



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

FEBRUARY 4, 2018

*The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God
and each other in Christ. – The Book of Common Prayer, page 855*

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IN LOVING MEMORY

"Rest eternal grant unto them, O LORD, and let light perpetual shine upon them.
May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

Prudence Day
Herb Haines
Jane Kengeter
Ernest O'Brien
David Stewart

PLANNED GIVING

As Christians, we are called to plan for the future of our church. To accomplish this, the Vestry of Trinity has established a Legacy Society, as a means of encouraging gifts to the endowment fund which will provide a reliable source of income to the parish for generations to come.

Trinity's Endowment Fund has a unique purpose in the life of our parish — to empower ministry beyond what is possible through annual operating funds. The Endowment Fund is not simply a hedge against future uncertainties. It is a commitment to provide our future parishioners with the means to minister to the community as we have been blessed to do.

Planned gifts, though requiring financial and estate planning assistance, offer a unique opportunity to make a substantial gift to the Endowment Fund while providing for one's family. Some planned gift options provide income for life and reduce the tax burden on the donors and their heirs.

We ask you to prayerfully consider your role in building Trinity's Endowment Fund. If you would like additional information, or wish to discuss confidentially the best way for you to make a gift, please feel free to contact the Rector. We are grateful for your generosity and commitment to ensure an abundant future for Trinity Episcopal Church.



RECTOR

THE REV. RICHARD L. VINSON

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Six years ago, I was welcomed as Rector of Trinity Church. In that time there have been many challenges and changes within our faith community. Having walked each and every step of this journey, I can state without reservation that this past year has been the best in my tenure. There is, no doubt, many reasons for this, but principally there is renewed spirit that permeates the very fabric of parish. We have witnessed a growing influx of people who are drawn to this place and choose to make it their spiritual home. Families with young children, singles, and mature couples are discovering Trinity. Our fundraising efforts for outreach and mission have been strong. Our worship together is vibrant and meaningful. Our efforts at welcoming those who are new to our fellowship have been intentional and focused. We care for those among us who are ill and in need of our prayers and support. In short, we are doing those things that make a difference in the lives of those we encounter. We are being the church.

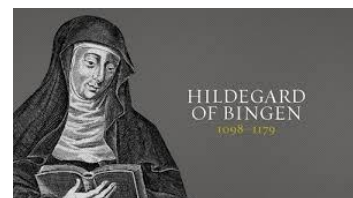
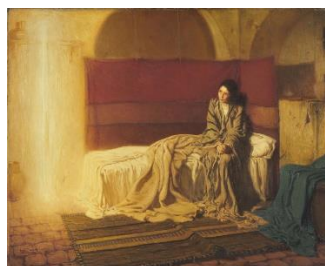
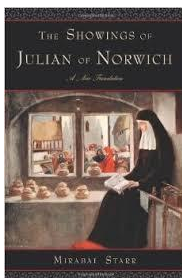
We do have challenges to face. Although we are experiencing moderate growth of new faces in the pews, we continue to have declines in financial giving. In part this is because long-time members give at a higher level than do those who are new to the church. Also, younger people with children have increasingly challenging financial realities. The world is a very different place than it was in the past. Coupled with the loss of special fundraising programs like House Tour and Cookie Bake, the parish has significantly less funding than it did a decade ago. Going forward we must look at the opportunities for creative means of funding the mission and ministry of the church.

I am encouraged by our partnerships with neighboring churches and others in our community to fulfill our mission. We are working together with Trinity, Buckingham, St. Phillips, Holy Nativity, and others in both youth ministry and pastoral care training. In this last year, a partnership has developed with NHS-Cares, a local non-profit whose purpose is to make a meaningful and sustainable difference towards reducing youth substance abuse through education, collaboration, and environmental change. By offering office and meeting space, Trinity has greatly assisted their ability to make a real difference in the community. It has been my pleasure to work closely with them as a faith community leader.

It has been a good year for Trinity and there is much to look forward to in the future. Whatever that future will hold depends upon each of us who consider this place our home. With God's guidance and blessing Trinity Church can and will be the place of refuge and strength that we are called to be.



- Assist at Sunday morning services, and additional services at the discretion of the Rector
- Serve on the Newcomers Ministry
- Led two morning Day of Reflections:
 - ✓ Lenten Day of Reflection: April 8, 2017 – *All Shall Be Well*. Reflections on *The Showings* of Julian of Norwich, an English fourteenth century mystic and anchoress.
 - ✓ Advent Day of Reflection: December 9, 2017 – *Will the Real Mary Stand Up?* Mary, in the imagination of the Church, has given us a varied picture of her. We pondered Mary in scripture, poetry, paintings, music, tradition, myth, church history, and theological reflection. Assisting in the presentation were Barbara Tortorello, Susan Wells, and Mary Miller.
- While canonically resident of the Diocese of New Jersey, I am annually licensed by the Bishop of Pennsylvania to serve at Trinity Church.
- Looking ahead
 - ✓ Lenten Day of Reflection, March 17, 2018, 9 a.m.-12 noon – *The Life and Works of Twelfth Century Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)*. She was one of the greatest thinkers and doers of medieval Europe, a visionary, mystic, theologian, healer, and composer of liturgical music. She founded and governed two monasteries for women. She wrote works on medicine, natural science, spirituality, and a commentary on the Prologue to John. She was a remarkable prophetic woman who described herself as “a feather on the breath of God,” and whose works are still inspiring people today. She was a most extraordinary woman.



ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER

TIMOTHY HARRELL

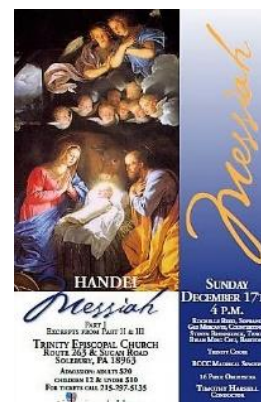
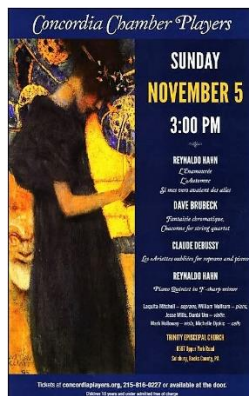
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We are blessed at Trinity to have so many volunteers who come weekly to rehearse and prepare music to lead worship. Choirs develop their own sense of community as they work as an ensemble. One clearly sees this happening, especially in the children's choir as older children help mentor younger singers. Even within sections as we work to "get it right" relationships grow. I believe making music in community makes us better people and I thank all of those who give unselfishly of their time.

Trinity has earned the reputation for presenting some of the finest musical events in the area. We are hosting 16 concerts in the 2017-18 season, which included our own "Friends of Music" 19th annual Messiah concert, various organ and choral concerts, and outside groups - Concordia Chamber Players, La Fiocco, Dryden Ensemble, Cordus Mundi, Cantus Novus, and the Delaware Valley Music Club.

I've had numerous people in the congregation and community say how great it is that such quality events are happening right here in Bucks County. Please share this "good news" with others and invite them to come. "Come and see." "Come and hear" what great things are happening at Trinity.





The early snowstorm in December really caught me by surprise. I was busy that Saturday and it did not seem to be snowing very hard, but when I looked out the window several hours later, it had covered everything with a feathery beautiful coating. With great surprise I said, "Wow, look at that."

And so, it seems that as I look back at this year it also caught me by surprise. Something started so quietly that we hardly noticed. New Hope Cares moved into our spare office space and started holding meetings to work on drug problems in our schools. Our youth group joined forces with Trinity, Buckingham and St. Phillips, and even the Bishop took notice when we blended our Outreach dinners together. Now, we have reached out to the deaf community, as well as the homeless, and those still dealing with AIDS, and everyone benefits.

In the early summer, you may have noticed that through the hard work of many, Lobsterfest was a glorious success making upwards of \$15,000. That helped to fund our Outreach budget which sent aid locally, as well as internationally. This year we were able to send \$50,000 to help people in need.

In mid-summer, through the generosity of one of our families, we finally air-conditioned McArthur Hall. Work done on that space enabled the Day School to also complete their air conditioning of the Day School classrooms. This was greatly appreciated in a very warm September and October.

In the fall, we dedicated our memorial garden to Jane and Ian McNeill. The lovely terrace has joined together the outside space between the Chapel and the church and has benefited many guests at both weddings and funerals.

And finally, we started a new winter fundraiser, the St Nicholas Fair. So many people have remarked to me how much they enjoyed the relaxed and homey atmosphere of the fair, and of course, the cookies.

And so, as I look back at the year, in surprise I say, "Wow, look at that." It is a beautiful thing that we have done, and I say thank you to all of you, and of course to God, who makes all things both beautiful and possible.

WARDEN FOR FINANCE & OPERATIONS

GARY WILMORE

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2017 Summary Financial Report				
	Actual	Budget	Variance	2018 Budget
Income				
Pledge	\$383,027	\$400,000	(\$16,973)	\$365,000
Plate	\$47,512	\$39,000	\$8,512	\$45,000
Fund Raising	\$46,744	\$35,000	\$11,744	\$44,000
Other	\$81,260	\$25,400	\$55,860	\$35,100
Total Income	\$558,543	\$499,400	\$59,143	\$489,100
Expense				
Personnel	\$242,974	\$249,573	(\$6,599)	\$231,400
Office	\$32,096	\$35,100	(\$3,004)	\$33,000
Utilities	\$28,612	\$34,000	(\$5,388)	\$33,000
Maintenance	\$93,857	\$79,000	\$14,857	\$86,300
Buildings/Equipment	\$65,000	\$13,000	\$52,000	\$18,000
Programs	\$16,873	\$17,000	(\$127)	\$13,000
Charitable/Outreach	\$49,492	\$43,000	\$6,492	\$40,500
Fund Raising	\$22,633	\$18,000	\$4,633	\$23,500
Debt Service	\$9,646	\$10,272	(\$626)	\$10,000
Total Expenses	\$561,183	\$498,945	\$62,238	\$488,700
Net Income	(\$2,640)	\$455	(\$3,095)	\$400

*Information as of 12/31/17. The Day School and the cemetery financial results are not included in this report.

WARDEN FOR FINANCE & OPERATIONS CONTINUED

GARY WILMORE

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The year 2017 began with my facetious challenge, “Make Trinity Great Again!” Now, reflecting on the actual results for the year, it seems we actually accomplished several significant achievements; some planned and some unexpected surprises. Examples include the installation and dedication of the McNeill memorial patio made possible by generous contributions from the parish and the family; the successful matching fund challenge for the McArthur Society, which provided “seed capital” toward the establishment of our endowment fund; an unanticipated donation toward the air conditioning of McArthur Hall and the subsequent decision to include the Day School classrooms; the successful planning and implementation by the Lobsterfest team, coupled with the generous response by the parish towards disaster relief, which resulted in significantly increasing our outreach funding for the year; the unheralded effort by Henry Lowe to the general beautification of the property; and the reconstruction of the Portico to the main church entrance by Frank Tortorello and Mike Yount. These are just some of the changes and improvements that occurred during the year in addition to general maintenance and repairs.

The above summary financial results compared to budget reflect the positive impact of the achievements, particularly in fundraising and other income. Lobsterfest income of \$43,700 exceeded budget estimate by \$8,700 principally due to the increase in sponsorship participation directly attributable to early and persistent efforts by the committee. The unbudgeted addition of the St. Nicholas Fair in December added an additional \$3,000. Other income from the Day School and church rental, derived principally from concert performances, weddings, and outright gifts, contributed \$34,700.

On the expense side, maintenance costs significantly exceeded budget related to invoice timing from the previous year and considerably more ground keeping than anticipated for mulching, mowing, and leaf clean-up. Building and equipment expenses were significantly over budget primarily due to the unbudgeted air conditioning installation in McArthur Hall and the Day School, and the unanticipated need to replace the fire alarm system.

The preliminary budget for 2018 is a conservative estimate built upon actual pledge commitments received to date and modifications to maintenance and buildings expenditures in anticipation of continued improvements and hopefully not too many surprises. Stay the course!



Serving our community since 1959

Trinity Day School continued its path of reinvigoration and restoration in 2017, led by Day School Director Jessica Williams, now in her third year, and our team of dedicated teachers and aides. The fiscal health of the Day School is sound, and further new initiatives are in development for the future, including pre-school for students from homes where English is not the primary language and cooperative engagement with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit in many of its programs for children and young adults.

Highlights of the past year:

- Air conditioning of the classrooms and adjacent corridors, which are shared by the Church School (funding provided by the Day School).
- Acquired new cafeteria-style tables, sized appropriately for 3-5-year-old students, for lunch periods; the tables are easily folded and stored when not in use.
- All teachers and aides were certified or recertified in First Aid and CPR.
- Held second annual “BountyFest” event in October, selling out of soups and baked goods donated by local celebrity chefs, caterers, and bakers; enjoyed music provided by bluegrass group the High Brow Hound Dogs; raised \$1500 for school programs.
- Held “Pop-Up Playground Playdates” throughout the summer (between school years), offering an opportunity for TDS students/alumni to return and play on the playground, as well as inviting potential new students to enjoy our space and meet new friends.
- Held “Me & My Grown-Up” program from September to November to introduce children aged 2-2.5, who are not currently enrolled but are considering pre-school, to the idea of school and to provide parent networking. Several “graduates” of the fall program enrolled in our entry-level “ToddlerGrow” Program in January and will continue as full-time students; “Me & My Grown-Up” will be offered again for 8 weeks from April-May for the same aged students as a stepping stone into our September “ToddlerGrow” Program. (Please tell your friends with very young children who are not quite old enough to start pre-school but will be soon.)

TRINITY DAY SCHOOL CONTINUED

DOUG BRINDLEY

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- Provided in-school enrichment programs in music and yoga.
- Offered (for additional fees) continuous afternoon Enrichment Programs that included Water Play (a fun take on splashing and spraying during which the science of hydraulics was introduced); Art History (earliest cave paintings through modern art); Holidays & Baking (empanadas & Latin holiday traditions, Mandelbrot & Hanukkah, Coconut Burfi & Diwali, Gingerbread Cookies, and our own Day School traditions); Young Authors (creating and illustrating our own books); Rockets and Airplanes; and Super Sleuths (detective work, codes, invisible ink, treasure hunt following clues).
- Utilized our new raised garden beds to cultivate the marigolds that were planted last Earth Day, established two lavender plants, and with the help of parish plant savant Dave Benner, planted, grew, and harvested carrots and string beans, which we were able to use in our "Stone Soup" for BountyFest.
- Conducted field trips to None Such Farm for pumpkin picking, and the Mercer Museum for a study of log cabins and colonial life.
- Hosted visits from the Stockton Fire Department, Ranger Katie and her flying bats(!), Librarian/Harpist Darcy Fair, and Melissa Roxey from the Mill Ballet.
- Held our annual Halloween Parade, Thanksgiving Feast, and Holiday Concert and Party, as the Day School has done since the beginning.

Finally, with our new air conditioning system now in place, the Day School will be offering two weeks of summer camp in June and July for kids aged 3-5, an underserved age group among local summer camp providers. Each week will be themed independently, and more information will be published and made available to the parish very soon. Please tell your friends and family, and thank you for all your support!



KNITTING MINISTRY

JANET GILL

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This was a very busy year since we had three parts to our Knitting Ministry.

The Prayer Shawl ministry gave out 15 prayer shawls to those who were ill or in need. We had 19 afghans to give to the homeless youth in Bucks County. Reports back for both of these ministries are very gratifying.

The third part, which is new, was a knitting table for the St. Nicholas Fair. We had caps and scarves, two child sweaters, and 14 knitted dish cloths. We made about \$350 (all profit) for the church.

On behalf of our knitters, a big thank you!



Cash disbursements

In 2017, cash disbursements from the Outreach Committee of Trinity Church came from two sources: a budget line item of \$8,000, and proceeds from Lobsterfest after funding Mission Philadelphia. The tremendous success of Lobsterfest resulted in over \$15,000 additional monies to fund our support of international, regional, and local charities.

For many years the committee has tried to align donations on a percentage basis: 50% of funds going to local organizations, 25% to regional, and 25% to international agencies. This year, we appropriated \$10,000 to Episcopal Relief and Development in response to the weather-related emergencies in Puerto Rico and the mainland.

In addition to this significant gift, Trinity Church provided financial support to the following agencies in 2017:

Local Agencies

A Woman's Place

Founded in 1976, A Woman's Place is a domestic violence shelter in Bucks County that serves as a temporary housing facility and provides numerous services and support to abused women and children.

<http://www.awomansplace.org>

Facebook: A Woman's Place

Fisherman's Mark

Multiple programs for children and adults in the Lambertville and New Hope communities.

<http://www.fishermansmark.com>

Facebook: Fisherman's Mark

Lambertville Food Pantry

http://foodbanks.org/detail/Lambertville_food_pantry_lambertville_nj.html

Facebook: Lambertville Food Pantry

Network of Victim Assistance

The network of victim assistance is a Bucks County organization providing guidance and support on issues relating to personal safety.

<http://www.novabucks.org>

OUTREACH MINISTRY CONTINUED

JACQUI GRIFFITH

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Regional Agencies

Episcopal Community Services of Philadelphia

ECS provides housing, programs for children and youth, workforce development, wellness and community building. St. Barnabus Shelter is a part of ECS.

<http://www.ecsphilly.org>

Facebook: Episcopal Community Services, Philadelphia

The Outreach Committee also designated \$1000 to underwrite the rector's discretionary fund and have a cash surplus to respond to emergency needs this winter.

"Hands On" Projects 2017

In addition to the cash disbursements, Trinity participated in several "hands on" projects during the year. There is a weekly collection of food to support the Lambertville Food Pantry. Blood drives were scheduled at Trinity in May and November. In September, the program calendar year kicked off with "Outreach Sunday," a collective gathering of articles to support ECS, Fisherman's Mark, and Valley Youth House. New this year is a monthly EPIC Community Peacemeal sponsored jointly by Trinity, Buckingham and Trinity, Solebury. Aid For Friends continues with periodic cook-ins. Trinity continues to support our long-standing relationship with Pearl Street during the holiday season.

We are grateful to the Trinity community for their generous support of these missions. The Outreach Committee meets monthly and we are always looking for new members. If interested, please contact Jacqui Griffith for information. Look for our monthly giving projects and do not forget to mark your calendars for LOBSTERFEST 2018!





Fellowship, Friendship, and Food

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that, some have entertained angels without knowing it.” (Hebrews 13:2)

“Food, Glorious Food,” Lionel Bart, *Oliver!*, 1963

Hospitality

There were many events this past year that celebrated our church life together, The Annual Meeting Brunch, the Agape Supper, The Easter Vigil Reception, The Newcomers Picnic, The Messiah Reception, Coffee Hour every Sunday. All these events required many hands and recipes and all of them enhanced our Parish Life. You really get to know your fellow parishioners when you clean up after an event together and many lasting friendships are formed in the kitchen.

Foyers Groups

Foyers Groups are a fun and easy way for parishioners to gather together on a regular but informal basis in members’ homes for purely social reasons – to enjoy one another’s company, to strengthen bonds of community, to meet new members, and just to get to know other people who share a common interest in our faith, but with whom we might not otherwise interact. Foyers Groups provides a means to develop new friendships and to deepen old ones and are a way to make our sometimes-too-large-seeming parish feel smaller and warmer.

Each year we divide into groups of 8-10 and meet once a quarter in October, January, April, and July. The host couple supplies the main course and beverages, while the rest of the group brings appetizers, salads, and desserts. The groups are set for this year, but we can almost always accommodate substitute couples, so if you’d like to join the program, please contact Cathy Mumford (h) 908.284.9185 or (c) 908.385.5455.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY CONTINUED

BARBARA TORTORELLO

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Greeters

Greeters arrive between 9:00 and 9:15 a.m. to stand in the Narthex and to direct parishioners to the name tag books. We help any newcomers or worshipers without a nametag page to complete a blank nametag and to sign up on the missing/new name nametag sheet.

At the close of the 9:30 a.m. service, we leave the Sanctuary during announcements and stand in the Narthex to greet everyone, especially newcomers and visitors. We encourage newcomers and visitors to complete a visitor card and then introduce them to Rick or Ginny.

Currently we have 14 greeting pairs, scheduled 3-4 times a year. We are always looking for more friendly faces, so if you'd like to join the Greeters Team, please contact Cathy Mumford at mums@juno.com or by phone 908.385.5455.

Newcomers

In 2017, the newly reconstituted Newcomers Ministry worked with clergy to begin a new Trinity tradition: The Liturgy of Welcome—a special way to recognize and give thanks for the presence of new members and to bless them on their journey in faith among us. We held two Liturgies of Welcome in 2017: on June 4th and November 5th. We welcomed over a dozen new individuals and families—with our blessings, love and, of course, special hospitality (food) which followed each service.

Our current plan is to host two Liturgies of Welcome in 2018, as well.

On September 17, the Newcomers Ministry also hosted a well-attended Newcomers' Picnic at the Rector's House. It was such a success that it is an event we hope to repeat in 2018.

In addition to these special events, the Newcomers Committee members also:

- Helped institute a new nametag program which has been embraced by our members.
- Aided in putting greeters at the beginning (not just the end) of the 9:30 a.m. service.
- Updated the welcome information on our Trinity website.
- Refreshed the Welcome Brochure and welcome packets.
- Worked with Rick to begin a new monthly "Coffee with the Rector" offering for newcomers—something that we expect will continue in 2018.

If you like to cook, enjoy being a host or hostess, like to socialize, or would like to mentor new members, this is the ministry for you!

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

PASTORAL CARE TEAM



Care Coordinators

Earlene Austin: earlene1211@comcast.net, 215.208.5128

Sue Eavenson: dsevenson@comcast.net, 215.919.3651

Kim Laughlin: laughlins11@verizon.net, 215.718.3973

Mission

Pastoral Care is a wonderful and dedicated group of volunteers that coordinates and facilitates the congregational needs in collaboration with Trinity's clergy. It includes, but is not limited to, the following ministries: Care Coordinators, Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Laying on of Hands, Bereavement Ministry, Meal Ministry, Knitting Ministry, Card Ministry, Flower Ministry, Ministry of Intercession, and Transportation Ministry.

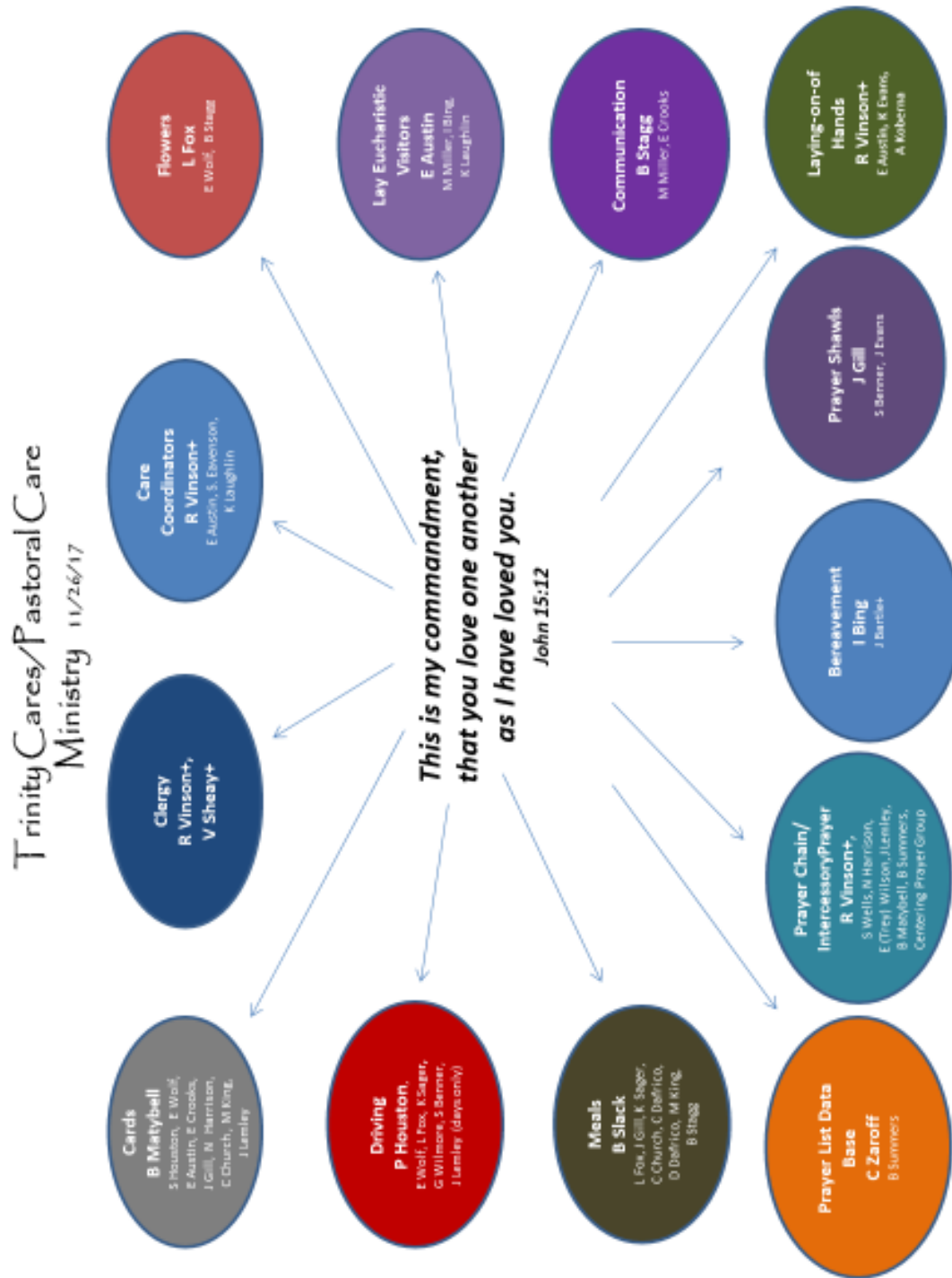
Meeting Schedule

Care Coordinators meet with the clergy monthly to address the immediate needs of the congregation—meals, flowers, clergy visit, etc. The entire committee usually meets twice a year. This provides an opportunity for committee members to share their comments and suggestions. Additionally, an educational agenda is also provided. We have hosted Virginia Slichter of Christ Episcopal Church, Pittstown, who is an instructor of EFM to students currently incarcerated at Graterford Prison. Future presentations include Advance Care Planning with a free workshop to enhance life care decisions by Betsy Payn.

The continued mission of this committee and all its members is to share in the call to Christ's ministry of offering God's love to each other in both times of adversity, as well as in times of great joy! Finding volunteers to fill all our needs is always a challenge. We welcome and embrace any and all help as we care for one another. Please contact Rev. Rick Vinson or any of the Care Coordinators if you wish to serve. We need you!

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY CONTINUED

PASTORAL CARE TEAM



SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY

KAY ROCK

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The Spiritual Formation Ministry provides a wide variety of programs to encourage parishioners' spiritual growth and development. Our focus is to deepen our relationship to God and each other through Bible Study, speakers, and special events.

The program calendar is determined through semi-annual meetings (January and June) of a cross-section of interested parishioners. Everyone is invited to attend these planning sessions!

We meet at 11:00 a.m. after the church service and coffee hour. Programs are usually held in the chapel, although some special events require the space provided by McArthur Hall.

The photos below highlight recent programs:

Top row, left to right: Alan Segal Quintet, "Jazz and Joe"; Andy Scrimgeour, "Prayers I Have Known and Loved"; Patricia Walsh-Collins, "Conservation as a Spiritual Journey".

Second row, left to right: Muriel Rains, "The Tragedy of Human Trafficking"; Thistle Farm Holiday Boutique; T.J. McDowell, "Recovery as Resurrection"; Will Rivinus, "History of the Bible".



ARTISTIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BILL WOLF

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Mission

The committee continues to meet and discuss artistic improvements and additions for our sanctuary and interior facilities.

This year the committee was pleased to accept the two pieces of artwork donated by Suzanne Lowe that now adorn the parish hall and church.



We also were pleased to play a role in the the creation of the McNeill Memorial Patio.



PROPERTY COMMITTEE

MIKE YOUNT

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During 2017, a significant number of improvements and maintenance to the church, rectory, and grounds were made. These include:

- Installation of signage around the church property.
- Fire alarm replacement required when old unit failed.
- Improvements for Lobsterfest including new light strings, upgrading of electrical panel, and renting of a generator to run required refrigeration unit.
- Air conditioning for both the Day School and McArthur Hall. The air conditioners for McArthur Hall were paid for by an anonymous benefactor, while the Day School paid for its air conditioners. The project was overseen by Bill Wolf.
- Improvements to the grounds of the church, including spring cleanup and mulching, removal of branches and dead trees, landscape beautification for the front of the church and fixing of drainage issue, landscaping the right side of the rectory, including planting of pine trees (much of the labor and cost done by Henry Lowe).
- Replacement of rotting beams on the canopy at the entrance to the church (design and work done by Frank Tortorello).
- Lighting improvements and maintenance to the interior and exterior of the church.
- Replacement of the freezer in the kitchen.
- Several miscellaneous maintenance items.

The Property Committee is made up of a group of dedicated and talented individuals who spend considerable time working to update and maintain the facilities and grounds. The committee members are Charlotte de Jesus, Robert Landley, Rick Lansill, Henry Lowe, Nick Mumford (Vestry Liaison), Frank Tortorello, Bill Wolf, and Mike Yount. We are usually joined at our meetings by Reverend Rick, Whitney Chandor, and Gary Wilmore. When you see these individuals thank them for their dedicated work for the church.

ACOLYTE PROGRAM

KIM LAUGHLIN

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The current Acolyte Program is lively and abuzz with bright and attentive participants ranging in age from third grade to gray haired (strictly speaking for myself). Our goal with the Acolyte Program is to help integrate more individuals into the ministries of the church, helping them to model a love of Christ through service to one another and in our community.

Currently we have 17 acolytes on the roster that manage over 100 services per year. This last March, we recognized the dedication of three graduating high school seniors with silver Trinity Crosses created and donated by Bill Wolf. We also recognized the commitment and participation of our 10 newest acolytes with engraved crosses that they wear when they serve. In June, seven of us attended the Schuylkill Deanery Acolyte Festival at the Episcopal Cathedral in Philadelphia and had a wonderful day with acolytes from other churches in the area. In September, we added another class of new acolytes with a pizza party and evening of training.

This past September, in collaboration with the Church School Program, we made a small change to the 9:30 a.m. morning schedule allowing the acolytes to attend classes after the procession, returning at The Peace to continue in the service. This change has been well received and allows both programs to continue to thrive.

Due to the graduation of our high school acolytes, we now only have one regular acolyte (and one substitute) available for our 8 a.m. service and continue to look for someone who would like to serve at that service once a month, or even once a quarter. If you already attend the 8 a.m. service, there isn't much more to being an acolyte than changing your seating and wearing a robe! Please do consider helping with this particular service, so Karen Dewar is not committed to working every week!

One of my goals this coming year is to begin to clean, mend, and update the red cassocks and cottas so we have a unified look for our services. Currently, our red cassocks are sized towards larger participants, so our younger acolytes wear black choir robes until they grow into our larger robes. If anyone would like to help me with inventory, cleaning, and light mending, please let me know.

ACOLYTE PROGRAM CONTINUED

KIM LAUGHLIN

LAUGHLINS11@VERIZON.NET

This coming year, the Acolyte Program would like to attend our second Acolyte Festival in Philadelphia and possibly represent Trinity at the National Acolyte Festival in D.C. this fall. I have begun plans to involve our acolytes in a junior/senior mentoring program with the Bridges of Warwick (planning is underway). I am also working with the leader of Trinity, Buckingham's Acolyte Program to share with them ideas that have grown our program and learn from them as well. We've talked about having them join us for the next Festival at the Cathedral.

The support of the congregation has been so helpful to the confidence of the newest and youngest of our Acolytes. Thank you for supporting them and continuing to tell them what a great job they are doing. This fall, we will add the next class of acolytes, so if there is someone in your family that would like to become a part of this ministry, please me know.



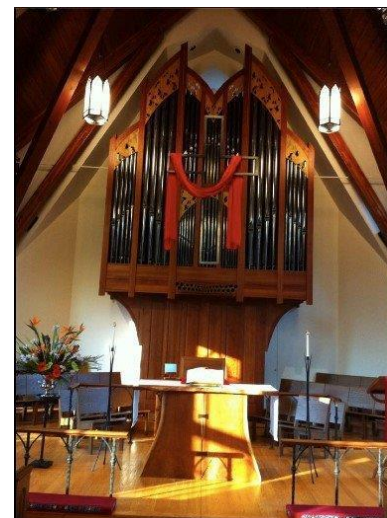


Mission

The Altar Guild is a volunteer group of the parish whose ministry is to care for the altar, vessels, and altar linens of the parish. Altar Guild members prepare the sanctuary for services and clean up afterwards. I am grateful for our Altar team's service and dedication.

It is exciting to see new team members of all ages join this faithful team. We welcome students to join in to prepare and set up when their schedules allow. The AG schedule rotates every four months with notices to include families who may be interested in participating. Inclusion of young people works well when a short time on a Saturday morning set up/clean up after church can be flexibly shared.

I would like to thank Rev. Rick Vinson and Rev. Ginny Sheay for their inspiration, guidance, and helpfulness in preparing our beautiful Trinity Church for worship.



BIBLE STUDY

WHITNEY CHANDOR

EWRC@AOL.COM



The Bible Study Group meets on Tuesdays from 1:00-2:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us; no prior knowledge is necessary. We gather to learn, to enjoy each other's company, and to laugh.

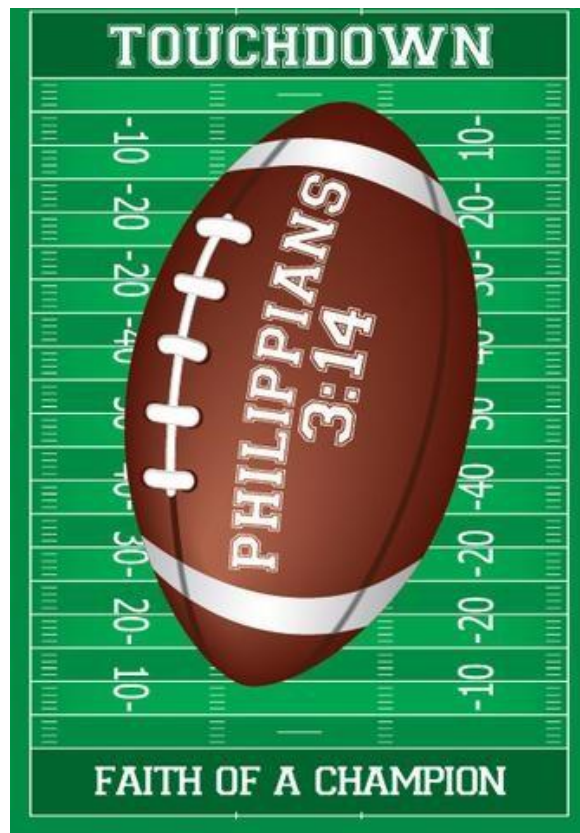


NOTES

Super Bowl LII



vs.



“I press toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” – Philippians 3:14



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