. We packed shoeboxes at Trinity over a period of 3 days, including during the Wednesday evening service. Thank you to those who came to Trinity to pack, to families and individuals who packed their own shoebox, to those who donated product and those who contributed to the cost of shipping. It takes all of us. The ANGEL TREE response for gifts and gift cards allowed 25 families in our community to experience Christmas through generous donations by Trinity members. Both projects are evidence of Trinity reaching out and sharing God's love during the Christmas season. This summer Trinity reached out to the children of our community by assisting Family Pathways by participating in a BACKPACK program, donating over 500 school items. Thank you, Trinity once again for your quick response and willingness to help. Trinity's GARAGE SALE brought together over 60 volunteers, 3 days of fellowship between Trinity and the Chisago Lake Community and netted over \$7,000 for Trinity Youth, Spit and Shine, Boy Scout Troop 159, a new Library table and chairs, the Outerwear Fair and Path to Home. Having not been able to host this event in 2020, it was a great opportunity to clean out our homes, be together again and offer support for of our church programs.

The Second Sunday Offerings program is coordinated through the Witness and Outreach committee where Trinity members share their abundance with others. Second Sunday offerings are matched 1-1 through the Pearl Nelson Bequest Fund. The program ran for only part of the year due to COVID.

October 2021:

Lutheran World Response (National)  
\$2980

November 2021:

Safe Have (Local)  
\$1124

December 2021:

Shobi's Table (Synod)  
\$924

Trinity members continue to be involved in many other Outreach efforts: ILAG, the Helping Hands Ministry, Food Shelf, Prayer Blanket Ministry, Santa Anonymous, Brush With Kindness, Meals on Wheels, Blizzard Boxes, Treats for Troops, Feed My Starving Children, Open Hands Ministry, Comfort Bears, Tapestry of Life in Mexico, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon program, Mental Health Initiatives, Cell phone collection demonstrating Trinity is a congregation connecting with others, growing in the spirit and in service to others.

COVID is changing how we approach some things even if our basic programming remains the same. Our goal in 2022 is to create awareness of at least one outreach area each month. How we witness is closely tied to our outreach efforts. We "connect, grow and serve through the love of Jesus Christ."

Submitted by,

Colleen Guilfoile

Witness and Outreach Council Liaison and  
Committee Chair



# WORSHIP & MUSIC REPORT

Following recommendations by the Trinity Restart Committee, and approval by Church Council, indoor Sunday morning worship resumed this spring after an almost one year pause caused by the Covid pandemic. Several outdoor worship services were held in the parking lot and the adjoining green space during the summer. The church balcony was set aside as a space where masks were required. Masks were strongly recommended, but not required, throughout the remainder of the sanctuary. The internet video services established during the pandemic continued throughout the year and will continue in 2022.

**January – March** – We had outdoors services once a month, depending upon weather.

**March- April** - Prayer Vigil – People signed up for a time to go from one prayer station to another. The theme was “Hope Changes Everything”.

**April** – We had an early morning outdoor Easter service and then processed the Christ candle into the sanctuary at the end. This is the first time we entered the sanctuary since the pandemic began. We sang the closing song, spread out in the sanctuary. Another Easter Worship service was held that morning.

**May** – Beginning with the second Sunday in May until the end of the month, we worshipped in the sanctuary. Joanne Endress played the organ.

**June – mid September** – outdoor worship.

The Sunday worship schedule was changed in the fall to a single service that included the Sunday School children in worship, and adult education opportunities after worship. Both

changes have been met with favorable comments from members of the congregation. Music and music accompaniment was provided by the contemporary band and singers, the organ, singing by a number of Trinity soloists, and a contingent of choir members.



A number of Trinity choir members gathered to sing for the Lessons and Carols service on the Sunday prior to Christmas. Three Christmas Eve services were held on December 24. 3:00, and 10:00 PM services were held indoors. A brief outdoor service was held at 4:30 PM.

Gary L. Peterson  
January 6, 2022

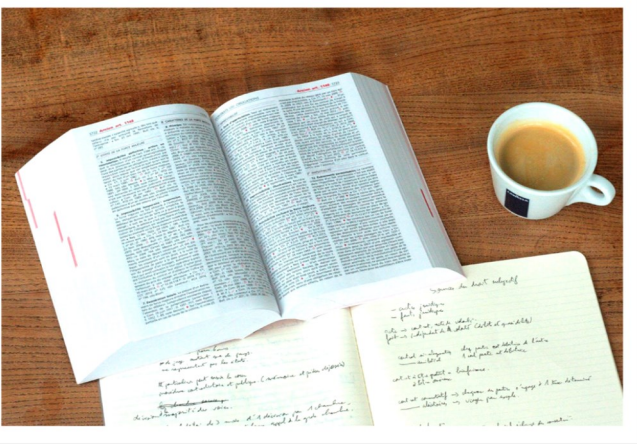


# SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORT

The Special Projects Committee is charged with the responsibility to take on tasks essential to the life of the Congregation that have a specific purpose and are short lived-in duration.

In 2021 the Special Project Committee continued to work diligently on updating of the Trinity Constitution, By-laws and Continuing Resolutions for our church. Every 3 years the St. Paul Area Synod meets to update the ELCA Constitution and forwards this information on to the area churches. The Special Projects Committee worked to combine these 3 documents per Synod recommendations and to update in general as our document had not been updated since 2004.

Question-and-Answer sessions were held so that Trinity members could make suggestions on changes and have questions answered. On June 27, 2021, the Trinity Congregation voted to accept the revised Constitution, By-laws and Continuing Resolutions. The document then went to the St. Paul Area Synod for review. It was returned to Trinity without any suggestions for changes and was then ratified as our presiding document at our October 10, 2021, Congregational meeting.



The Trinity members serving on this Committee were Ken Kramer, Jeff Fuge, Diane Johnson, Terry Hogenson, and Colleen Guilfoile (Council Rep.).

The Special Projects Committee is presently working on revising Trinity’s Gift Policy. Committee members are David Johnson, Twyla Mitchell and Colleen Guilfoile.

Submitted by, Colleen Guilfoile  
Council Liaison for Special Projects



# YOUTH MINISTRY

**Members:** Linda Rambow (Youth Director), Krista Overgaard, Karin Vukich, Sue Marquis, Kim Anderson, Joleen Rein, Sherry Holt, Jill Elsfelder, Alisha Peterson, Jolene Nielsen, Emmy Lundeen, Jackie Otte

The start of 2021 still had COVID dominating the headlines and preventing a return to “normal” with full, in-person activities. Linda continued to have in person small group classes for confirmation kids with some attending on Zoom. The classes were spread throughout the week. While it worked, and kept our youth connected and engaged, there was still something missing

Early February brought a beacon of hope as COVID case counts in Chisago dropped to new lows which allowed students in Chisago Lakes schools to return to full-time, in person learning. Through thoughtful planning and partnership with the ReStart Committee, Trinity’s youth also began to return to full in person activities, while still maintaining necessary distancing and masking protocols to keep people as safe as possible. While more people were now together, it still wasn’t “normal” as many families were not returning to in person church activities for their own reasons. So, 2021 became a year to continue to explore more new ideas, things never tried before, to determine what the new “normal” would look like for Trinity’s Youth. And what a year it’s been!!

Trinity’s Youth program continues to thrive and be a core foundation for our church as leaders, volunteers and our youth continued to learn valuable life lessons through a continually challenging year. Confirmation classes resumed in September with 40 middle school youth attending. The fall provided an opportunity to resume the amazing service projects they perform in person as acolytes, ushers, reading scripture during worship services, and serving suppers, just to name a few. In the fall, Trinity

also opened its arms and welcomed the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Chisago Lake Lutheran into our Confirmation program. The congregation delighted at the youth led services last year, as the kids stepped out of their comfort zones and truly showed off their skills in delivering God’s word. Hopefully this continues to be the trend going into 2022, as the youth are such an important and joyful part of the congregation!

The youth programs throughout the year are incredible, with many thanks to Linda and the entire group of committee members and volunteers that make activities possible. Our youth learn important lessons not only in their faith, but learn to be good leaders as they give back to the community through outreach programs such as Outwear Fair, Path to Home and Feed My Starving Children. The youth can also be seen participating in some of the many fundraising activities such as the cookie sale, silent auction, Karl Oskar days and Harmony in the Park. While they are giving their time, our youth do so with enthusiasm, energy, and a lot of smiles and laughs!

The continued generosity of our congregation is also evident throughout the entire year through their financial contributions. These financial contributions help support the youth in various ways such as camperships and scholarships that allow them to partake in Workcamp and summer camps such as Klein Ranch, BWCA Trip or Luther Point. Thank you for your prayers and continued support of our youth!

Trinity is blessed with amazing volunteers who are willing to volunteer their time, talents, and dedication each week to help with our youth activities and ensure these programs continue to run successfully. We truly could not do it without you and are grateful for you! Throughout the ups and downs of 2021, one constant remains, Trinity’s amazing staff and volunteers, with the full support of the congregation, continue to adapt and go above and beyond to ensure the continued connection, spiritual growth and success of our youth. We are truly blessed.

Jacki Otte, Council Rep

# STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

**Here’s a look into what the Trinity Staff and volunteers did the first few months (January – April) of 2021. We are grateful to have our volunteers back in the building, helping with all the different ministries that take place in and outside the walls of Trinity Lutheran Church.**

## **WORSHIP Planning, organizing, and taping**

- Weekly Sunday and Wednesday Worship Services
- Special Worship Services (Lent, Holy Week, Youth Lenten service, funerals, etc.) and the Lenten Prayer Vigil “Hope Changes Everything”
- Friday Thoughts
- Connecting with youth and adult volunteers to read and with the Contemporary Band
- Outdoor worships once a month weather permitting. In April, holding two Easter services outdoors. Outdoor youth led service first Sunday in May which included a baptism.
- Changing paraments in sanctuary and decorating the altar area for the different seasons for worship and the prayer vigil.

## **BUILDING Technology**

- Continued updating of equipment for the worship service area and other areas of the building

## **COMMUNICATION**

- Weekly newsletter – online and mailed newsletters to those who don’t have internet access
- Connecting with congregation members on Trinity Website and Facebook
- Connecting with youth on Facebook, Messenger and Snapchat
- Setting up and sending links for Zoom Meetings with many groups and people

## **IN PERSON MEETINGS Small Groups**

- Confirmation small groups meet weekly with Linda and the pastors along with youth who joined us on Zoom
- Different small groups met in person – Workcamp, Constitution Committee, Endowment, and a few others.

## **OUTREACH**

- Care Package deliveries continued to our home bound members, with 12-15 drivers who helped deliver the care packages.
- Health Care Worker Bags delivered in January.
- 400 Lenten bags packed by staff for Congregational members and delivered by members and the staff

## **YOUTH & CHILDREN**

- In person Confirmation Small groups classes and monthly Workcamp meetings.
- Workcamp Soups to Go each month and Easter Cookies by the plate in April
- Sunday School videos online.
- CIA (3-5 grade group) Zoom on Wednesdays.

# MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

**Members and officers of Mission Endowment Fund Committee for 2021 were:**

Todd Peterson (Chair)  
Jenny Dress (Recording Secretary)  
Mike Chrun (Financial Secretary)  
Leroy Mitchell (First Vice-Chair)  
Cinnamin Thiesen (Second Vice-Chair),  
Heather Wehrenberg (Council Liaison)  
Ex-Officio, non -voting  
Pastor Terry Nordheim, Ex-Officio non-voting

The drastic changes in our world continued from 2020 through 2021. With our large amount of money that was available in 2020, we actually had a substantial amount of money that we carried over from 2020 to 2021. Given the unknowns in the world and potential impacts on Trinity and our community, the committee felt that in this case, it would be wise to keep this money at the church rather than return to the Mission Endowment fund. The committee was in agreement of being flexible and having funds available to deal with needs in the world, community and our church. We had \$ 77,254 in funds that carried over.

Mission funds available for distribution in 2021 were based upon the growth of ELCA investment in 2020. This was another good year due to substantial increase Market Value and income reinvestment. By the bylaws the fund has \$ 72,300 for allocation. The committee received many good requests and we were able to make awards to so many good awards. In the end we

distributed \$ 74,461 in requests. There were also several donations to the fund during the year. Before the end of the year, we returned almost all of our funds to the Mission Endowment fund, we kept our usual few thousand dollars at the local bank for any sudden needs that may arise. It is our plan that we do not carry over moneys between years in the future. Our Awards for 2021 are as follows:

**Global**

- ILAG - Guatemala
- Lutheran Social Services of MN
- ELCA World Hunger
- Page Educational Foundation
- Lutheran World Relief
- Gideons International
- Scalpel at the Cross
- Hope 4 Women International

**Local**

- Trinity Confirmation and CIA
- Trinity Youth Camperships
- Trinity Workcamp
- Meals on Wheels Southern Chisago County
- Life Haven
- Mental Health Connect Collaborative
- Refuge Recovery Services
- St Paul Area Synod – Local Mission Partnership
- Card Ministry
- New Pathways
- CL Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
- Open Hands Midway
- TLC – Outerwear Fair
- Amborella House
- TLC Dedicated funds for delivery bags

- numbers during the year, resulting in more members who were home-bound receiving a visit from a church member and receiving communion, if they so desired.
- 2021 also saw an increase in the number of Bible Studies being held. Such gatherings are on Sunday's in the Kirvida Lounge, Tuesdays/Wednesdays AM in fellowship hall, and Thursdays at Northwoods Roasterie coffee shop in Lindstrom (7:00AM & 1:00PM).
  - Other stewardship activities that occurred in 2021 included a rapid increase use of technology in conducting our worship services and related ministries on line. Several virtual baptisms were held, with one being held outside, another conducted and video-taped in a home and replayed for the congregation to view during a worship service, and another done virtually, whereby the grandparents from another state were able to participate in the baptism service. Also in 2021 the Creation Care Committee continued to keep us aware of our stewardship responsibilities of the earth and it's inhabitants by submitting written newsletter articles. They also started discussions on possible use of the "green space" located off the church's parking lot. The congregation also approved the creation of a "Building Committee" that will take up the work of previous building task forces and move forward with developing a final proposal for addressing the facilities needs of Trinity.
  - Finally, the 2021 Fall Stewardship campaign focused on being "grateful" for what we have, and to be "generous" with all that we have and received in these times of turmoil. During the campaign, sermons focused on gratefulness and generosity, weekly news articles were placed in the on-line newsletter, a temple talk was given, commitment cards were

prepared and mailed to all members, and follow-up email and reminder telephone calls were made. Also, during the year, the committee continued to send out a financial stewardship messages with each quarterly financial statement. Overall, Trinity's stewardship of its finances for 2021 appear to have been used and administered wisely and frugally. Some members gave above their commitment amount, and a few others gave special gifts. No funds from reserve accounts had to be used to balance the 2021 budget.

In closing.... We as a congregation can be very thankful and grateful for the generosity of our members and of our friends of Trinity that the Holy Spirit has been allowed to live and work in our lives as we strive to be good stewards of what God has blessed us with. May we continue to allow Him to work through us for His Glory!

Respectfully Submitted  
David Johnson



# STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION REPORT

**MEMBERS:**

**Heather Wehrenberg (Council Rep.)**  
**David Johnson**  
**Gail Seaver (Special Projects)**  
**Pastor Terry**

One of the primary purposes of the Stewardship Education Committee is to strengthen and engage with members of the congregation to support them in gaining knowledge and understanding of their role as God's stewards. It is our hope that by accomplishing this, a "stewardship lifestyle" would emerge among each of our members. Many wonder what stewardship involves and what should our role in it be? One person answered both questions this way; "Stewardship is everything we give our lives to, once we say yes to Jesus!" Quite a revealing observation and statement!

During most of 2020 and throughout 2021, Trinity, like so many other ministries have had to make many adjustments due to the ever-changing covid-19 virus situation. In our efforts of being good and faithful stewards with what God has blessed us with during these times, Trinity members and staff have been truly challenged and tested. We have had to learn how to do our ministries and live out our "stewardship lifestyles" in new and different ways to fulfill our mission. As we know, Trinity's mission statement says.... "We are a congregation whose mission and vision is to CONNECT, GROW and SERVE with the love of Jesus Christ." In 2021, we as a congregation continued to accomplish this mission by

applying the six (6) Building Blocks of Faith; **Pray daily, Study God's Word, Worship regularly, Build relationships, Serve others, and Give faithfully.**

Thanks to the Holy Spirit's guidance, Trinity's response to God's generosity in 2021 has been one of thankfulness, gratefulness and a continued willingness to show generosity in the face of the many issues facing us. Below are noted several ministry areas that our committee felt reflects Trinity's "Stewardship Culture" during 2021 and warrants grateful words of thanks:

1. The wisdom, knowledge, understanding and recommendations of our ReStart Task Force were very timely blessings. Their professional competence, dedication and hard work for the congregation and church council helped keep all of us healthy and safe in 2021.
2. Calling Tree volunteers (32) who helped us stay "connected" with church members through monthly calls. They were significantly effective in keeping home-bound members and friends informed as to what was occurring at church, etc. A huge thank you should also be given to the Care Package volunteers who prepared and delivered care bags containing treats and communion items so home-bound members could partake in communion with those members attending worship services on Sunday mornings. The youth were especially helpful in this outreach stewardship act.
3. Trinity's visiting team also grew in

**Education**

Luther Seminary  
Augsburg Youth Theology Institute

**Capital**

Laptop computer for Treasurer  
Paper Shredder  
Safe  
Refurbish vases and candlesticks  
Sound System Wireless Monitor and receiver  
Additional air purifiers  
Siding repair on East side of Church  
Additional computer items and software  
Upgrade to Church Operating System  
Additional office expenses

**Discretionary**

Flowers for All Saint, Christmas, Candles  
The committee had worked on by-law changes in 2020 to attempt to maintain a more even flow of money for distribution in all years. These changes were approved in 2021. The result of these changes is that each year 6% of the funds year end value will be available for grants rather than a formula based on investment return and change in Market Value. Preliminary numbers indicate the 2022 amount will be around \$ 59,000. We will now always have about this amount of money to award each year. The committee will also review this percentage amount after a couple yours and consider adjustments if they are warranted.

Jenny Dresel and Mike Chrun completed their terms on the committee and will be replaced in 2022.



# ENDOWMENT REPORT

2021		
ENDOWMENT FUNDS		
ASSETS		
FUND WITHDRAWALS	\$	(463,682.12)
MISC. ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTIONS	\$	918,203.26
DEDICATED FUNDS PAYABLE	\$	131,434.75
ADJUSTMENTS TO EQUITY	\$	406,954.35
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	992,910.24

WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A.  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2021

Beginning Balance December 31, 2020 \$1,285.70

Deposits:

Circle Offerings	\$ 532.50
W/ELCA Gathering Offering	\$ 117.00
Memorial	<u>\$ 30.00</u>
Total Deposits	\$ 679.50

Disbursements:

Annual Dues	\$ 600.00
Dean Rambow	\$ 50.00
John Pemble	\$ 50.00
Rachel Molina	\$ 50.00
Lutheran World Response	\$ 200.00
Family Pathways-Refuge	\$ 100.00
Helping Hands	\$ 50.00
Workcamp	\$ 50.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 1,150.00

Balance December 31, 2021 \$815.20



# WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Circle Chairpersons: Karen Seaver and Carol Johnson

As Women of the ELCA, we are committed to “Grow in faith, affirm our gifts, and support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church and society and the world.” We extend an invitation to all women of Trinity and those who are friends of Trinity to join us.

2021 was a cautious year for the Women of the ELCA at Trinity. Our two circles did continue to meet throughout the year despite of the Covid situation. Precautions were taken to protect everyone's health concerns by meeting outside, in homes, and sometimes even in garages. It was felt that fellowship and the studying of God's word together was very important and should continue where and when it was feasible.

Trinity's WELCA paid our annual obligations to the Women of the St. Paul Synod. Offering monies have been accepted throughout the year by our Treasurer, and our women have been very faithful. Thank you for your generosity.

Trinity's WELCA also remembered our home bound members during the holidays with cards and small gifts. Both Circles also remembered families in the community with gifts who were not members of Trinity. Again, generosity was shown.



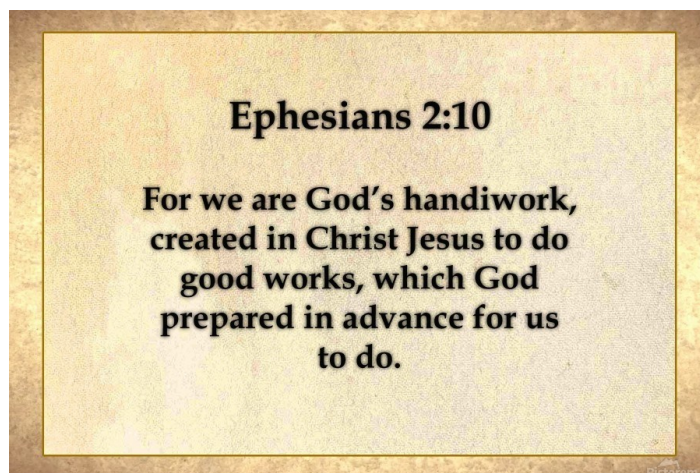
We also held a group meeting in October to disperse funds to specific outreach areas in the community. Our program for the evening involved having Chisago County Sheriff Brandon Thyen talk about “Phone Scams,” and Ms. Laura Green talk about her local business, “Wood Pallet Treasures.” Both were very interesting and informative presentations.

2021, as we all are aware, has been an unpredictable year, and a year of transition to accept a new normal. With God's help, may we all move forward into this new normal in 2022 with the love of Christ, sharing it with any and all who we meet.

## 2021 ENDOWMENT FUNDS

2021 CASH FLOW		
BEGINNING BALANCE - ELCA	\$	860,427.89
BEGINNING BALANCE CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$	8,669.93
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>869,097.82</b>
MISC. CONTRIBUTIONS	\$	90,779.00
ELCA FUND A INCOME	\$	55,931.12
CHANGE IN MARKET VALUE	\$	73,110.36
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>219,820.48</b>
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,088,918.30</b>
LESS		
ENDOWMENT DISBURSEMENTS	\$	71,482.63
WIRE TRANSFER FEE	\$	25.00
END FUNDS TRANSFERRED TO ELCA	\$	24,500.00
CKG. ACCT. ERROR FROM 2020	\$	0.43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>992,910.24</b>





**"God's work. Our hands." Sunday**

**Sept. 12 2021**

**Mission Festival & Picnic 9:00am**

RSVP TO THE OFFICE BY NOON, FRIDAY, SEPT. 3RD  
651-257-5129

## SERVICE MINISTRY

**MISSION STATEMENT:** To strengthen the Body of Christ within Trinity English Evangelical Lutheran Church. This will be accomplished through the Service Ministry Committee's leadership in the specific areas of; governance of kitchen guidelines, management of kitchen assets and the coordination of specific ministry events, along with providing opportunities for service and fellowship among all members and friends of the congregation.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Mary Adams, Dorothy Chrun, Marilyn Heldt, Diane John, Carol Johnson, Diane Johnson, Nancy Johnson (Church Council Representative), Pam Lukens, Bunnie Lumby and Funeral Liaison Cheryl Pemble.

2021 has brought back lunches for funerals. One lunch in 2021 was served outside and worked very well. The funeral team and helpers-list was updated and has been used throughout 2021 and has been very helpful and successful.

We have also updated the Service Ministry group booklet. We went from ten groups down to five groups, with three coordinators in each group. The booklet will be put together and finalized soon and will be distributed to current coordinators. A workshop will then be held to determine how it will be used.

Currently, we have a scaled back version for serving coffee on Sunday mornings. All volunteers are recruited from those who generally stay for coffee. There is a sign up sheet posted reflecting what dates each volunteer is to serve. An information sheet is sent to each volunteer stating what responsibilities are expected of each volunteer.



This process seems to work well and will continue into the future.

2022 will no doubt be another year with unexpected situations arising due to COVID. The Service Ministry Committee will continue to address each situation as it arises and will attempt to meet the needs of our volunteers so their ministry to others can continue to be accomplished in a safe and healthy manner.

Submitted by, Carol Johnson



# PROPERTY COMMITTEE

## Property committee

### 2021 Report

#### LeRoy Mitchell, Chair

The following members contributed their time and energy in 2021 to maintain Trinity Lutheran Church and help others in our community: Lynn Asher, Paul Bodmer, Mike Chrun, Larry Guilfoile, David Heldt, Terry Hogenson, David Johnson, Don Johnson, Jim Koenig, Mark Lukens, Clark Malcomson, Orvin Melaas, LeRoy Mitchell, Tom Norberg, Gene Ommen, John Pemble, Ross Peterson, George Popa, Dean Rambow, Gail Seaver, Ward Schultz and Paul Swanson.

Again in 2021, Spit and Shine provided fewer hours tackling projects to help keep our church proper looking great, due to the pandemic. They helped set-up and take down for the Outerwear Fair. A collection was taken to help families in need from Trinity and Chisago County, with Bonnie Houger's direction to purchase gas cards and gift cards to Brink's.

Other projects include:

- Make trips to Hugo with the pop can trailer as necessary; all proceeds going to TLC Youth

- De-lime dishwasher every 3-4 months as necessary
- Provide rides for members and non-members to doctor and treatment appointments
- Trim shrubs and trees as needed
- Mow lawn and weed whip
- Plant and maintain flowers in the courtyard
- Kitchen floor stripped and waxed
- Oversaw replacing of siding from storm damage
- Took apart Bookshelves
- Replaced Courtyard Lights

Special thanks to Dean Rambow and John Pemble for stepping up and taking on many jobs typically done by Spit and Shine members, due to the pandemic.

# COMMUNITY FOR CREATION CARE



## Reflections of Goals and Outcomes:

The Creation Care Committee started several projects in 2021, but due to Covid-19, a few were put on hold. Throughout 2021, the Community for Creation Care Committee developed and worked on accomplishing three major goals in order to become a Climate Justice Congregation through Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light. Some highlights are:

1. **PRACTICAL GOALS:** By conserving energy, promoting solar, recycling, and gardening, we can make a tangible change towards stewardship of the earth and reducing carbon emissions.

Reduce the use of plastic--as a Committee, we submitted information in articles for the weekly newsletter about alternatives to plastic bags, cups, straws, bottles and other single use plastic items. We participated in "Plastic Free July" and hosted a table for Trinity's Mission Day handing out ecologically safe items and information.

We were an advocate for a church building Energy Audit, supported aluminum can recycling, and supported using reusable, washable coffee cups instead of single use styrofoam cups for Sunday coffee hour.

Adopt A Highway Project--our Committee successfully applied for and was awarded a two mile stretch of highway on County Rd. 9 for clean-up. The County Road sign is dedicated to Creation Care, Trinity Lindstrom. Trinity members met twice in 2021 to clean the two mile stretch, and the clean-up will be an ongoing project.

Pollinator Garden--creating a pollinator garden at Trinity was a goal in 2021, and we discussed, planned, and took a field trip to the local pollinator garden at the Middle School. We are hoping to revisit the plan when the Greenspace Task Force meets.

2. **RELATIONAL/SPIRITUAL GOALS:** We worked with Pastors to bring Climate Care into preaching,

liturgy, and prayers.

The Pastors implemented "Earth Day Celebrations" with a service close to Earth Day, and CCC Committee members took part in the service.

We participated in our annual Trinity Mission Celebration by hosting a table/ station and sharing CCC's Mission at "God's Work, Our Hands".

CCC continued working on completing the steps in the "Climate Justice Congregation Certificate Program" administered by Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light, and we accomplished that.

Pastor Kari brought climate justice to the forefront of the congregation's awareness, and there is a willingness to be open. Her thoughts are that "small actions add up. Persistence and passion make a difference. The Holy Spirit is with us in this work."

3. **SYSTEMIC GOALS:** CCC hosted a meeting for our congregation as part of an event for faith communities in Congressional District 8.

Some Committee members also participated in the "Climate Justice Petition for Clean Cars MN."

Creation Care continued to submit articles to the church newsletter and sharing changes that can help reduce carbon emissions and promote stewardship of God's creation.

CCC is looking forward to working on new (and tabled) projects for 2022!!

