

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda.....	Pg. 2
Prayer for our Parish	Pg. 3
Annual Meeting Minutes FY23.....	Pg. 3
Wardens' Report	Pg. 5
Report of the Treasurer	
Notes to 2023 Financial Statements.....	Pg. 6
2023 Actual to Budget.....	Pg. 7
2023 Designated/Restricted Account Activity	Pg. 8
2024 Budget.....	Pg. 9
Report of the Nominating Committee.....	Pg. 10
Individual Committee Reports	
Worship Team.....	Pg. 11
Altar Guild	Pg. 13
Christian Formation.....	Pg. 14
Finance Committee	Pg. 15
Information and Technology	Pg. 16
Social Media.....	Pg. 17
Mission and Outreach Report.....	Pg. 18
Memorial Garden	Pg. 21
Property	Pg. 22

Annual Parish Meeting Agenda
Sunday, February 4, 2024

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call to Order
3. Establish a Quorum
4. Adoption of Minutes of Annual Meeting (February 26, 2023)
5. Correspondence (if any)
6. Comments by Outgoing Wardens
7. Treasurer's Report: Rob Heath
8. 2024 Budget: Rob Heath
9. Report of Nominating Committee: Rose Riley
10. Acceptance of Nominating Reports
11. Elections
12. Acceptance of All Printed Reports
13. Other Business
14. Motion to Adjourn and Closing Prayer

A PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your Holy Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES February 26, 2023

1. The meeting was opened by Bishop Gordon Scruton with a prayer.
2. Warren Blessing, Warden, called the meeting to order at 11:15.
3. More than 1/3 of the members in good standing were present by count and by return of mail in ballots and a quorum was established Members were thanked for their participation.
4. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of February 15, 2022, were approved and accepted unanimously. Motion to approve made by Garth Myers, second by Kathy Cole.
5. By-law Changes and Acceptance. Changes to the by-laws were reviewed, approved and accepted unanimously. Motion to approve made by Garth Myers, second by Kathy Cole.
6. Correspondence: There was none.
7. Comments by the Out-going Wardens. Warren Blessing, out-going warden, addressed the group.
8. Treasurer's Report. Rob Heath presented the financial picture of the parish which is presented in detail in the financial section of the Annual Report.
9. The 2023 budget, passed by the Vestry in December of 2022, was presented and discussed.
10. The Nominating Committee report was given.
11. Acceptance of the Nominating Committee's report, which was approved and accepted unanimously. Motion to approve made by Judy Shaw, second by Don Ghostlaw.
12. Election of slate as presented by Nominating Committee. New wardens, Carol Jones and Connie Harasymiw; new vestry members, Kathy Cole, Cheryl Chadsey, and Bruce Duncan; parish treasurer, Rob Heath; parish clerk, Melanie Hepburn. New members approved and accepted unanimously. Outgoing wardens and vestry were thanked for their service and received small tokens of appreciation.
13. Comments from the Wardens: The Wardens spoke briefly from their comments in the Annual Report.

14. Acceptance of All Printed Reports: The parish approved and accepted all printed reports unanimously. Motion to accept made by Garth Myers, second by Kathy Cole.
15. Other Business: There was none.
16. ECCT Parish Study: Garth Myers, warden, led the group through a series of exercises to gather feedback needed for completing the parish study, part of the process for recruiting and selecting a new priest in charge, as required by the diocese.
17. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.
18. The closing prayer was offered by Bishop Scruton.

REPORT FROM THE WARDENS

The year 2023 continued to challenge Trinity. We became stronger and more aware of God's purpose for us and His guidance. We became even more "God-guided and Lay-led". We were supported by a strong group of supply clergy and strong lay leadership for Morning Prayer. We had willing and capable parishioners who stepped in to officiate and deliver homilies.

We returned to an in-person Annual Meeting in February with brunch and with a discernment exercise led by Garth Myers that helped parishioners determine what they were looking for as we search for a new priest.

We have added a Healing Eucharist at noon of the first Wednesday of the month led by Bishop Scruton and a Lectionary Bible Study led by Peter Dewberry. The many other offerings are detailed in the report of the Worship Committee. Under the capable leadership of Don Ghostlaw, Trinity is developing the capacity to livestream our services.

Under the most capable leadership of Joan Joseph and AnnMarie Stavola, the Mission and Outreach Committee was restructured and better organized. Mission and Outreach activities continued to support local, regional, and international programs. We were able to support African Educational Partnership and Kateri Medical Missions with monetary donations. We supported local and regional needs by donations of warm clothing through Social Services, food donations to the Food Pantry, Lunch in the Park, and many other endeavors. We also supported Wethersfield Fuel Bank, Keene Center, and the Backpack Program. Trinity's giving heart is only getting stronger.

We have challenges that remain. We continue our search for a priest and for an organist. We give a heartfelt thank you to Garth Myers as he finishes his tenure as a warden. He brought wisdom and caring and competence to his position and it will be very much missed. We thank Susanna Brown and Charles Melchreit for their service on the Vestry, for their wisdom and their contributions.

It is so easy to focus on our lacks and losses, real and perceived, as we work for Trinity. But we have been greatly blessed. We have asked for God's help, and we have received even more than we had asked for. We are a strong and united family that works hard for each other and for our many Outreach programs. Some people have moved on and more have come to us. Our numbers have not fallen. We look forward to living out God's plan for our parish in the coming months.

Respectfully submitted by
Connie Harasymiw, Garth Myers and Carol Jones, Co-Wardens.

Report of the Treasurer

A. Trinity Parish 2023 Budget and Actuals (pg. 7)

Income was less than budget by \$27k because pledges received were way down, nothing taken from investments.

- Pledges were under by \$11k and Non-Pledge under by \$1k.

Expenses were under budget by \$34.7k.

- Rector Compensation under because no Rector
- Staff under because of vacancies. Music over because higher rate for organist.
- Program over because higher Supply Clergy costs (no Rector).
- Property-Church under because less snow removal, parishioner took care of lawn, and timing of insurance charge.

Total Income exceeded Total Expenses by \$7.7k.

Nothing was withdrawn from investments to cover operating expenses.

B. Designated/ Restricted Accounts (pg. 8)

The Vestry has defined Designated and Restricted Accounts as follows:

Designated Accounts are those where money was given for a specific purpose and must be used for that purpose.

Restricted Accounts are those where money was given but without a specific purpose. Vestry approves expenditures.

Some designated accounts, such as Altar Guild, are managed by a group within Trinity who disburse funds from the account as appropriate. Other accounts such as Memorial Fund are used with Vestry approval.

The monies for these accounts may be in the checking account or investment accounts. Monies added to these accounts or disbursed from these accounts are not reflected in the Operating Budget.

C. Budget 2024 (pg. 9)

Outreach and Mission was increased to 10% from 9%, so we have reached our longtime goal. Music was increased so that we might be able to hire an organist for each Sunday to enhance the service experience and consistency. Nothing was included for a Rector. While the outlook looks promising no figures are available, so we decided to leave it blank instead of guessing (again). We will withdraw money from our investment account to cover any rector expenses. Unfortunately, this is a deficit budget and we will have to withdraw approximately \$27k from our investment account. This is still within our guidelines to not reduce our principal. Our projected income is \$18k lower than last year due mainly to life changes and uncertainty about the economy.

Fiscal Year 2023 accounts were processed using Power Church Plus software.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Heath -Treasurer

2023 ACTUAL TO BUDGET

	2023 Actuals	2023 Budget
Income		
Support	135,097	147,302
Investment Income	0	16,860
Other Income	4,872	2,750
Total Income	\$139,969	\$166,912
Expenses		
Rector Compensation	0	17,941
Staff Compensation	17,312	26,830
Christian Formation	343	1,000
Music	9,710	7,550
Program	11,313	9,700
Outreach and Mission	12,668	13,302
Office	13,708	14,106
Property Church	50,700	59,773
Diocese & Deanery	16,466	16,710
Other	0	0
Total Expenses	\$132,220	\$166,912
Income Less Expenses	\$7,749	\$0

NOTE: In 2023 nothing was actually transferred from Investments to cover operating expenses.

Cash Accounts

Checking Account Balance:	\$35,158
---------------------------	-----------------

Investment Accounts

	Don. & Beqs
Beginning Balance	964,881
Additions	0
Withdrawals	0
Income/Dividends	22,923
Chg in Market Value	121,222
Ending Balance	\$1,109,026

2023 DESIGNATED/RESTRICTED ACCOUNT ACTIVITY

Account Name	Beg. Balance	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Ending Balance
Designated Accounts				
Special Gifts	-57	57	0	0
Physical Improvements	0	12,674	12,674	0
Flower Fund	1,959	4,575	4,410	2,124
Memorial Garden	7,261	265	439	7,087
Discretionary Fund-Rector	3,043	1,316	761	3,598
Outreach-General	481	1,858	2,213	126
Outreach-Special	120	7,548	7,548	120
Community Outreach	923	0	0	923
Theological Seminary	319	47	366	0
Stained Glass Windows	1,296	0	0	1,296
Music	1,264	0	0	1,264
Altar Guild	3,190	1,030	2,995	1,225
Memorial Fund-Designated	2,250	0	2,250	0
Total Designated Accounts	22,049	29,370	33,656	17,763
Restricted Accounts				
Memorial Fund-Restricted	162,852	801	2,283	161,370
Sale of Rectory (net)	55,487	0	12,674	42,813
Nielsen Estate	467,670	15,214	34	482,850
Total Restricted Accounts	686,009	16,015	14,991	687,033
Fund Growth	256,826			404,230
TOTAL INVESTMENT	964,884			1,109,026

NOTE: There are "correcting entries" included in the "In" and "Out" amounts.

Comments on Designated/Restricted Accounts

- Physical improvements: \$10,275 for new Seabury Room windows, \$2,399 for streaming video camera. Funds came from Sale of Rectory account.
- Outreach-General: corrections:
 - Outreach-Special: Nigerian student scholarships, Kateri, Syrian family car.
 - Theological Seminary: moved money to Rector's Discretionary Fund.
 - Altar Guild: not card sales, and memorial donations. Bought clergy stole and safe.
 - Neilsen Estate: additional estate settlement and interest.
 - Memorial Fund Designated: memorial Donation transfer for music.

2024 BUDGET

Income	
Support	120,384
Investment	
Income	27,103
Other Income	2,078
Total Income	\$149,565
Expenses	
Rector Compensation	0
Staff Compensation	21,316
Christian Formation	1,000
Music	14,300
Program	9,291
Outreach and Mission	12,246
Office	13,694
Property Church	60,808
Diocese & Deanery	16,910
Other	
Total Expenses	\$149,565
Income Less Expenses	\$0

NOTE #1: Rector compensation not included.
Any expenses incurred will be taken from our Investment Account.

NOTE #2: Outreach and Mission shows we are contributing **10%**
of Pledge and Other income to various Outreach programs.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Members of the committee for this year were Rose Riley (chairperson), Judy Shaw, Barbara Cosgrove, Susan Whitehouse, and Connie Harasymiw. Please note that for the newly elected vestry members, the number of years in their term is specified and that two of the members have one-year terms. This is being done to facilitate converting to the new practice of electing two Vestry persons each year for a term of three years. This change was approved at the 2023 annual meeting.

Wardens:

- Connie Harasymiw (existing)
- Carol Jones (existing)

Clerk

- Melanie Hepburn (existing)

Treasurer

- Rob Heath (existing)

Vestry

- Cheryl Chadsey (existing)
- Kathy Cole (existing)
- Bruce Duncan (existing)

- Greg Joseph (new, 3 year term)
- Don Ghostlaw (renewed, 1 year term)
- Rebecca Scruton (new, 1 year term)

Nominating committee:

- Barbara Cosgrove
- Judith Shaw
- Garth Myers
- Tina LaMorte

Annual Convention Delegates

- Lynda Blessing (existing)
- Ray Colburn (existing)

Alternate Annual Convention Delegate

- Jennifer Gebhardt (existing)

WORSHIP TEAM REPORT

In the Episcopal Church, worship and music are under the leadership and supervision of the rector of a parish. When Fr. Tom resigned in August of 2022, the wardens became the Ecclesiastical Authority of the parish, assuming the leadership responsibilities of the Rector, including oversight of worship and music for the parish. The wardens delegated their responsibility for the worship and music of the parish to the Worship Team. Garth Myers, Warden, became the Chair of the Worship Team and people who were involved in worship and music leadership were also assigned by the wardens to be part of the team.

Our worship life requires much more behind the scenes work than parishioners may realize. The details of planning and implementing weekly worship, hymns, service music and bulletins require constant weekly preparations. Worship needs to be coordinated with the Altar Guild. While the worship team is not responsible for recruiting supply clergy or organists or for planning the assignments of church openers/closers, ushers/greeters, readers and leaders of Prayers of the People, Eucharistic Ministers, Worship Leaders of Morning Prayer and homilists, maintaining the sound system, turning up the heat in the sanctuary, making sure the church is clean and the snow cleaned off, trimming and weeding the outside grounds, and ensuring that coffee hour is supplied with nourishment after our services... all these tasks need to be coordinated with the weekly worship life of the parish. As a parish we are blessed that such a high percentage of parishioners are involved in doing all these important tasks which sustain our weekly worship as a congregation. Worship truly requires a “village” of willing parishioners working regularly, behind the scenes to sustain our life of prayer and worship. While the clergy shortage has required us to have Morning Prayer and lay homilists, we have learned to worship more deeply with Morning Prayer and we have learned that God has blessed us with a good group of parishioners who are gifted in communicating the Word of God to the congregation.

At the Annual Meeting last year, the parish had a special recognition for Dorothy LaBelle’s retirement from 40 years of music ministry at Trinity. She was a section leader in the choir until we lost our permanent organist. Then, with her compassionate heart and musical training, Dorothy volunteered to play the organ and piano for our worship for 10 years. As a parish we were profoundly blessed by her musical gifts, her faithfulness and dependability in leading our worship.

In the first part of the year, the Worship Team tried to meet quarterly so as not to be too demanding on the time constraints of our members. Small sub-groups met to do some of the details work. We found that we needed to meet all together more regularly to coordinate the elements of planning and sustaining our worship life, so we ended up meeting 10 times this past year.

We were blessed to have gifted young Philip Tummescheit playing the organ, and his mother Heidi, planning our hymns for the first 9 months of the year. The whole family added many musical gifts to our worship life over the years they were with us. We blessed and said good-bye to Philip and his family in early September. Garth and Nan assumed the responsibility for choosing our weekly hymns. They choose hymns, appropriate for our parish, from an officially recommended list of options from our Hymnal, which reflect both the Scriptures of the day and the Season of the Liturgical Year. The wardens embarked on a challenging journey to find organists for our worship. We learned that there is a great shortage of organists for churches. We were blessed that some parishioners volunteered to be Cantors to lead our singing when we had no organist. And we learned that, while we prefer having an organ or piano to lead our singing, we can also make good music to glorify God as a congregation by singing Cantor-led hymns without an instrument to accompany us.

In September, we initiated a Healing Eucharist at noon on the first Wednesday of the month which has been well attended and much appreciated by parishioners. We pray for peace and justice in the war-torn world, for our nation, for people in the healing professions, and for any concerns that are on the hearts of those who come. Opportunity is given for anointing and laying on of hands at the altar rail for those seeking special prayers for themselves and for others.

The parish does not always see another behind the scenes ministry of the Worship Team. This past year we facilitated 3 funerals, large and small, for parishioners and their families.

In the coming year, the Wardens and Worship Team will continue to seek for organists and plan special anthems/music to enhance our worship for the Glory of God and the spiritual inspiration of our congregation.

Worship Team members: Chair, Garth Myers. Carol Jones, Nan Heath, Donna Brown, and Gordon Scruton as advisor.

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

The Altar Guild ministry is dedicated to preparing the altar and the sanctuary for all worship services. This year, Sunday services included the celebration of Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer and three funerals.

Our current members are Cheryl Chadsey, Kathy Cole, Helen Descrochers, Marilyn Galek, Jennifer Gebhardt, Nan Heath, Melanie Hepburn, Carol Jones, Marty Koehler, and Joyce Tomlinson.

This year was particularly memorable for the Altar Guild as we celebrated our former fearless leader and mentor, Arline Hallisey, who passed away last year. A beautiful set of hand embroidered altar linens was dedicated in her memory in October. These linens will be used during the Season of Creation. And finally, after many years of hoping and whining, a new safe was purchased for the safe storage of our precious, sacramental vessels. Unofficially, we have baptized it: *The Arline!*

We are grateful to Nan and Jennifer, who organize the floral arrangements throughout the year, especially during the Christmas, Easter, and Creation seasons. We are also grateful to Joyce, our laundress, for her diligent care of our delicate, fair linens. Finally, we are grateful to Clark Tomlinson who faithfully keeps the Sanctuary light burning.

I learned recently that I am the 20th person to serve as the Director of the Altar Guild at Trinity Parish and that, twenty years ago, there were twenty members serving in this ministry. So, if you are interested in joining us, we have lots of room!

I would like to finish this report with an Altar Guild Prayer:

Heavenly Father, you have entrusted us with the vessels and adornments of your house. Of your mercy, grant that we may hold them in reverence and respect, and so handle them that our work may find acceptance in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Jones

CHRISTIAN FORMATION REPORT

During the Lenten season, following the Sunday worship service, Bishop Gordon led a five-week series of Lenten Explorations in the Book of Common Prayer, with Fr. Shaw stepping in to lead one session when Bishop Gordon was away. A Bible study group, led by Rebecca, met on Wednesdays from February through April. The theme was Jesus' Final Week. In early summer a Lectionary Bible study group was formed. This group, led by Peter Dewberry, met initially on the third Saturday of each month to study the lectionary readings for the following Sunday. These meetings were particularly instructive and supportive for our homilists, but others enjoyed these discussions too. Therefore, in the fall, the group began meeting on both the first and third Saturdays each month.

A parish member bequeathed a beautiful collection of icons to Trinity. Several parish members, Gordon, Warren, Ann Marie and Bruce, became the Icon committee to decide how to place the icons in our church and to educate us about their history and purpose in worship. On Feb 19, Elaine Davies, an expert in the history of icons, gave a talk on the History of Icons and their Value as an aid for Christian prayer. This was followed, on May 19, by a road trip to visit the Icon Museum in Clinton, MA which houses the largest collection of Russian Icons outside of Russia.

In the fall, Garth led an adult formation program entitled: Acknowledging the Land. Land Acknowledgment statements are seen as a means of coming to grips with both the past and present injustices and harms in settler colonialism, imperialism, and capitalism toward Indigenous peoples. In three sessions following the Sunday morning worship service, Garth discussed the history of Indigenous people in Wethersfield, examples of the construct of a Land Acknowledgment statement, and Land Acknowledgments in the Episcopal Church. A small committee will now discuss constructing a Land Acknowledgment statement for Trinity Parish and how this might lead us to a deeper understanding of how to be in a right relationship with all humanity and the earth.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Current Members (2023): Charles Melchreit (Chair), Rob Heath (Treasurer), Kathy Cole, Ann Marie Stavola

The duties of the Finance committee did not change in 2023. The Committee's primary duties include:

- Creation or modification of financial policy and controls as required.
- Monitoring adherence to existing policies and controls
- Reviewing monthly financial reports before presentation to Vestry
- Assisting the Vestry in development of the annual budget
- Developing long term income/expense strategies
- Recruiting, training, and scheduling Counters
- Researching ad hoc financial questions

During the year:

- The committee provided support to the Treasurer by reviewing financial reports, the auditor's comments, and draft budgets at monthly meetings.
- Kathy Cole continued to oversee the counting process, including scheduling and training.
- Rob Heath continued his initiative to formalize documentation of financial processes and account structure.
- The committee monitored the performance of the diocesan Donations and Bequests for Church Purposes fund, which holds Trinity's endowment.
- Early in the year, the committee evaluated potential benefits and risks of moving part of Trinity's checking account balance into an interest-bearing money market fund. As the evaluation indicated that the income gain would be meaningful at current interest rates while not exposing Trinity to material investment risk, a money market account was established and is in the process of funding.

The Finance Committee benefits from the knowledge and insights of parishioners and hopes that some will consider joining as at-large members.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Technology Committee supports Trinity's mission both within and outside of Trinity through the use of 21st century technology by continuing to oversee and address technology issues within our parish.

Updates on 2023 recommendations:

- A new inkjet printer was gifted to Trinity by Tom Drennan.
- Exploration of Microsoft 365 put on hold due to personnel issues and reorganization of Trinity's online files.
- Live Streaming and Sound Update 2023, submitted by Don Ghostlaw: In 2022 we received a donation of equipment and software to begin live streaming our services. We spent 2023 setting up all of the equipment (quite an involved project), and getting familiar with the equipment and associated software. Our setup included adjustments made to both the live stream and in-church sound levels (also quite involved), and determination of any additional equipment needed. As of this writing, we are just about ready to go live with the streaming in early 2024. To date we have streamed a few services for private viewing, established protocols for preserving privacy and safety, and learned more about how to use all software and hardware associated with streaming. Based on review of the sample streams, we've established that we need a few additional microphones around the church to pick up parishioner sounds (not images) so that the live stream includes all of the voices one would hear in church, and not just the voices of the preacher and readers. All images captured by the single camera we have are of those on the altar who have an active role in the service. We do not capture images of anybody who is not participating in the service. During communion, the camera is pointed away from the altar rail.

Costs to date directly to Trinity Parish have been minimal, and on an on-going basis should not total more than about \$1,500 annually, mostly for license and software fees, maintenance of our YouTube channel, and minor equipment updates as needed.

The parish will be informed by letter and in church announcement about a go-live date, and about privacy protocols before we actually begin streaming publicly on YouTube and Facebook. We will also let everyone know how they can see the service online. We are quite excited about bringing live streaming to those who cannot make it to church, and those in the local community who are church shopping and want to check our services and beautiful church.

If you have any questions, please free to reach out to Don Ghostlaw at (860) 305-0700, or in person after the service.

New in 2023:

- Internet provider (including telephone system) switch to GoNetspeed
- Reorganization of Trinity's online files
- New TCL Google TV, LG Wireless Sound Bar and Sony DVD were gifted for the Seabury Room to allow greater viewing capacities for future classes and meetings.

2024 Initiatives:

- Go live with streaming
- Resume exploring the capabilities of Microsoft 365
- Complete the reorganization of Trinity's online files

The technology committee would like to recognize and thank:

- Don Ghostlaw and his team for their work to make live-streaming possible for Trinity.
- Rob Heath for his tireless commitment to the complete organization of Trinity's files.
- Dave Hager for his tech support when needed,

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Joseph and Donna Brown

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Trinity's website and Eblasts continue to provide our community with up-to-date information about what is happening at Trinity. The Eblasts focus on each week's news and alerts. The website, developed and updated by Joan Joseph, provides more in-depth coverage and details and will be an access source for live-streaming. In addition to Worship information and Spiritual opportunities, the congregation can also access audio and print versions of weekly sermons and homilies from the website. Policies, bylaws, and Vestry reports are available as well as detailed Mission & Outreach information and a photo gallery.

We encourage parishioners to take advantage of these tools for the latest information about Trinity.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Joseph and Donna Brown

MISSION & OUTREACH REPORT

Mission & Outreach at Trinity is a lay-driven ministry focused on serving local, regional, and international causes. 2023 brought changes to Trinity's Mission & Outreach ministry with the formation of a committee to guide M&O projects and activities. A flyer was created to inform as well as to encourage the congregation of the opportunities awaiting them to *Love God, Love Your Neighbor, and Change the World*®. Activities, projects, and Outreach Fund donations are now documented to maintain records of Trinity's M&O. The M&O bulletin board in the Parish Hall was revived to feature all M&O work being done at Trinity.

The focus for 2023 has been *How is Jesus Calling You?* The following reports represent how Trinity's congregation has answered that question. They have generously given more to Trinity's M&O than could have possibly been imagined, and certainly the work could not have been accomplished without them.

There are three parts to the Mission & Outreach "trinity" – Collections, Activities, and Outreach Fund Donations. The 3 sections below record what was done in each during 2023.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Joan Joseph & Ann Marie Stavola

2023 Collections:

- Lenten Food Drive – Wethersfield Food Bank (Joan Joseph/Ann Marie Stavola) – 267 items (SNAP & NON-SNAP items) + \$135 in gift cards
- Syrian Family Support (car loan) – Citizens of the World (Donna Brown/Carol Jones) - \$1,900
- Mac 'N Cheese Drive – Hands on Hartford (Ginger Smith) – 535 items
- Nigerian Scholarships – Bishop Dogo in Kafanchan, Nigeria (Cheryl Chadsey) - \$4,000
- Thanksgiving Food Drive – Wethersfield Food Bank (Vickie Crafa) – 184 items
- Purse Ministry – Toiletries, hygiene items and more to fill purses for those in need & transition (Sue Rafala) – 51 purses distributed, including a donation of 31 bags to Lunch in the Park
- Sean's Closet – December coat drive & ongoing collection for WSS (Connie Harasymiw). Report: Sean's Closet, in cooperation with the Social Services in the school system, has distributed winter coats and warm clothing to three families in Wethersfield. We have also contributed infant clothing to the Christmas Drive for the Friendship Service Center.
- Christmas Drive for underwear & winter items – Friendship Service Center (Ann Marie Stavola/Joan Joseph) – 2 carloads

2023 Activities:

- Because We Care – Barbara Cosgrove created this Trinity ministry in late 2023 to provide cards & meals for parishioners in need. She would like to form a group of people to call on to prepare a meal when needed. Please contact her to become part of this ministry or to request cards or meals for a parishioner.
- Community Dinners – Hands on Hartford (Warren & Lynda Blessing) – 400+ meals. Report: We worked again this year in supporting six dinners with Hands on Hartford. The recipients are community members who live in the Hartford area. With thanks to those who support us in the church who either make contributions of food or cash donations. With these contributions we were able to provide the dinners. We have a group of about six volunteers who join on a Monday night to prepare and serve the meal. We are always open to rotate another Trinity member into the rotation for helping out at the dinner. We have a very nice kitchen, made available to us to prepare the meal. The community members who receive the meal are always very appreciative and thank us profusely for the dinner they receive. If you would like to find out more about our dinners, please let us know. We do have email lists we send out every other month to those interested. Respectively submitted, Warren & Lynda Blessing.
- Soup to Go – Copprome Orphanage, Honduras (Ginger Smith) - \$1,300 raised. Report: I was at Copprome in April and November of 2023. With only one exception all the children (40) are well and going to school on a regular basis. As you all know Danilo had neurosurgery to have a tumor removed from the back of his neck and is currently doing well. The food situation is not now and has never been great. I had to buy a new fridge in April and a stove in November. I cooked all their meals while there and made sure their freezers and fridges were filled to the top when I left. Because I never know what I will encounter upon arrival, I can always accept donations and appreciate all purchases of soups. Sister Teresita, one of the orphanage founders is in her 80's and frail but continues to come to the orphanage daily. Many thanks to everyone who continues to support this mission. Ginger Smith
- Lunch in the Park/Church by the Pond – Christ Church Cathedral (Carol Jones) – 100+ bagged lunches provided and served 4 times in the last calendar year.
- Provided volunteers to pack food for Haiti at St. Andrew's - End Hunger New England (Joan Joseph) – 4 Trinity volunteers helped pack 216 meals in 46 boxes.
- Tapestry Singers Concert – Kateri Medical Mission (Wardens) - \$2,000 donated by Trinity + individual donations made by concert attendees to this fundraiser.
- Friends & Needles – Trinity knitting group (Connie Harasymiw) – Report: Friends and Needles continues to meet every Thursday in the Seabury Room from 1 to 3. We knit prayer shawls, and hats for premature infants in the NICU. We share books and puzzles and conversation.

2023 Outreach Fund Donations

- Kateri Medical Mission – see Tapestry Singers above under Activities.
- Keane Foundation - \$500 (Donna Brown) to support *Keane On Kids After School Enrichment Programs*
- Wethersfield Social Services - \$500 (Ann Marie Stavola) to the Backpack fund for back-to-school supplies
- Wethersfield Social Services - \$2,500 (Ann Marie Stavola/Joan Joseph) for two contributions to the Wethersfield Fuel Bank
- Det. Robert “Bobby” Garten Memorial - \$500 (Ann Marie Stavola/Joan Joseph) to the memorial fund for a former Trinity parishioner, a Hartford police officer, killed in the line of duty.
- St. Vincent’s Center for Children with Disabilities - \$1,500 (Marilyn Ford) for continued support of this critical service in Haiti.
- American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem - \$1,200 (Gordon & Rebecca Scruton) whose mission is the *transforming [of] lives of the vulnerable & displaced in the Middle East.*
- Camp Washington - \$800 (Corinne Helfant) to support summer camp opportunities for children.
- Connecticut Foodshare - \$1,000 (Tim Boardman) to address food insecurity.
- Africa Education Partnership - \$1,200 (Don Ghostlaw) to further the work of building schools & to provide scholarships in northern Nigeria.
- Tomasso Family Kitchen - \$500 (AMS/JJ) To support Friendship Service Center food kitchen that provides daily meals to residents and daily open lunches to all.

MEMORIAL GARDEN



“Think of them faring on as dear

In the love of There as the love of Here.”

From “Away” by James Whitcomb Riley

A heartfelt thank you to Rob Heath, Rebecca Scruton, Vicki Crafa, Clark Tomlinson and Connie Harasymiw, whose work to maintain the Memorial Garden is very much appreciated. This means so much to everyone, but especially to those who have relatives interred in the Garden.

Geraldeen Bramhall Lohman was interred in the Memorial Garden in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Tomlinson

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

Just like years past, considerable time has been spent on keeping up minor items like you do around your home. With no sexton in place, everything is maintained by volunteer assistance. It would be wonderful to have another additional person who would volunteer for small occasional duties or just to help with setting up for a parish house function, be it a funeral or church meeting. If you would like to assist with any of these, please let us any of us know.

In addition to our normal maintenance, we managed to complete several additional noteworthy projects in which we completed or coordinated with an outside vendor to help.

- Cleaning and Painting of the Seabury Room and the Office. (Volunteers)
- Roofing work in the (Alligator Pit) roof covering the boiler room and lower level hallway. (Dzen Commercial Roofing)
- Managed to change our internet connectivity from Frontier to Go Net Speed to obtain improved connection speed needed. (Volunteers)
- Support the wiring and installation of equipment for our Streaming Capability. (Volunteers)
- Coordinated the repair of windows in the Seabury Room and the Parish Hall and repainted where needed, (Capitol Glass & Volunteers)
- The annual assembly and disassembling of our Nativity scene.(Volunteers)
- Organized and cleaned out the Children's chapel, small undercroft, school office. (Volunteers)
- Handy man tasks throughout the building.(Volunteers)
- Organizing of the side chapel and the hanging of the new Icons.(Volunteers)
- Smoke Detectors and Emergency lights maintained.(Volunteers)
- Maintenance on HVAC (Heat/AC) Systems (Campbell & Volunteers)

Respectively submitted, Warren Blessing, Clark Tomlinson, Jerry Stavola, Ray Colburn and Charles Melchreit.