

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SOLEBURY, PA

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

February 26, 2023



*Trinity Episcopal Church
6587 Upper York Road, PO Box 377
Solebury, Pennsylvania 18963
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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

A LETTER FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

The Rev. Dick Burnett



Dear People of God at Trinity, Solebury:

It's been two years since I wrote my last report to the Annual Parish Meeting at another "Trinity Church," that one on Capitol Square in downtown Columbus, Ohio. It was bittersweet for me because it was at that meeting, in late-January 2021, that I announced my plan to retire later in the spring after serving among that faithful congregation and in that vital city for some twenty-four years. Last year, Katharine and I attended the Annual Meeting of yet another Trinity Church, now both of us in full swing of retirement and sitting (together!) in the pews at historic Trinity Episcopal Church in the Lenox, Mass. However, as they put it, "wait, wait, there's more..."

Today, I join you at this Annual Parish Meeting as interim rector with a targeted mission: to engage, equip, even excite this healthy community of Christian witness and service in ways that will prepare you to welcome and celebrate a new shared ministry and clergy leader for a new future. In the liturgy for the Celebration of a New Ministry (BCP p. 559 ff), the bishop of your diocese presides and will offer a prayer at the start that asks God to "strengthen and sustain" the person called by your vestry and be given "patience and understanding" in the full expression of their ministry among you. Then the bishop continues: "and grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you their gifts and talents."

As we review the past year in this parish community – a review I will appreciate all the more because it helps me serve today with sharper insight – you begin and end, appropriately, in prayer. "Prayer," my divinity schoolteacher Henri Nouwen famously wrote in *REACHING OUT: The three Movements of the Spiritual Life* (1975), "is the language of the Christian community." It is essential practice as you discern the new ministries emerging on your horizon and prepare to greet a new rector. In many ways I think Henri's deceptively simple book, found accidentally by me in your parish library, is a challenge and guide for you today. Hear more from *REACHING OUT...*

"Not without reason the Church is called a 'pilgrim church,' always moving forward. The temptation to settle in a comfortable oasis, however, has often been too great to resist and frequently the divine call is forgotten, and unity broken. At those times not just individuals but whole groups are caught in the illusion of safety, and prayer is shriveled into a partisan affair... When we describe the ideal Christian community as a 'happy family' or as a 'group of very sensitive people' or as an 'action or pressure group,' we only speak about a secondary and often temporary trait... While living between the first and second coming of the Lord, the Christian community finds its meaning in a patient waiting in expectation for a time in which God will be all in all. The community of faith always points beyond itself and speaks its own unique language, which is the language of prayer."

Today, Katharine and I pledge to go deeper with you in these "language lessons," for a few months – during the holiest seasons of the Christian year – to make preparations for your joyous celebration of a new ministry at Trinity, Solebury.

Yours faithfully,
(The Rev) Dick Burnett

Assisting Priest – Virginia M. Sheay

The Year at a Glance

Twenty years ago, I began my ministry at Trinity Church serving on the staff as Assistant Clergy to the Rector, including assistance for the Sunday worship services and serving at the discretion of the Rector for all other services and in addition to other responsibilities



as well. In January 2022 our Rector, The Rev. Richard L. Vinson, retired and while not having an interim in place, the parish has had visiting Sunday morning clergy throughout the year. I still maintained a regular schedule of assisting on Sundays, sometimes being officiant/preacher, and functioning at other services throughout the year as well as assisting in other areas of leadership in the absence of a Rector. I serve on the Newcomers, Worship and Pastoral Care Committees. While I am licensed every year by the Bishop of Pennsylvania to officiate, I am canonically resident in the Diocese of New Jersey.

Two “Days of Reflection” were held in Lent and Advent: The Lenten reflection was held on April 2. The presentation was “The Liturgical Seasons” and using as a guide, the work of Thomas Keating’s *The Mystery of Christ: The Liturgy as Spiritual Experience*. The Advent presentation, December 10, was a book study of former Presiding Bishop Frank T. Griswold’s *Tracking Down the Holy Ghost: Reflections on Love and Longing*.

As most of you know, I spend the summers on the coast of Maine on the Island of Southport, serving and worshiping there at All Saints by-the-Sea, where I also have responsibilities.

The Year Ahead

The Lenten Day of Reflection will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2023, in the Chapel from 9:00 AM to Noon. In our liturgical calendar March 25 is *The Annunciation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary*. Like Mary who listened to the Angel Gabriel, our reflection will be *An Invitation to Listen to God*, taking the opening words of the Rule of St. Benedict, *Listen carefully...listen with the ear of your heart*. We shall consider the Latin word *conversation*, and develop it through four meditations: Conversation, Conversion, Communion, and Community. The very circumstances in your life will teach you the way to listen.

This will be my final Day of Reflection and my final report. I will retire on Sunday, May 21, 2023. I am truly and profoundly grateful for the privilege of serving Trinity Church these past twenty years. Thank you. As an octogenarian I am entering the final chapter of my life. What lies ahead I do not know. But I do know that it is time to retire “a second time” (the first being when I retired as Rector of St. Luke’s Church, Ewing New Jersey). I have served as an ordained clergy person since 1975 and it has been quite a journey! May God who has begun a good work in you continue to bless you and bring glory to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

A REPORT OF THE REV'D JOHN BARTLE, ASSISTING PRIEST

Before this past year, I had from time-to-time assisted Rick and Ginny at various liturgies of the church. When Rick took his sabbatical over two summers, the responsibility for Sunday services and pastoral needs fell to me.

Since Rick's retirement, I have become an active member of the church staff and a regular participant in the spiritual life of the parish. This participation was exercised in several ways.

On occasion I preached and presided at the Lord's Table for Holy Communion. When guest clergy were present, I assisted them with the liturgy. Sometimes, as on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, I shared the ministerial leadership of worship with Ginny. As part of the worship life of the parish during the year, I performed one baptism and conducted one memorial service.

The parish has attracted new members this past year. In the Fall, I assisted Ginny in a liturgy of welcome during a regular Sunday service. Together Ginny and I presented a two-part adult education program on the Episcopal Church, which was specifically for the new members but was open to all. It was well attended.

Ginny has, over the years, held a Quiet Day during both Advent and Lent. This year, in December, she and I led a discussion on a recent book by a former Presiding Bishop, Frank T. Griswold. The book, "Tracking Down the Holy Ghost", gives an account of the author's growth and development as a disciple of Jesus Christ, beginning with his teenage years and continuing through his years as a Priest and a Bishop. His story serves as a good model for us, whatever role we play in the life of the church.

One project I engaged in, along with Ginny, Tim, and James, was returning the Sunday liturgy to be in accord with what is set forth in The Book of Common Prayer. As part of this project, we adjusted the Sunday bulletin to assist the congregation in participating in the liturgy, which is the work of the people. Worship in the Episcopal Church is always a corporate occasion, something all present, clergy and laity, engage in together, using the familiar and timeless language that scripture and tradition have given to us.

My observation of Trinity Church over the year that is past, is that of a healthy and thriving parish, in which many are engaged and playing a chosen role. Weekly attendance has been rising week by week, and we are experiencing an influx of new members. All the liturgical requirements and pastoral needs are being met by assisting and visiting clergy, along with members of the laity. In this the Pastoral Care committee has been most active. While a new rector is anticipated, the life of the parish continues unabated.

Respectfully submitted,
John Bartle+

Wardens –Julie Loftus and James Wells

2022 was an unprecedented year for Trinity. The Wardens' tasks were manifold with unexpected turns navigated by Wardens and Vestry throughout this post- Rector period. Trinity experienced revitalization, indicated by doubling worship attendance, receiving new members, and building no fewer than a dozen programs. The outcome was very rewarding for a newly revived Trinity. Here are the milestones:



- Planning and completing the retirement celebration for our retiring Rector of 10 years, Rick Vinson.
- Submitting the Parochial Report to the Diocese.
- Establishing the “Assisting Priest” roles for Ginny Sheay and John Bartle, assisted by Tim Harrell as Liturgist.
- Re-examining and building-up an active worship program post-Covid, including an 8:00a.m. service and continuation of online worship.
- Warden’s accepting from the Diocese ecclesiastical responsibility for the parish during the period when there was no priest-in-charge—which became an 11-month period.
- Establishing an interim Rector search committee and process (no candidate applied until November).
- Establishing a Parish Profile Committee.
- Establishing a Rector Search committee.
- Repositioning staff to allow for establishment of a Sexton position.
- Continuing similar level of parish financial support for the Parish after the Rector’s retirement.
- Replacing the cleaning service with a more comprehensive program.
- Renewing and/or reinventing post-Covid programs for Hospitality, Foyers Dinners, Altar Guild, Youth groups, Easter Vigil, Messiah Concert, Building & Grounds, Adult Forums, Sunday School, “Voices” conversations and online presence.
- Repair of the Prayerbook/Hymnal holders on the Chapel chairs.
- Attracting and onboarding an Interim Rector.

We thank God for the challenges, which have become opportunities for our spiritual growth and commitment that of Christ in each of us.

We also recognize the ongoing programs that have bridged Trinity’s past to the future:

- Day School – Jessica Williams
- Pastoral Care Committee
- Treasury and Bookkeeping services provided by Gary Wilmore

- Office Management including website, communication, online presence and electronic monitoring systems provided by Jon Hayward, Marilyn Schuster and Sarah Doyle.
- Choir led by Tim Harrell
- Centering Prayer
- Sunday School and Nursery-Kyle Evans, Ashley Christie, Nicole Emery and the Koberna's
- Greeters and Fellowship-Cathy Mumford
- Cemetery and facility management, including yard, garden and snow-removal services - Bill Wolf and Sarah Doyle

A fundamental factor influencing our parish and our time is the paucity of ordained Priests in the Episcopal Church and pastors in mainline Protestant churches generally. Hence, Trinity cannot represent a timeline for securing a new Rector nor cease planning to continue our leadership as we have over the past year. Importantly, a Strategic Plan will be an essential development for our Parish to outline a future. The Parish Profile provides a framework of understanding where we are and who we are: a Strategic Plan process will be the logical next step. A Vestry retreat is contemplated with our new Interim Rector Dick Burnett which will assist our development with this important planning.

In Christ,

Julie Loftus and James Wells

It is also with great thanks for the work of Jon Hayward and Marilyn Schuster for the redesign and editors of our weekly announcements.

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 one of the Wardens. We are grateful for your generosity and commitment to ensure an abundant future for Trinity Episcopal Church.

It is with deepest gratitude we thank the Staff at Trinity- Ginny, John, Tim and Sarah for keeping the store open.

Organist/Choirmaster – Timothy Harrell

17. For Church Musicians and Artists BCP 819

*O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven:
Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and
music. to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth;
and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty,
and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for
evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



The year 2022 saw glimpses of a return to normal as we began to shed some of the confining elements COVID brought to our lives. Hopefully we will be less prone to take for granted the joy we have of making music together. Raising our voices to praise God in song, whether masked or not, is something for which we give thanks beyond our own understanding. After a two-year break, we resumed with our 22nd annual performance of Handel's *Messiah* to a packed church, and it felt like the best ever. Multiple musical groups are back to their usual schedule – Concordia Chamber Players, LaFiocco, Dryden Ensemble, Cordus Mundi, Cantus Novus, Delaware Valley Music Club and we restarted our St. Cecilia Choir with four young, very gifted singers.

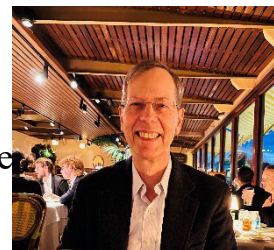


And how can I reflect on the past year without expressing gratitude to the commitment of the gifted choristers in the Senior Choir who present beautiful music week after week. Trinity is indeed blessed with a level of singers who strive to do their best to praise God through the gift of singing. This year I will celebrate 25 years as Organist/choirmaster and I am so grateful to you all for the continued care and support you give me. *Soli Deo Gloria.*



Chair of Finance – John Schuster

The following information is as of 12/31/22. The day school and the cemetery financial results are not included in this report.



2022 Summary Financial Report				
	Actual	Budget	Variance	2023 Budget
Revenue				
Pledge	\$322,627	\$350,900	(\$28,273)	\$328,705
Plate	\$20,281	\$25,000	\$4,719	\$23,500
Fund Raising	\$41,805	\$45,000	(\$3,195)	\$5,000
Other	\$41,641	\$23,850	\$17,791	\$39,395
Total Revenue	<u>\$426,354</u>	<u>\$444,750</u>	<u>(\$18,396)</u>	<u>\$396,600</u>
Expense				
Personnel	\$169,789	\$238,784	\$(68,995)	\$235,853
Office	\$33,200	\$30,000	\$3,200	\$31,985
Utilities	\$38,629	\$27,750	\$10,879	\$38,500
Maintenance	\$71,247	\$66,500	\$4,747	\$75,900
Buildings/Equipment	\$26,722	\$19,500	\$7,222	\$10,400
Fund Raising	\$9,817	\$10,000	(\$183)	\$1,000
Charitable/Outreach	\$37,131	\$35,000	\$2,131	\$23,030
Other	\$22,380	\$16,500	\$5,880	\$16,795
Total Expenses	<u>\$408,915</u>	<u>\$444,034</u>	<u>(\$35,119)</u>	<u>\$433,463</u>

2022 Year in Review - John Schuster

Our revenue estimates for 2022 were purposefully conservative considering the possible impact of COVID precautions on in-person Sunday services and availability of our property for weddings, etc., as well as the uncertainty of the timing and expense of a new Rector. Expenses were also estimated conservatively, and a balanced budget was projected.

Total 2022 revenues were consistent with our budgeted amount. LobsterFest was a success again, and both Messiah and Cookie Bake returned thanks to the help of many volunteers. Excluded from 2022 reported revenues are approximately \$64,000 of unrestricted gifts received but not spent in 2022. These donations will be included in revenues when Vestry has decided on a purpose for the funds.

Total expenses were significantly lower than budget due to a substantially lower Personnel expense caused by the delay in hiring a new Rector. A portion of the savings in Personnel expense (\$30,000) has been set aside as a reserve for search related expenses such as moving, travel and advertising expenses.

The savings in Personnel expense masks increases in other categories. For example, Utilities expense increased almost 30% in 2022, reflecting primarily the increased cost of fuel oil and electricity. Building/Equipment expense increased approximately 40% primarily due to upgrading the security system by replacing the keypads and adding security cameras, as well as unexpected heating system repairs to the circulators and burner. Maintenance also exceeded budget, despite cost-saving attempts such as reducing mowing from weekly to every other week. The Maintenance increase was primarily due to upgrading our electrical lighting, including replacing outdoor lampposts to improve outdoor lighting, and changing fixtures to enable the use of LED lightbulbs throughout the property. Miscellaneous expense increased primarily as a result of costs incurred with Rick's departure and the two picnics held during the year.

As a result of the above, particularly LobsterFest's success, we were able to meet our commitment to the diocese and to continue providing outreach support, not only to Mission Philadelphia, but to the three local organizations we have supported throughout the pandemic: Fisherman's Mark, the Delaware Valley Food Pantry and the Bucks County Opportunity Council.

2023 Budget

Looking forward to 2023, our projected pledge revenue is \$328,705, approximately \$30,000 less than 2022. Pledge participation is based on the receipt of 95 pledge card responses to date, the same number as 2022. For purposes of determining total revenues, we have not assumed that a LobsterFest or other large fundraising event will occur.

On the expense side, we have budgeted conservatively to reflect the projected decrease in revenues, and a deficit is projected for the year. There is still uncertainty as to the timing and cost of a new Rector, so we are again assuming that the Rector's expense will be consistent with our last Rector's compensation. Depending on the timing and cost of a new Rector, we could have a surplus in Personnel as in 2022 or add to our projected deficit. The budget does not include salary increases for our staff. Additional possible costs not included in the budget are unexpected repairs, additional cleaning costs with our new vendor, the cost of a Sunday sexton, and expenditures that Vestry may find necessary in order to attract a new Rector, including increasing the cash compensation for the Rector or adding one or more staff members.

We have not budgeted any expenses for Outreach, which is consistent with not including LobsterFest on the revenue side. Our ability to continue and expand our Outreach programs such as Mission Philadelphia will likely depend on the continued success of LobsterFest or similar events that raise funds for outreach.

Trinity Artistic Advisory Committee-- Bill Wolf, Chair

This committee has not met since the pandemic started in 2020.

We are still a group of 8 parishioners who work to preserve and protect the quality of our furnishings and buildings.



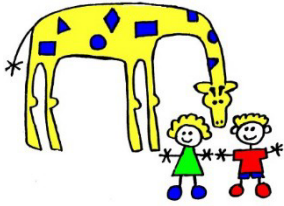
Trinity Property Projects - Bill Wolf and Sarah Doyle 2021-2022

- Replaced the main hot water heater.
- Installed ultraviolet light for water treatment.
- Installed new long lasting LED lights in parking lot standards with automatic on and off and are also controlled by phone app.
- Installed new ceiling fixtures in Day School hallways with LED lighting.
- Replaced new LED bulbs in McArthur Hall and narthex hallway.
- Installed keypad lock on narthex hallway door.
- Hired a new cleaning service for Day School and Sanctuary and Kitchen.
- Installed photo cameras on all doorways.
- Replaced heater core in Chapel Heater.
- Replaced defective heat circulator pump.
- Repaired gaskets in kitchen refrigerator doors.
- Replaced condenser unit in kitchen freezer.
- Installed dehumidifier in choir room.
- Uncluttered the McArthur Hal closet for more efficient storage.
- Removed diseased tree by back entrance to office.
- Installed LED lighting in stairway to the undercroft.



New projects

Install light fixture over door entrance from McNeill terrace as well as emergency light. Install emergency light and new light over McArthur Hall door entrance.



Trinity Day School – Jessica Williams



After the pandemic caused our closure in March of 2020, we planned for our eventual reopening in January 2021. We prepared both the facility and staff to manage the enhanced health and safety protocols and communicated our plans & expectations with families. We continue those practices today and, to date, have not had any instances of spread of COVID-19 within our school. Although the local district may soon be changing their masking guidelines, Trinity Day School will err on the side of caution until the children we serve all have the option to receive a vaccine. We will likely remain masked indoors through the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

When we reopened in January 2021, we had 11 children begin. Over the course of the next few months, we added 12 more students to finish the year in June with 23. The current school year began in September 2021 with enrollment of 41, but we had two new students join us on Tuesday 2/22, bringing us to 43. This number is on the high average of where we typically stand. We will graduate 21 students onto Kindergarten in June.

Our enrichment programs have been running on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons since the start of the school year and will continue through the remainder of the year. These include subjects like: Water Play, Holidays & Baking, Super Sleuths, Young Authors, Winter Crafts, Science, Cooking, and more. Our other afternoons are filled with child-led play, assisted by gentle prompts and redirection from staff. We have several students who stay each day.

Registration is underway for next school year, and camp registration for June will begin shortly. We have 22 students registered for the next school year, with the bulk comprising five-day PreK and three-day PreK. We will need to run two classes for each schedule option. We see an increase in interest as the pandemic appears to ease, and I anticipate a full roster for the 2022-23 school year.

In May 2021, I (TDS Director, Jessica Williams) graduated with distinction from Arcadia University with my Master of Education, focused on early childhood education. I also received a certificate in Infant Toddler Mental Health and my PA Director's Credential. I look forward the application of this new knowledge to the advancement of the school over the next several years.



Trinity's Youth Ministry Reimagined! - Kyle Evans

"And a little child shall lead them" Isaiah 11:6

While preparing to acolyte at the 9pm Christmas Eve service, three of Trinity's young people, began contemplating ways to resume weekly gatherings. They held a meeting with some additional young people to discuss the day and time-Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm; the format; and the kinds of activities in which they wanted to participate. The reimagined youth group had its first meeting on January 24, showing the movie, "Cars". Other events have included decorating cookies for Trinity parishioner who are recovering from illness or otherwise unable to attend church in person, a viewing of a TED talk by LaToya Ruby Frazier, followed by taking photographs, a private tour of the Phillips' Mill Youth Art Show and, most recently, running the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Trinity youth are bringing friends and there is a great sense of comradery. Trinity's Interim Rector, Father Dick, and his wife, Katharine, have even made the scene. Kyle Evans, Cyndi Grondahl, and Steve Wilson are routinely present to serve as sponsors. If you or your teens are interested in getting involved, please contact one of them for more information.



Trinity's Inaugural Come Autumn Come All - Erin Moss

A team of Trinity Youth Group alumni, now in their 30's and 40's, along with some teens from the parish, successfully coordinated the Church's first ever food truck event, Come Autumn Come All. On Saturday, October 8, approximately 125 people enjoyed live music, and wonderful sweet and savory items offered by 4 different food trucks. Despite the simplicity of the format, a tremendous amount of work and creativity went into making the evening such a fun, community engaged event. The CACAT leadership plans to run the event again in the Fall. Stay tuned for details and way to offer support.



Trinity Church School - Kyle Evans

Since May 2021, as COVID restrictions for in person worship and formation began to relax, Trinity's Church School team-Ashely Christie, Nicole Emery, Kyle Evans, and Ann and Fred Koberna, has been preparing lesson plans and excitedly reuniting with parish youth to continue partnering in their faith journey. Kathrine Hunt also leads bread making on a monthly basis to further enhance Church School programming.

Despite inconsistent attendance, the teaching team has been devoted as an important spiritual presence for young people of all ages in the parish. It is hoped that, as more time passes, Trinity will experience the return of additional, previously active families, as well as new ones.

Kyle will soon be assigned to another church as part of her diaconal formation. Teachers and administrative assistance is needed in order for Trinity's Church School programming to continue the quality formation that it offers. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Kyle Evans at kyle.evans55@gmail.com.



Mission Philadelphia's 26th Year!! - Kyle Evans

Mission



"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10)

For those new to Trinity, Mission Philadelphia is a youth led multi-day, typically residential, service initiative, in North and West Philadelphia. The primary focus is urban greening and agriculture. We have developed strong partnerships with North Philly Peace Park (NPPP) and West Philly Peace Park (WPPP), both grass roots, community-based nonprofits. Despite the challenges of COVID, Mission Philadelphia continued uninterrupted. Last summer, the projects identified for Mission Philadelphia included construction of a pergola, repair and painting of the shed, and general clean up in West Philadelphia and, in North Philadelphia, repair of raised beds and picnic tables, signage, embellishment of garden and vegetable beds, and continuation of a tiling project on the park's shed.

Mission Philadelphia could not be possible without the funds raised through Trinity's annual Lobsterfest. We are deeply grateful for the parish and community support of this wonderful event.

It seems hard to believe that Mission Philadelphia is approaching its 27^h anniversary. It has remained a mission that has a deep impact on everyone who helps in its planning and execution, whether for the first time or for many years. It has been an important way to help transform abandoned spaces, break down racial barriers and deepen understanding among and between communities. This year's dates are June 24-28. Please consider participating in some way. Questions? Please contact Kyle Evans at kyle.evans55@gmail.com.





We give thanks to the Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Lectors, Ushers and Acolytes

Centering Prayer

A small group of folks continued to gather weekly for prayer throughout the pandemic. Some joined online with people from Trinity, Buckingham. During the summer and fall, others gathered outside in the courtyard. This devoted group not only gathers for prayer and meditation, but also assists in sending cards to those who are ill or in need of prayers.



2022 Altar Guild report - Susan Wells



2022 was a joyful, interesting, sometimes challenging, year for altar guild members. The 19 folks who currently serve Trinity in this capacity are amazing! They have been faithful, thoughtful, frequently merry, and always careful. They have been flexible, accommodating our various visiting priests and the changing needs of the congregation. They support each other, slipping into the sacristy after service to help wash and wrap Trinity's sacramental vessels. We try to keep the frequency of service dates to 4 times in the year's 105+ possible worship opportunities: we encourage you to join us and to thank these wonderful folks!

Trinity Lectors-Bill Wolf

The current Lectors now number 13 members. This is down from a pre-Pandemic number of 20.

We welcome anyone who would like to be a part of this ministry on Sundays at 8:00 and 9:30, especially at 8:00.

Please contact Bill Wolf for more information or questions at wmwolf@rcn.com or 215 570 6207.

Pastoral Care Ministry

First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all...1 Timothy 2:1

We are all called to Christ's ministry of offering God's love to each other - both by asking for love and support during times of adversity, and by offering our gifts to nurture those in their time of need, we together heal and become whole in Christ.



Team: Rev. Ginny Sheay+, Rev. John Bartle+, Rev. Emory Bynum+. Rev. Michael Ruk, Earlene Austin, Kyle Evans, Kim Laughlin James Wells, Lynn Fox, Roger Stikeleather,
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month

What is Pastoral Care?

Pastoral Care is a group of volunteers that coordinates and facilitates congregational needs in collaboration with Trinity's clergy.

How does the Ministry work?

All requests for pastoral care needs can be directed to the Church office at 215-297-5135 or any member of the Pastoral Care Team .

A team of lay persons acting as Care Coordinators will assist the clergy with follow up, clarify needs and refer those needs to the appropriate Pastoral Care sub-ministry team.

How can I help?

Trinity's Pastoral Care teams offer many helping gifts to those in need. Following is a list of the current components of Pastoral Care. These ministries all need and welcome additional helping hands. Please offer your caring for our parish by contacting any of the point persons listed below.

Prayer List

As a people of God, Trinity offers prayers for those of the church, the community and the world in need. We have a published Prayer List in our weekly bulletin for those who have given their permission for their name to be published. This ministry allows us to care for and lift up the needs of persons within our community, as well as families and friends. In addition, we have a small group of parishioners who are called to join our email prayer group. As prayer requests come in, sometimes it is appropriate to mobilize prayers other than through the bulletin prayer list. If you would like to participate any of Trinity's prayer ministries, please contact Kim Laughlin, 215-718-3973.

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES

Volunteers are needed and appreciated for each of these ministries:

Care Coordinators

The Care Coordinators assist the clergy to ascertain which Pastoral Care services are needed and ensure that they are provided. Requests for any pastoral care needs may be made directly to Rev. Dick Burnett through the church office (215-297-5135) or through the Care Coordinators, Kim Laughlin (215-718-3973), Roger Stikeleather (215-272-2422) or Lyn Fox (215-340-7442).

Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Trained lay members go out with blessed sacraments bringing communion to those who are unable to attend church services. For more information, please contact Kim Laughlin, 215-718-3973.

Laying on of Hands

Intercessory prayers are offered on behalf of those who come forward to the Healing Stations during communion on the first Sunday of the month.

We also offer a dedicated Laying on of Hands service at any time during the week. Requests for this prayer ministry should be made of Rev. Dick Burnett+ through the church office (215-297-5135) or through one of the Care Coordinators.

Bereavement Ministry

The Bereavement Ministry provides compassionate support to individuals in the congregation who are experiencing grief through the death of a loved one. For more information, please contact Rev. John Bartle+, 215-297-5877 or Kim Laughlin, 215-718-3973

Meals Ministry

A team of Pastoral Care members provides home made meals to those in times of illness, bereavement, transition and even joy! For more information, please contact Kim Laughlin, 215-718-3973.

Card Ministry

This group obtains names from the Care Coordinators and sends cards and notes with caring thoughts for a variety of needs. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Matybell, 908-625-0433.



Flower Ministry

Small bouquets are prepared from the altar flowers for delivery by parishioners to anyone with a pastoral care need. Pick up bouquets, as available, at coffee hour - or call the church office to reserve one. If you have questions or requests, please contact Lyn Fox, 215-340- 7442.

Ministry of Intercession

A group of Trinity members are devoted to the ministry of daily prayer of intercession on behalf of those who need strength, solace, or who celebrate a blessing.

Transportation

There is a team of dedicated parishioners who are willing to drive people to appointments and for other necessary occasions. We can also arrange for transportation to evening events at Trinity. For more information or to request help, please contact Kim Laughlin 215-718-3973.

Foyers Groups - Cathy Mumford

Foyers Groups are a fun and easy way for parishioners to gather together for purely social reasons on a regular basis in members' homes. 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 always accommodate more couples, so if you'd like to join the program, please contact Cathy Mumford cmumford@trinitysolebury.org or 908-385-5455.

Greeters - Cathy Mumford

Greeters arrive between 9:00 and 9:15 to stand in the Narthex and to direct parishioners to the name tag books. We help any newcomers or worshipers without a name tag page to complete a blank name tag and to sign up on the missing/new name tag sheet. At the close of the 9:30 am 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 Dick, Ginny or John. 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 cmumford@trinitysolebury.org or 908-385- 5455.

Fellowship Hour - Cathy Mumford

Each week a family or two hosts the fellowship/coffee hour after the 9:30 am service. You will set up the tables, make the coffee if not already prepared and provide goodies and a couple of quarts of half and half. This is not a cooking competition, so you are free to make a favorite recipe or to purchase a treat at the store. Finger foods such as cookies, coffee cake, donut holes are easy to eat, 4 choices are enough. Please be sure at least one is gluten free. Fruit, popcorn, cheese and gluten free crackers and guacamole and corn chips are all delicious ideas. Directions for hosting are posted in the kitchen and can be emailed to you. Paper cups, plates and napkins are used, so clean up is minimal. We ask that you sign up to host at least once or twice every 6 months. Questions? Please contact Cathy Mumford at cmumford@trinitysolebury.org or 908-385-5455.

Knitting Ministry – Janet Gill

THE PRAYER SHAWL AND AFGHAN MINISTRY

2022 was another good year for this ministry and concludes eight years with the current committee of knitters and crocheters.

Throughout the year, we distributed 5 prayer shawls, 3 baby blankets and 36 Afghans for the homeless youth in Bucks County, some of which were displayed in December in the Parish Hall for all to see. This always brings out amazement and delight to see all the beautiful colors, and appreciation for all the hard work. They are then taken to Christ's Home in Warminster where they will be distributed to those in need by their director.

All Shawls, blankets and Afghans are graciously blessed by the Rev. Dr. John Bartle and the Rev. Dr. Ginny Sheay before distribution.



Newcomers Ministry Year in Review - Colleen Dey

In 2022, which marked the return of in-person services, Interim Procedures were established to ensure that visitors and potential newcomers to Trinity were welcomed to our community, with multiple points of contact by both parishioners and clergy.

In November, Ginny and John lead the Welcome Liturgy, followed by a celebratory reception, in which the new parishioners were welcomed into the Trinity community.

2022 New members

Barbara Conklin

Kate and Harold Dunn

Keith, Jenna & Oliver Haxton

Scott and Karen Holmes

Susan and Edward Johnson

Mary Robin Jurkiewicz and Greg Tankersley

Terri Reynolds

Madeline and Rosemary Vincent

Edyta, JR and Liliana Wappel

If we missed anyone please let us know!

Lobsterfest - Kyle Evans

On Saturday, June 4, Trinity Church held its 26th Lobsterfest. Given the demands of longtime leaders, Kyle Evans, Kim Laughlin, and Jeanine Plebani, it was felt that the drive through format was best. For the second year in a row, the drive through Lobsterfest experience was a success.



As older Trinity Youth Group alumni, who love the event and have regularly volunteered through the years, heard that Lobsterfest might end, they decide to step up and offer to run it. Stay tuned for details on the 27th Lobsterfest, set to take place on Saturday, June 3. It may be in person or some kind of hybrid.

Lobsterfest is a longtime, community wide event that represents the start to summer. It guarantees significant funds that are dedicated exclusively to Trinity's outreach initiatives, including Mission Philadelphia. Please contact Erin Moss at erinmoss118@gmail.com if you are interested in getting involved.



After a two-year hiatus, Cookie Bake returned during fall 2022. It is believed that 2022 marked the 75th time Trinity made their special holiday cookies. The hopes for "Cookie Bake Light," in addition to making tasty holiday treats, were to re-establish a popular activity, bring parishioners and the community together for fellowship, and to provide an opportunity to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones. Based on the tenor of comments, these goals were more than met.

Over the course of a couple of weeks in late October and early November volunteers gathered in McArthur Hall and Trinity's kitchen. Approximately 250 boxes were assembled and filled with the more than 10,000 rolled, baked, and decorated cookies. Even at the scaled down level, a slight profit was made for the Church. Plans are already underway for Cookie Bake 2023.

Things we learned:

- All meringue powder is not created equal;
- Some of the cookie cutouts not used were missed;
- Frozen dough will cause one or more of the shelves in the freezer to collapse, and most important,
- If you make them, they will be eaten.



Thank you Beth Schermerhorn, Cinda Ball, Lorri Perkins and Linda Kenyon!



Year Two as a Postulant - Kyle Evans

*" Order my steps in Your word dear Lord Lead me, guide me everyday
Send Your anointing, Father I pray..."*

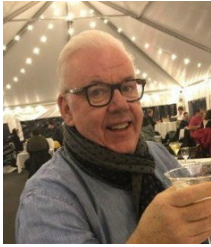
It seems hard to believe that I am beginning my second year of formation as a postulant for the vocational diaconate. I remain grateful for Trinity's continued support of my call. Patience, confidence in my call, and God's ongoing presence in my journey, remain vitally important. Readings and recorded lectures provided through Iona Collaborative at Seminary of the Southwest continue to be the core of my formation. This is enhanced with monthly, in-person or virtual meetings of my cohort, facilitated by Deacon Jeff Moretzsohn.

On February 26, I begin fulfilling my community service hours by assisting with monthly worship services for the men and women of the Bucks County Corrections Facility. I have had limited experience in state side and international correctional facilities. I expect I will learn much and, hopefully, finds ways to support and care for the incarcerated. It has been three years since the jails and prisons permitted worship and other outside support programs to enter their facilities. I am hopeful that more opportunities will avail themselves in time.

I look forward to sharing this experience with Trinity.

Another requirement for diaconal postulants is clinical pastoral education or CPE. Since I work full-time, I will be participating in a hybrid program. It is three months in length and begins in April. The CPE program will also include virtual meetings and trainings. I will be permitted to use some of my work at Episcopal Community Services for my clinical experience.

I feel as though my formation is really gaining traction. It is truly exciting. My anticipated ordination is December 2024. I promise to notify Trinity when a date is selected. In the meantime, I ask for your continued prayers, not only for me, but for all who are in formation at this time.



Vestry Nominee-Kevin Clark

We, my husband Bill Jaglowski and I, started attending Trinity five years ago when we relocated to Pennsylvania from Northern New Jersey. At our former parish, I was involved with numerous committees including hospitality, special events, newcomers, greeters, and the annual rummage sale. Additionally, I served as cochair of the Annual Christmas Bazaar for five years, sang in the choir, performed in the yearly musical production, and cooked for everything from a seated Shakespearean feast for 150 to the 125th celebration of the founding of the parish. Before retirement I was an interior designer and also taught interior design at Kean University and lectured on the subject at various higher educational institutions and organizations including The New York School of Interior Design, the ASID, more showhouses than I can name, social and cultural groups, and others. I have also edited numerous coffee table books on the subject for various publishers including Rizzoli, PBC International, Random House, Clarkson Potter, Collins, and Doubleday.

I am an avid reader, baker, cook, and play Mah-Jongg weekly.



Vestry Nominee – Bill Yandle

Bill grew up in Lake Oswego, Oregon where he attended Christ Episcopal Church with his family and later attended the University of Oregon, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and a Masters in Business Administration. During Bill's 25-year career with Merck and Co, Inc, he managed both domestic and international marketing, product development and sales teams. He retired from Merck in 2007 to focus on service to his family, community and church.

Bill and his wife Carol have been residents of Solebury and members of Trinity Episcopal Church since 1995. Bill became active in Trinity Youth Group even before his children, Jon and Katie were eligible to join. He worked not only the first Lobsterfest but each once since and has been active in leadership for Mission Philadelphia for the same period of time.

Trinity Church has been an invaluable source of spiritual fulfillment and friendship to Bill and his family for nearly 30 years. He looks forward to serving as a member of the Vestry as the church continues in this period of transition with new and exciting challenges.



Diocesan Representative- William Jaglowski



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."

Leo Nardone
Frank Adams
Dave Benner
Timothy Coffey