

2020 Annual Report

*Trinity Episcopal Church, Nichols
Trumbull, CT*

January 24, 2021



*Mission Statement: Our mission is to proclaim by word and deed,
the good news of Jesus Christ reaching out to all in His name. Our
desire is that others may come to faith in Him, drawn by the
example of our lives.*

Annual Meeting of Trinity Episcopal Church, Nichols Trumbull CT

January 24, 2021 at 9:00am

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Prayer for the Parish
O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on us as we begin another year. Grant that we may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen our trust in your goodness all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- II. Roll of Voting Members: Presentation and Adoption
- III. 2020 Annual Parish Meeting: Approval of Minutes
- IV. Reports
 - a. Rector
 - b. Deacon
 - c. Wardens
 - d. Parish Ministries
 - e. Treasurer (2021 Budget)
- V. Elections
from the constitution and canons of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut:
“Members of the Parish entitled to vote at any Parish meeting are those communicants aged 16 and older who, for at least six months prior to that meeting have been faithful attendants at the services of the Church in the Parish, unless for good cause prevented, faithful contributors to its support, and faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God.”
 - a. Vestry Members
 - b. Delegates and Alternates to Diocesan Convention
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Questions and Feedback
- IX. Closing Prayer and Adjournment
Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.



Trinity Episcopal Church

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The Reverend Alan C. Murchie Rector

Trinity Episcopal Church

2021 Parish Voting List

Trinity's By-Laws

ECCT, Canon I, Section 5. Members of the Parish entitled to vote at any Parish meeting are those adult communicants (16 years or older) who, for at least six months prior to that meeting, have been faithful attendants at the services of the Church in the Parish, unless for good cause prevented, faithful contributors to its support, and faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God; these facts to be determined in each case by the Vestry in accordance with the provisions of these Canons.

Alexander & Phyllis Aiello
Laura & Will Alibrandi
Bernadette & James Allan
Beth & Jamey Allan
Daniel & Elizabeth Bartl
Lilly Beall
Andre Benoit
Lisa Brown
Allison Bushnell
Joe & Sharon Buzzeo
Madeleine Buzzeo
Louise Caterson
David Cavallaro
Kathryn Cavallaro
Susan Panicker-Cayo
Caroline & Tim Cepetelli
Brian Christy
Catherine & Stephen Christy
Will Costanzo
Fran Cronk
Alisha & Miguel Cruz
Joe & Nicole Culotta
Bill & Carolyn DeFranco
Angela Doyle
Lois Dudla
Dave & Georgeann Erhardt
Edward Fisher Jr.
Rev. Lee Forshaw
Patrick & Gladys Freyer
Sarah Galan
Ross Galloway
Joseph & Pamela Gill
Amy & David Ginter
Lurena Hoinacki
Regina & Simon Howes
Patricia Kay
Bond Koteas
Elizabeth & Fred Langhammer
Colleen Linane

George Malishchak
Christian & Sylvia Medina
Antonio Medina
Christian Medina
Francisco & Lesley Moises
Suzanne Mount
Elizabeth & Nate Moyer
Alessandra & Daniel Musso
Nancy & Peter Myer
Candice Myers
Megan Myers
Erin Nicholson
Linda Ortiz
Lou Payne
Claire Pinciario
Robert Pitzschler
Reinaldo Ramos, Jr.
Susann Gill Riley
Jon & Liz Robert
Dave & Debra Robison
Patricia Robson
Adele Russell
Jane Sampson
Douglas Serafin
Gayle & Manuel Silva
Arlene Stalvey
Brenda & Mike Stapleton
Zachary Stapleton
Donna & Sam Sutter
Brittany Thornton
Paul Thornton
Alison Walsh
Rebecca Wilbur
Nancy Wilson
Richard Worth
Bruce & Nancy Zepke

Last Year's Annual Parish Meeting Minutes (1/19/20)

Call to Order and Prayer for the Parish

The meeting was called to order at 10:35am by Robert Pitzschler, Senior Warden followed by a prayer for the parish led by the Rev. Alan Murchie.

Roll of Voting Members: Presentation and Adoption

The Parish Clerk, Gayle Silva, certified that a quorum was reached with 36 of the voting members present (15% minimum required). Fred Langhammer moved to adopt the 2020 Parish Voting List as printed in the 2019 Annual Report. The motion was seconded by Lurena Hoinacki. The motion was unanimous in favor.

2019 Annual Parish Meeting: Approval of Minutes

Manuel Silva moved to accept the minutes of the January 27, 2019 Annual Parish Meeting as published. The motion was seconded by Candice Myers. The motion was approved with one abstention.

Reports: All reports are as appended to the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting furnished to all parishioners prior to the meeting. Additional comments are as follows:

☛ Rector: Alan recalled an Adult Forum at which the question was asked "What is special about this place?" He highlighted his favorite answer from a young parishioner – "It's calm." Alan spoke of the faithfulness, rootedness and nimbleness of our parish. He presented Patti, Simon and Colleen (who was absent), with tokens of appreciation for their Vestry service.

☛ Wardens: Bob announced that the kitchen renovation that is almost finished; the next item needed will be the final inspection from the town of Trumbull. He also discussed the need for an update to the parish website, the plan to set up a legacy account, and the need to fix the clock on the front of the church. Dave asked that parishioners look around campus and let him know if any problems are identified.

☛ Parish Ministries: Sam Sutter announced that the next Community Partnership event will be the Rock and Soul Review concert on April 25, 2020.

☛ Treasurer: There were no additional comments or questions concerning the 2020 budget. A motion was made by Beth Langhammer and seconded by Patti Kay to approve the budget as submitted. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Elections:

The nominating committee submitted the following slate of Officers, Vestry Members and Delegates for consideration:

- ☛ For 1-year terms: Robert Pitzschler, Senior Warden | David Ginter, Junior Warden | Nancy Wilson, Treasurer | Dick Worth, Associate Treasurer | Gayle Silva, Clerk
- ☛ For 3-year terms (2023): Laura Alibrandi, Daniel Bartl, George Ortiz
- ☛ ECCT Delegate, 1-year term: Douglas Serafin
- ☛ ECCT Alternate Delegate: Open
- ☛ Greater Bridgeport Ministry Network Delegate: Robert Pitzschler
- ☛ Trumbull Interfaith Council Delegate: The Rev. Lee Forshaw
- ☛ Vestry Nominating Committee: Simon Howes, Patti Kay, Colleen Linane

There being no additional nominations from the floor, a motion was made by Sam Sutter and seconded by Lurena Hoinacki to have the Vestry Clerk cast one vote to accept slate of Officers, Vestry Members and Delegates. The Vestry Clerk cast one vote in favor of the recommended slate and announced the sales at submitted and approved.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Bob discussed the need for volunteers for: Scholarship Committee, Nominating Committee, Memorial Garden Committee, Fundraising Committee

Questions and Feedback:

Several comments were made about new people coming to the church. Sam Sutter raised the point that we should try to get feedback from newcomers on why they are attending Trinity. Alan discussed the role of Amy Ginter as liaison to coordinate to coordinate newcomers and how to follow up with them. He said that we need to be welcoming and inviting to newcomers. Suggestions were offered on how to accomplish this: small group meetings with newcomers; invite newcomers to join parish activities; sit with a newcomer during mass, encourage them to fill out card in pew, and bring them to coffee hour. Donna Sutter thanked the parish for continued food donations. Deacon Diane Peterson asked if there is a guest book that newcomers can sign.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment:

There being no further business, Simon Howes moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Manuel Silva, and the vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25am with a prayer led by Alan, followed by dismissal by Deacon Diane Peterson.

Respectfully submitted,
Gayle Silva, Parish Clerk

Rector's Report, 2020

In 2020, we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of our beautiful church building. We began the year expecting to celebrate in all the traditional ways: in festive liturgy, pews packed to overflowing, with visiting dignitaries and an all-parish dinner. We anticipated concerts, fundraisers, picnics, community events and more. And then the calendar turned to March and we quickly realized that this would be a very different kind of anniversary year indeed. Wonderfully, by God's grace, we have come to mark this significant threshold in the life of our parish in profound ways that we never could have imagined.

In particular, we wound up celebrating in several concrete ways:

☞ in remodeling, redecorating and/or refreshing upwards of a dozen spaces in our church building's upper and lower levels;

☞ in commissioning and conceiving a sculpture on our front lawn that gained statewide attention and has excited and engaged the neighborhood;

☞ in opening our campus more fully to our neighbors in a time of isolation and challenge;

☞ in community events through which our parish family has continued to grow.

Our Campus

As the flow of weekly programming slowed to a trickle, our stalwart building managers Ed and Mike saw an opportunity. Mike's work on floors is superb, yet it's hard to schedule in ordinary time, since it requires several days. With the help of a generous parishioner who upgraded our

floor buffer, Mike was able to refinish floors in Peet Hall, the upper-level hallway, the entryway, the narthex, the lower-level hallway, West Lounge, and four of the classrooms. We kick ourselves for failing to get before and after photos! The lower-level hallway floor was brown, and we were talking about raising funds to replace it. Mike spent countless hours scraping it down, and it has regained its original bright, clean color. Parishioners have commented that the lower level now looks like a new space.

As Mike scraped and buffed, Ed painted. And painted and painted. West Lounge is now a fresh and inviting light sage color, while two classrooms have been converted into meeting spaces in shades of blue and grey. A music salon features greens, reds and light blues and new baseboard along the lower wall. Furniture has been redistributed and new art adorns the walls. The Church School has gone from electric yellows to a beautiful shade of lavender, while the adjoining room has become a gorgeous meditation chapel in deep blue. We are deeply grateful to Ed, Mike and all who so generously supported this anniversary project! And we can't wait for everyone to take a tour!

The entryway bathrooms have been completely rebuilt. They now feature beautiful tiling on the floors and walls, fresh paint and new touchless fixtures. The former men's room is now a family bathroom with a baby-changing station and ample room for a stroller. Peet Hall has a beautiful new color, a buffed floor, and new shades. The walls now have applied moulding that picks up on similar moulding in the sanctuary and chapel. Remarkably, it looks as if it's always been there! The painting of the old church building has been cleaned and its frame painted white. It has a new home on the west wall, perfectly mounted and hung by Ed.

Into the Neighborhood

We also celebrated our anniversary by commissioning a striking work of chainsaw art for our front lawn that has drawn attention from media throughout the state. Artist Jared Welcome worked with us to conceive a sculpture that integrates sacred symbols with a nod to the Nichols neighborhood and its signature bunny. Most important, the sculpture has delighted the children of our neighborhood and beyond; visitors continue to stop nearly daily to get a closer look and to take pictures.

Toward the end of the summer, we took down the fence that surrounded the rectory yard and opened the campus up, restoring its flow and creating a renewed sense of invitation and welcome.

The neighborhood has responded with joy and delight. I get stopped constantly by those who run and bike and stroll through our property and they are uniformly grateful for the changes they've enjoyed seeing take place in the past year. New benches and an attractive planter enhance this renewed sense of welcome, as do beautiful additions to the Memorial Garden, including flowers, arrangements, and a wind chime. Again, we are grateful to generous donors and to our parish artists whose keen eyes for beauty have led to new plantings on all sides of our buildings.

A new Food Bin on our side porch fills constantly with donations from the parish and from our neighbors. We continue to provide 100 dinners on First Tuesdays to the community at St. John's in Bridgeport, while our new First Friday Food Drive has been an enormous success and is now a permanent fixture in our community. We are grateful to Bill DeFranco who conceived it, and to Sam Sutter who oversees it and our wonderful team of volunteers who assist those who visit us to donate.

Parish Life

Finally, we have celebrated our anniversary year with parish life initiatives that began with an old-fashioned sanctuary concert in March (featuring clarinetist Romie de Guise-Langlois) and ended with a virtual concert accompanied by homemade cookies. An intrepid team of drivers delivered cupcakes and cookies to each of our parish households as we continued to find new ways to stay connected and to celebrate together in this unusual, difficult, and challenging year.

I am grateful to all who have participated in our parish phone tree, to all who have sent cards, emails, and text messages to fellow parishioners — to all who have reached out to others in concern and love while we’ve of necessity been separated physically from one another. To me the ultimate way in which we’ve celebrated our anniversary is simply in our being family to each other. Somehow in spite of all the challenges the year 2020 brought, we have continued to blossom and connect, to learn and grow in new and wondrous ways. That is the work of the Spirit, and we are grateful indeed.

Best wishes and abundant blessings,

Alan

Deacon's Report

The year 2020 suddenly took a turn in a direction I do not believe any of us expected. This change represented by COVID-19 interrupted the way life functioned particularly for the food ministries I was involved in at the two food pantries located at St. John’s, Bridgeport and St. Luke and St. Paul’s, Bridgeport along with three community supper programs at St. John’s, Calvary/St. George, and St. Luke/St. Paul’s.

As the pandemic increased its spread, plans for operation and CDC protocols became a must to be implemented for both volunteers and clients. I was able to have Optimus Healthcare use their mobile vehicle to be present at St. Luke/St. Paul’s pantry to test clients for COVID-19. The number of food insecure families in the City of Bridgeport had increased as several food pantries closed. Our two food pantries absorbed these families who needed food. We were blessed to be able to meet their needs with limited volunteers. A sad statistic for the City of Bridgeport is that at least 1 in 5 children are hungry. We have provided over 136,000 meals in 2020.

Operation of these programs required change. Pantries and supper programs had to be operated outside of the buildings which is still the case at this time. Volunteers pre-bag groceries outside and clients receive them outside. Supper programs are currently not hot meals, but rather brown bag lunches distributed outside as well. This is a ministry that Trinity is instrumental in.

Hunger does not go away for the struggle continues. This is a ministry that changes the receiver and the giver. You are invited to become a change agent.

I believe we are committed to meeting the needs of those around us in a humble gentle spirit of love. Jesus said: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Ministry and mission all flow from this commandment of our Lord. At Trinity, we can be determined to share the abundant love of God in our community and the inner city. Our mission can take many forms and we can reach out (however limited as this time with COVID-19) everywhere there is a need in our

communities. We are abundant with gifts that have not been used yet - and perhaps we have not imagined we even have. That's good news as it provides a base from which to continue to grow ourselves (both young and older) for mission and ministry not only in our communities but also the world." What a gift and blessing! Remember, we can always do great works. It is in each of us!

Peace and Blessings,
Deacon Diane

Wardens' Reports

Sr. Warden Report

Another year has slipped by and what a year it has been – one like no one in the Parish has experienced before. The year began with great expectations as we planned to have a wonderful ceremony of recognition and rededication of our church building on the 50th anniversary of its rebuilding after the fire in 1969. All those plans, as well as our daily lives, were interrupted in March when the COVID-19 virus took center stage. Services were moved online and building use became restricted.

The good news, however, is that during this time, Trinity has been able to move forward with several positives that bode well for the Parish and the community. Among those are the following: ▪ Our on-line services are each being viewed by an average of 130 people – some of whom are out of state, out of the country, or former parishioners ▪ We were able to begin in-person outdoor and indoor services for a short while before the virus cases began to rise again in the Fall ▪ New programs to meet the needs of our youth and our more isolated parishioners have begun ▪ A "First Friday Food Drive" is helping to meet the needs of area food pantries ▪ Our "Socktober" and "Stuffing" collections again surpassed their goals ▪ Pledges and donations have remained strong ▪ The diseased maple tree has been turned into a wonderful wood carving which has garnered much positive state wide publicity ▪ The long discussed kitchen renovation has now been accomplished ▪ The lower level lavatories have been completely remodeled ▪ The parish hall has been painted along with some aesthetic improvements ▪ The lounge has been refurbished ▪ All of the classrooms and hallways have been painted with some rooms repurposed ▪ A meditation room has been built ▪ The entryways, particularly from the parking lot, have been remodeled to present a more inviting appearance ▪ A Trinity Legacy Fund has been established ▪ A Warden's facebook page enables me to exchange information across the ECCT

Another highlight this year, during our electronic age, has been our website found at <http://www.trinitynichols.org> Here you will be able to catch up on the latest Trinity news, link to other related websites and most importantly donate to Trinity. By clicking on the donate button, you will be linked to the Tithely website where you will be able to make a one-time donation or set up recurring pledge payments to our budget or several of our funds. Over 25,000 worshipping communities are now using this website for their donations.

Looking forward to 2021, we eagerly anticipate a return to in-person services, and we will begin planning for another milestone in our Parish history and that is our 175th Anniversary which will be in 2022.

As I close my comments, I would be remiss if I did not thank Dave Ginter, Alessandra Musso, Gayle Silva, and Sam Sutter for their time served on the Vestry and particularly Dave and Gayle

as Junior Warden and Clerk respectfully. They have given freely of their time and energy, their wisdom and faith, in service to the Vestry and to Trinity.

Blessings,
Bob

Jr. Warden Report

As another year comes to a close, it is amazing to look back and see the incredible amount of activity that occurred on the church grounds over the last twelve months. From painting walls to polishing floors, sewer line and heating system repairs, bathroom remodels and electrical upgrades, it seems like almost every square inch of the church was involved in some way! As the pandemic paused so many of our typical gatherings and services, the quietness within the building allowed for much needed maintenance to happen; the extent of which should keep the church running smoothly for years to come.

As the saying goes, many hands make light work and our parish certainly exhibits this. Ed and Mike spent countless hours on the walls and floors along with cleaning, landscaping and other odds and ends. Bill's constant tending to the Memorial Garden has created a nice oasis outside for all to enjoy. Joe and Simon helped remove the fence around the rectory backyard which really opened up the space and made it more inviting. I have heard stories of Sharon and Alan running around, disinfectant in hand, wiping down doorknobs and railings when no one else is around to help keep the church as safe as can be. And a special thank you to Zach for stepping in to take on some of the sexton duties when we were in need. For all of those who helped in some way this year: Thank You!

As I transition from my role as Junior Warden and turn the reigns over to Simon, I look back at the last 3 years and am amazed at the huge amount of work that has occurred to keep the church running. New systems have also been put in place to track and manage all the maintenance and activities throughout the buildings and grounds including the formal creation of a Church Maintenance Team. To revisit the theme of many hands make light work, if anyone wishes to join this illustrious team (in any capacity – no matter how small) with Simon, Joe, Bill, Dave R and me, please do not hesitate to reach out to any us.

Dave Ginter

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is a dedicated group of men and women that prepare the chapel and the main sanctuary for Sunday services of Holy Eucharist, and special services such as: Morning Prayer, holy days, baptisms, confirmations, funerals, and weddings. The Altar Guild does their work quietly; to ensure that all the items needed for worship are present. Its members are responsible for caring for vestments, linens, altar coverings and sacred communion vessels. The Altar Guild also clears the church after worship services.

A donation of two candle lighters were made to replace broken ones.

This year we are once again thankful for the talents of Robert Pitzschler and Lurena Hoinacki who helped arrange plants, and decorated the church for all to enjoy at our virtual Easter and Christmas services.

In 2020 the Altar Guild supported: 1 baptism, and 3 funerals.

If you are interested in assisting in this important ministry – men, women or teens, please contact Alan or Sharon Buzzeo.

Caring Connections

Caring Connections was limited in its activities due to the pandemic in 2020.

We were able to reach out to Trumbull Senior Center for the holidays and provide 12 new sweaters for seniors attending the center. Zach Stapleton made the delivery of sweaters a week prior to Christmas.

Calls were made to check on church members since we could not attend mass and offers of help to any in need.

Georgeann Erhardt

Christian Education Report

2020 was an incredibly challenging year. To say we faced many unexpected challenges would be an understatement. It was important to continue to offer church school. Weekly church school lessons were emailed which included worksheets and videos. And through Alan's leadership and support, we were able to include our families in many of the services throughout the year. The highlight of the year, the first ever virtual Christmas Pageant, was a huge blessing and shared the true meaning of Christmas! None of this would have happened without the willingness of our families to participate.

Church School Drive-ups were offered in September so families could spend time with Alan and take a tour of our church and see the many upgrades including our freshly painted classroom! Children left with their own bag full of treats, crafts and cards to share with others.

I am incredibly blessed to be a part of Trinity Church. Please continue to encourage and pray for all children to live healthy and happy lives - physically, emotionally, and spiritually, and to grow in the love and faith of Christ.

I pray that the New Year overflows with hope, joy and health!

Peace, Brenda

Community Partnerships

While 2020 was indeed a challenging year for our Community Partnership environment, it also offered new opportunities for us to serve those who are less fortunate. Due to the Covid restrictions, we could not sponsor our two customary hunger benefit concerts, nor could we continue with our normal involvement in Easter/Thanksgiving meal donations for Priscilla Place, magazine drop offs at area convalescent homes, and participation in the Connecticut Food Bank Backpack Program through Earth Animal.

However, we were still able to provide twelve wrapped Christmas presents to members of Priscilla Place, and we placed a large plastic receptacle on the porch outside of the foyer so that our parishioners could continue to drop off food donations in support of four food pantries (Priscilla Place, Sterling House, St John's, and St Luke's/St Paul's). In addition, the St John's community suppers were replaced with bagged meals that are prepared by our parishioners on the first Tuesday of each month. The need for these meals has continued to escalate as of this writing there are in excess of one hundred meals that are distributed each Tuesday.

Finally, as guided by the vision of Bill DeFranco, we commenced a First Friday Food Drive in September, whereby the community and parishioners drop off non-perishable food and paper goods donations that are then divided equally among the four pantries. The support for this outreach has gradually increased, initially from eleven vehicles donating twenty-six bags/boxes of goods, to last month's twenty-six vehicles donating close to sixty bags/boxes.

Therefore, we continue to be a very giving parish that responds to the needs of those who are less fortunate. I would once again like to thank each and every parishioner for their continued support of these important ministries and would encourage anyone who would either like to become involved and/or have ideas for additional outreach programs to contact me.

Sam Sutter

Covenant to Care for Children

Covenant to Care for Children provides a safety net for abused, neglected or impoverished children in Connecticut by providing essential support in moments that are critical for a child's ability to thrive and a family's ability to stay together.

This mission is fulfilled by partnering with state agencies, faith-based communities and other organizations that share Covenant to Care's dedication to improving the lives and futures of at-risk children in Connecticut by providing direct assistance and critical goods to families struggling to meet the basic needs of their children.

Covenant to Care offers several different ways to help including Adopt A Social Worker, Critical Goods, Placement Packs, Crisis Food Support, Mentoring and Children's Enrichment Fund.

As we look forward to 2021, we are looking at two possible programs to be involved with. One, called the Critical Goods Program, is designed to help families who are at risk of losing their children due to the lack of certain material goods. The other, the Placement Packs Program, provides diaper bags, back packs, or tote bags as appropriate to comfort children and youth who are entering a strange new environment.

Lisa Brown

Facilities Report

2020 has been a pretty busy year around Trinity. The following list represents items done on the building and grounds during the year.

- Painted all meeting rooms in undercroft
- Painted hallway in undercroft
- Finished kitchen remodel
- Painted entry vestibule from Parking lot
- Vestibule door, brass hardware polished
- Finished bathroom remodel in vestibule area
- Peet Hall redecoration
- New blinds installed in Peet Hall
- Outdoor stairs leading to kitchen painted
- Tree carving projected completed
- Children's playground reorganized
- Dump runs done with old playground equipment
- Timers installed on signage and Memorial Garden lighting
- Repaired leak at gas meter
- Replace church hot water heater
- West Lounge redecoration
- Cleaned up landscaping around the rectory
- New meditation room created downstairs
- St. Francis room organized
- Sewer line from Church restrooms unclogged and repaired
- Repair of termite damage at the outside door leading into the St. Francis room
- New coat rack made by Lou Payne installed
- Sewer line from rectory repaired
- All floors in complex stripped and waxed
- New lighting to illuminate Trinity signs
- New internet pricing obtained
- Zone pumps on heating system repaired
- Valve installed on heating system
- Gutters on the church and rectory cleaned
- Fence removed around rectory backyard
- Serviced the church boiler
- Clearing of the lawn area next to the exit drive to allow Music Together programs to continue outdoors
- Hung handmade signs above rooms on main floor, made by Lou Payne

Items we could / should do for 2021.

- Upgrade lighting in basement hallway
- Upgrade thermostats
- Fix basement ceiling tiles
- Fix front doors to church – closing issue
- Remodel rectory half bath (which is already gutted)
- Seal and restripe the parking lot
- Power wash the church

Edward Fisher, Joe Buzzeo & Dave Ginter

Hospitality Report

We all are hospitality. With the help of many 2020 was still a busy year despite the COVID 19 restrictions. The year began as we had our first Shrove Tuesday pancake supper using our newly renovated kitchen. Parish participation was at a high of 58 – a joyous evening indeed.

Deliveries of cupcakes to local parishioners' homes were made to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our building. Another delivery of homemade cookies was made to coordinate with Alan's Christmas Concert. Both the 50th anniversary and Christmas concert was broadcasted on Facebook Live.

Thank you for everyone's generosity and joyful participation in this most important ministry!

Lurena Hoinacki

Music Report

This has certainly been a year like no other. Covid 19 had its effect on every part of our lives, and music is no exception. In March, the choir was busy preparing for Holy Week and Easter when life came to a screeching halt. As we know, choral singing is a particularly dangerous activity in regard to the spread of infection, so the choir's activities were immediately suspended, along with all in-person worship. In fact, for several months, while the numbers of cases spiked, even online services had no music or singing at all, as a safety precaution. As the number of cases began to subside a bit in the summer, it was decided that I would return to provide music, practicing proper distancing with Alan in the sanctuary and myself in the choir loft, for our own protection. He and I have collaborated on a number of occasions to elevate the music as much as possible. This continues to be our practice as the number of cases remains high.

In the fall, as we began to look ahead to the probability of an online Christmas, we started to have occasional services pre-recorded, which allowed for a greater participation on the part of readers, musicians, etc. Participants could either record from the safety of home, or in church one or two at a time, masked and socially distant. We marked All Saints Day in this way. This was done very successfully for all our services during the Christmas season, most especially Christmas Eve and our own Lessons and Carols. I'm very grateful to all the musicians in our parish – singers, musicians, bell ringers – who put their considerable talents to work to lend the Christmas celebrations as much festivity and solemnity as our circumstances allow.

As I'm sure we all would agree, I look forward to the return of worship together in person, and to the return of our choir singing together again. In the meantime, the music at Trinity is still alive and well.

Herb Lazration
Organist & Choirmaster

Sacramental Report for 2020

Baptisms:	1	Josie Keczkemethy
Memorials:	3	Chad Feli Joan Root Jean Plumb

Worship Report

The year began much like any other: We offered three liturgies each week, one on Sunday and two on Wednesday. Of note in early 2020 was the substantial growth we enjoyed in our 6:00 PM liturgy on Wednesdays, as more than two dozen began to join us regularly for Evening Prayer, meditation and music ahead of our Midweek Refreshment program of fellowship and education.

In mid-March, we followed the governor's lead in acknowledging the seriousness of Covid-19, suspending all public events and moving to an online format for our Sunday and Wednesday worship. We were amazed and delighted to draw upwards of 600 views for our very first online Sunday service, broadcast over Facebook Live. Given that response, though there were myriad alternatives to consider, needless to say we chose to stick with this format! In the ensuing months, we have also offered occasional pre-recorded liturgies via YouTube: these allow us to integrate a wider range of voices, including our children and a wide range of our parish musicians.

Over time, weekly views for our Sunday service have bounced around, having settled this fall at around 200. In addition, we reach about 75-100 views for our weekly Wednesday noon service. In the spring, we began experimenting with ways in which we could open the service to greater participation. We invited parishioners to attend on Sundays in small numbers, with appropriate physical distancing. And we began a long and detailed planning process for an increase beyond those small numbers to our "Covid capacity" of about three dozen. We are grateful to our team, who logged in many hours planning, equipping the building, and staffing our fall indoor services.

We also created an engaging worship space outdoors, which we enjoyed for about four months. With the rectory lawn as a backdrop (and with regular visits from the backyard bunnies, birds and chipmunks) we began once again to share Holy Communion together as a parish family. We were delighted in this time to welcome a congregation of about two dozen for our Saturday afternoon service, while worship via livestream continued on Sundays at 9.

In Holy Week, we offered festive virtual processions from our families on Palm Sunday and on Easter Day. We also offered a daily live-streamed service from our chapel each weekday, with homilies each day and an occasional bit of music. We learned a lot in these early days, and we found ourselves doing two things: (1) engaging our new online congregation in new ways, and (2) beginning to address the interesting question of how we continue to engage this expanded (and ever-expanding) worshipping community beyond this time of challenge.

To put this more simply: How incredible that the Fernalds can worship with us from Texas, Pat Robson from Wappingers Falls, and other members of the Trinity family — parishioners who have relocated, traveling parishioners, new online followers and more — can be with us regularly from all over the country and beyond! And how wonderful that those who aren't able to make it to be with us in person — for whatever reason — now have a fulfilling worship experience that is available twice-weekly. This is a vital and exciting conversation that will continue well into 2021!

Faithfully,

Alan

Treasurer's Report

Another year, another annual Treasurer's Report! It was certainly not a normal year but thankfully the Treasurer's Report does not reflect the chaos of the last several months. As usual, I am able to thank all of our parishioners for their generosity of time, talent and treasure. That generosity and faithfulness allowed us to keep our finances in good shape and to begin 2021 with a solid pledge base.

After more than a decade as our bookkeeper, Kathleen Miranti has retired. Many thanks to her for her dedicated service. Rather than hire a new bookkeeper we are planning to have me take over those tasks on a volunteer basis. Suzanne Mount has agreed to stand for election as treasurer. Suzanne has vast experience in the financial world and has already been working on streamlining our reporting processes. You can look forward to clear and understandable reports in the future.

Happy New Year to all and thank you for making my tenure as treasurer an enjoyable one!
Blessings,
Nancy Wilson

Trinity Budget Report

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget Amount	
Income				
Book of Remembrance	805	1,000		700
Facilities Contribution	12,955	25,000		12,000
Fund Raisers				
concerts	915	2,000	1,000	
St Nick's Fair		2,500	2,500	
Other		2,000	<u>2,000</u>	
Total Fund Raisers			5,500	
Total Fund Raisers				5,500
Interest/Dividends Received	14,629	7,200		7,000
Member Donations				
Altar	470			
Capital Improvements	14,392	3,000	3,000	
Coffee Hour	3	100	50	
Initial Offering	305	200	200	
Loose Offerings	663	1,800		
Next Year Pledge	10,950			
Pledge	126,361	95,000	100,000	
Special Offerings				
Christmas		750	750	
Easter/Lent	525	600	600	
Thanksgiving		100	100	
Other	4,328	15,000	<u>15,000</u>	
Total Special Offerings			<u>16,450</u>	
Total Member Donations				119,700
Memorial Garden	800	1,000		1,000

Other				
Scripts	2,075	100	100	
Smiles	101	50	<u>50</u>	
Total Other				150
Xfer from Capital Improvement	10,000	15,000		10,000
Xfer From Landsale Account	<u>72,000</u>	72,000		72,000
Xfers from Powell Fund		<u>20,000</u>		<u>10,000</u>
Total Income	<u>272,277</u>	<u>264,400</u>		<u>238,050</u>
Expense				
Clergy				
Continuing Ed & Misc		1,850	1,850	
Dental Insurance	684	682	682	
Housing Allowance	1,507	1,422	1,484	
Life Insurance	360	360	360	
Medical Insurance	9,640	12,384	13,068	
Pension	18,279	9,000	9,251	
Salary	26,621	29,041	29,933	
SS Allowance	3,940	4,520	4,717	
Supply Priests	553		<u>600</u>	
Total Clergy				61,945
Episcopal Church				
Diocesan Assessment	20,052	21,000	21,000	
Seminarian/Guest Speaker	675	900	<u>900</u>	
Total Episcopal Church				21,900
Office & Administrative				
Audit	1,800	1,500	2,000	
Bank Fees		25	25	
Bookkeeper	6,760	8,634		
Copier Lease	1,223	1,650	1,650	
Inserts/Envelopes	240	225	300	
Internet & Telephone				
Church	675	1,000	1,450	
Rectory	675	900	<u>900</u>	
Total Internet & Telephone			2,350	
Mileage		300	300	
Office Wages	13,584	21,831	22,198	
Payroll Taxes				
Medicare	1,305	1,064	1,300	
SSI	3,403	4,546	4,546	
Workers Comp	756	1,225	<u>1,225</u>	
Total Payroll Taxes			7,071	
Scripts Expense	950			
Postage	442	300	500	
Supplies				
Computer		125	125	
Covid Supplies	1,110		1,200	

Misc Supplies	600		1,000	
Office Supplies	739	1,500	<u>1,500</u>	
Total Supplies			<u>3,825</u>	
Total Office & Administrative				40,219
Payroll Service	1,583	1,650		1,650
Program				
Advertising				
Other Advertising	250	750	750	
Website	137	250	<u>250</u>	
Total Advertising			1,000	
Children's Ed				
Summer		500	500	
Supplies		500	500	
Wages	4,133	8,991	<u>9,142</u>	
Total Children's Ed			10,142	
Gifts/Recognition	143	300	300	
Outreach	1,017			
Greater Bpt Mlnistry Donation	550	600	<u>600</u>	
Total Outreach			600	
Stewardship	195	250	250	
Tracts/Literature	103	100	100	
Total Program				12,392
Property				
Alarm Fee				
Monitoring		725	800	
Testing - Annual		250	<u>250</u>	
Total Alarm Fee			1,050	
Bldgs & Grounds				
Boiler				
Maintenance		200	1,200	
Repair			<u>5,000</u>	
Total Boiler			6,200	
Capital Improvements	55,761	40,000	5,000	
Maintenance & Repairs				
Church	7,186	9,000	9,000	
Rectory	13,969	1,000	<u>5,000</u>	
Total Maintenance & Repairs			14,000	
Tree Carving	3,900			
Pest Control	1,315	1,200	500	
Total Bldgs & Grounds			25,700	
Maintenance				
Lawn Care	7,670	3,500	3,500	
Trash Removal	912	960	960	
M&R Wages	24,251	19,865	<u>19,865</u>	
Total Maintenance			24,325	
P&L Insurance	7,260	7,200	7,200	
Sewer	830	700	850	
Utilities/Water				

	Electric				
	Church	7,813	11,000	11,000	
	Rectory	745	1,200	<u>800</u>	
	Total Electric			11,800	
	Heat				
	Church	4,710	5,000	5,000	
	Rectory	1,593	1,800	<u>1,800</u>	
	Total Heat			6,800	
	Water				
	Church	523	700	700	
	Rectory	464	400	<u>400</u>	
	Total Water			<u>1,100</u>	
	Total Utilities/Water			19,700	
	Total Property				78,825
	Worship				
	Altar supplies	41	1,000	1,000	
	Flowers	764			
	Music				
	Music Expenses	440	600	600	
	Musicians	575			
	Piano Tuning	280	1,000	1,000	
	Wages - Choir Director	<u>12,812</u>	<u>14,114</u>	<u>14,351</u>	
	Total Music			15,951	
	Total Worship				<u>16,951</u>
	Total Expense	<u>278,498</u>	<u>261,289</u>	<u>233,882</u>	
	Net Income	(6,221)	3,111		4,168

Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2020

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking 012-4090863	51,251.77
Clergy Discretionary Account	127.00
Peoples business savings 2200	2,732.26
Savings 0863	8,112.59
Scholarship Savings account	1,555.51
Total Checking/Savings	63,779.13
Other Current Assets	
Investments	
Book of Remembrance - 04576	26,818.32
CD-Britton - 012-8018328	16,960.36
Cockerton Fund - 04575	22,707.45
Dennis fund - 04579	107,720.97
Govt-Aiello - SGP001456	12,620.00
Land sale - 90030	955,597.24
Memorial Garden - 04673	8,534.68
Powell fund - 17259	27,574.07
Total Investments	1,178,533.09
Total Other Current Assets	1,178,533.09
Total Current Assets	1,242,312.22
TOTAL ASSETS	1,242,312.22
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	0.00
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	
Ct state tax - employee	-22.05
CT withholding	22.05
Medicare - Employee	0.01
Social Security - Employee	-0.01
Total Payroll Liabilities	0.00
PP Loan	21,915.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	21,915.00
Total Current Liabilities	21,915.00
Total Liabilities	21,915.00
Equity	
Dividends	24,082.75
Opening Balance Equity	1,191,543.23
Unrestricted Net Assets	-15,628.52
Total Equity	1,199,997.46
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,221,912.46

Elections
Nominating Committee Report

January 24, 2021

The following slate of Officers, Vestry Members and Delegates
is presented for election as indicated:

For a one year term:

Warden: Robert Pitzschler

Jr. Warden: Simon Howes

Treasurer: Suzanne Mount

Clerk: Lisa Brown

Vestry Members:

Nominations for a 3yr Vestry Term (2024)

Georgeann Erhardt

Douglas Serafin

ECCT Delegate – 1yr Term

Robert Pitzschler

ECCT Alternate Delegate – 1yr Term

Douglas Serafin

Greater Bridgeport Ministry Network – 1yr Term

Robert Pitzschler

Trumbull Interfaith Council Delegate – 1yr Term

The Rev. Lee Forshaw

Vestry Nominating Committee

Nancy Wilson