

2021 Annual Report Trinity Episcopal Church Aurora, IL

February 7th, 2021 Review of Fiscal Year 2020

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

Good Shepherd, you have called us each by name to follow you. We follow you here to this time, to this place known as Trinity Episcopal Church, in Aurora, Illinois. Through grace, you have called us to be part of you, the True Vine. Through union with you we are in union with our brothers and sisters, for all the branches are part of the Vine and find their life in you.

In the Eucharist you call us to remain in you, to remain in a union of love. Your love for those who are yours is like the love of the Father for you. Apart from you we can do nothing. In you, with you, and through you we can bear much fruit.

There are a variety of tasks among the members of the Body – the Body which is always in the process of being built up. Together with you, the source of our unity with one another, each of us is called to carry out his or her own particular work. You, our Cornerstone, have called us to be "living stones," to continue building a spiritual temple for worship to the glory of the Father.

Today, humbly, we lay before you the results of our work this past year. We pray you will find them an acceptable gift. We ask for your continued guidance. **Amen.**



Membership in the Church

(A SUMMARY OF THE CANONS)

The National Canons address membership in the Church and the expectations the Church places on those members:

- 1. Members of the Church are those persons who have been baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit with water, and whose baptism has been duly recorded in this Church. Adult members are those persons sixteen years of age and older.
- 2. All adult members of the Church are expected to be confirmed in the Church, or if they have been confirmed in another Christian Church by a Bishop in Apostolic Succession, to have been received into this Church.
- 3. All members are considered to be communicants of this Church who have received Holy Communion at least three times during the previous year in this Church.
- 4. All persons in this Church are expected to celebrate and keep the Lord's Day and participate in the Church's public worship.

Communicants in good standing are those who have:

- A. Attended corporate worship on a regular basis in their Church unless they have been prevented from doing so for good cause;
- B. Have been faithful in the giving of their time, talents, and treasure for the spread of the Kingdom of God.

2021 ANNUAL MEETINGWith 2020 Annual Reports

February 7, 2021

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
- 2. Appointment of Clerk
- 3. Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes
- 4. Report of the Nominating Committee
- 5. Report of the Rector
- 6. Report of the Wardens
- 7. Report of the Treasurer
- 8. Standing Committee and Miscellaneous Reports
- 9. New Business
- 10. Courtesy Resolutions

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

Bishop Jeffery Lee

11. Closing Prayer & Adjournment

THE VESTRY

Sr. Warden: Marilou Clohessy

Jr. Warden: Ken Adam

Treasurer: R. Thomas Herget Clerk: Robert L. Borchert, III

2020 2021 2022

Trish Tousignant Rob Borchert Karen Dolan Mary Jacobsen Guy Stephens Cathie Patterson

Mission Program and Ministry Staff

Rector: The Rev. Denzil J. Luckritz **Director of Music**: Gregory Gyllsdorff, FAGO, ChM

Sexton: Gary Gorney

Delegates to Diocesan Convention and Alternates to EITHER Deanery Chapter OR Convention Linda Barber, Gregory Gyllsdorff, Cathie Patterson; Gale Blogg and Pat Wilson (Alternates)

Parish Standing Committees

FINANCE: R. Thomas Herget, Treasurer, (Chair) Rob Borchert, Marilou Clohessy and Bella Tousignant (Members at Large)

STEWARDSHIP: R. Thomas Herget, Richard Blogg

PHYSICAL OPERATIONS/PROPERTY: Ken Adam, and Rob Borchert

LITURGY/WORSHIP: Fr. Luckritz, Greg Gyllsdorff

OUTREACH: Marilou Clohessy, Rob Borchert, Karen Dolan, Lisa Luckritz, and Cathie Patterson

PERSONNEL/STAFF: Marilou Clohessy (Sr. Warden/Chair), The Rev. Denzil J. Luckritz (Rector)

COMMUNICATIONS: Missy Athos, Rob Borchert, Marilou Clohessy, Tom Herget, Cathie Patterson

Parish Organizations

Jubilee: Linda Barber, Gale Blogg and Rob Borchert

St. Margaret's Guild: Linda Barber (President), Karen Dolan (Vice President), Chireen DeKing (Treasurer), Gale Blogg (Secretary)

Altar Guild: Pat Wilson (Sacristan), Linda Barber, Rob Borchert, Gale Blogg, Lisa Luckritz.

Flowers: Linda Barber

Licensed Worship Leaders and Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Chalice Bearers: Rob Borchert, Dolores Palmquist, Gale Blogg, Pat Wilson, Linda Barber, Mary Jacobsen.

Ushers: Richard Blogg, Marilou Clohessy, Gary and Inga Gorney

Counters: R. Thomas Herget, Marilou Clohessy, Rob Borchert

Choir: Melissa Athos, John Heath, Gale Blogg, Cathie Patterson, Guy Stephens, Janet Stephens, Matthew Stephens

Bell Choir: Greg Gyllsdorff, David Igbalajobi, Cathie Patterson, Lisa Luckritz, Cecelia Seabrook, Mary Jacobsen, Karen Dolan, Rob Borchert, Daniel Akimyuwa, Grace Akimyuwa

Lectors: Milissa Athos, Linda Barber, Gale Blogg, Rob Borchert, Karen Dolan, Greg Gyllsdorff, John Heath, Mary Jacobsen, Lisa Luckritz, Cathie Patterson, Guy Stephens, Judy Stafanick

Minutes - 2020 Meeting Minutes

Father Luckritz Called the Meeting to order at 10:50 am 2/9/2020

Father said the opening prayer.

Father reviewed the requirements for parish membership.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to name Borchert as meeting clerk.

Father introduced Trinity's new neighbor, Michael Joy who purchased and is renovating a building across the parking lot from Trinity. Michael shares our interest in beautifying the parking lot and entrance to both buildings. He purchased and installed Trinity Parking signs and is working with us to develop a parking sticker procedure for the lot. It is wonderful to have an interested, supportive and dynamic neighbor like Michael.

A motion was made, seconded and passed accepting the Agenda as presented.

A motion was made, seconded and passed accepting the 2018 Annual Meeting minutes.

Father reviewed the Nominating Committee's report and thanked Tom Herget and Cathie Patterson for their service. See page 6 of the Annual Report for the new Vestry. Tom will continue as Treasurer, but not as a voting member of the Vestry.

Named the delegates and alternates to the 2020 Convention: Greg Gyllsdorff, Linda Barber, and Cathie Patterson with Gale Blogg and Pat Wilson as alternates.

A motion was made, seconded and passed accepting the Vestry and Delegate slate.

Rector's Report. Father referred to his written report on page 7. He noted that we had come significant losses during the year and especially remembered Gloria Maudsley, Peter Barber and Ken Palmquist. He also mentioned making renewed contact with three families: Joanne Maynard and Karen Zimmerman. Attendance averaged 49 for the year, but will be difficult to maintain in the coming year. A motion was made, seconded and passed accepting the Rector's verbal and written report.

Sr. Warden Report: Marilou Clohessy referred members to her written report. Father thanked Marilou for her exemplary service.

Jr. Warden's Report: Ken Adam referred to his building and grounds report in the Annual Report and stressed what a wonderful year of progress we have made! Father thanked Ken and Rob.

A motion was made, seconded and passed accepting the Warden reports.

The winners of the fence auction were announced. Guy Stephens won one section; Cathie Patterson won the other two!

Father praised the work that Maria Ulloa and Gary Gorney, keep our grounds beautifully maintained during the year.

The Finance Report was presented by Tom Herget who reviewed:

The final results of the 2019 Budget and the 2020 Budget

2019 Significant Enhancements to Building and Grounds

Trinity's Asset Allocation report

Report of Funds Under Control of the Church

Mission Funds Report.

Questions were asked and answered.

A motion was made, seconded and passed accepting the reports as presented.

The Outreach Report detailed the accomplishments of our outreach program in 2019 and reported that the same four outreach projects will be done this year.

The Communications Committee felt that the tearing down of the Masonic Temple had greatly enhanced the beauty of our neighborhood.

Music: Greg Gyllsdorff thanked everyone who made our music program great last year. He also stated that there is an opening on the Bell Choir and asked for volunteers.

Sandwich Board: Gale Blogg reported that the Sandwich Board continues to do great work and that Trinity has expanded the number of times it hosts it. More support from the Congregation is needed.

St. Margaret's Guild: The had a wonderful Christmas Party with Betty Giles at Bickford on Galena. They are looking to add some evening events to allow more women to attend. They had a successful Quilt fund-raiser and many bake sales during the year.

The Altar Guild. Father praised Pat Wilson for <u>all</u> her efforts behind the scenes and for the other members of the Guild.

A motion was made, seconded and passed accepting the committee reports

Final Comments: Father said that there was always someone who should have been thanked but was overlooked and apologized. He said it was a terrific year at Trinity and good things are ahead.

There was extra food. Members were asked to take some home.

Doug Tierney commented on how welcome he has felt since he began coming here and thanks us for being so inclusive.

Courtesy resolutions will be sent out as they have in the past.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:54 am.

Respectfully Submitted

Rob Borchert Clerk

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee, prior to the Annual Meeting, seeks candidates to fill upcoming vacant positions on the Vestry, including Wardens, Treasurer, and Clerk positions. They additionally seek individuals who are willing to serve as Delegates or Alternates to Convention and Deanery

The following candidates will stand for election at the upcoming annual meeting:

Officers:

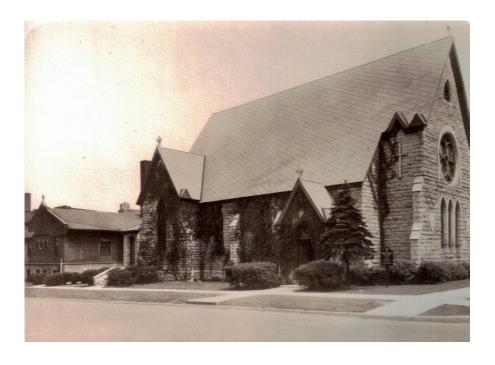
Karen Dolan

Marilou Clohessy, Senior Warden	Three year term to expire 2022
Ken Adam, Junior Warden	Three year term to expire 2022
R. Thomas Herget, Treasurer	
Vestry Members:	
Rob Borchert	Three Year Term to Expire 2023
Guy Stephens	Three Year Term to Expire 2023
Mary Jacobsen	Three year Term to Expire in 2022
Patricia Tousignant	Three year Term to Expire in 2022
Cathie Patterson	Three year Term to Expire in 2021

Rob Borchert and Guy Stephens terms expired in 2020 and both are eligible to serve another term and have agreed to do so.

Three year Term to Expire in 2021

Representatives to the Diocesan Convention and Deanery: Linda Barber, Cathie Patterson, Greg Gyllsdorff, and Gale Blogg (Alternate)



Rector's Report

Dear Friends,

Last year at our annual meeting, little did we know that 2020 would bring unprecedented challenges to Trinity Episcopal Church, every single member, their loved ones and families, the nation, and the world. We found ourselves traveling on unknown paths. A pandemic, economic uncertainty, and social unrest provoking a renewed movement for justice, brought us three challenging, revealing, transformational, and defining times. How we respond as a Christian community reveals our core and character and will shape us for generations to come. Appropriately, this year's Annual Report reflects in the pages that follow, how we shared those defining moments.

Your leaders, who are guiding our efforts, attempted at every opportunity to stay the course and to strengthen Trinity's presence and ministry. As you will see, this year's journey has not been filled with distractions from our strategic goals, but instead has served to sharpen our focus, our call to be God's presence in our community. We recognize that ours is not the first generation to face such difficult moments. During this past year, at least one article in our newsletter reminded us of those who served in the military during times of war.

During these stressful and turbulent days, we have found new ways to worship together and to build and strengthen community; the Sandwich Board moved to a new way of being independent and successfully established new ways of reaching the hungry and needy; those looking over our financial matters made sound decisions and successfully maintained those resources; those who oversaw the building and grounds were able to improve them and began preparing for our return to the facilities. Together we found ways to stay in touch online via Zoom and Facebook, as well as gentle reminders through a flowering plant or note expressing our concern for one another.

It was indeed a year of challenges, but they were met by a profoundly strong community of faith. I'd say we are a "feisty" and healthy parish. Feisty, I believe is an apt description for a parish that perseveres and so faithfully witnesses its faith and purpose for being. As I walk down the center aisle of the nave these days and pass by those pews, I see our members praying once again, just as so many have before them. I hear the voices responding and music echoing from the recently repaired and freshly painted ceiling. When it is safe, we will return. And while this year has been so different from previous years, one thing remains the same: Like members before them who have faced defining moments, the people of Trinity continue to pursue and live into the call to be God's presence in the world and to be faithful to that call, finding paths, moving forward with intention, witnessing God's love. I'm inspired by you, and I think often of the foresight of those long-ago members who understood the "feisty," purposeful call to plant, build, and become Trinity Episcopal Church, Aurora.

In Christ,

Denzil J. Luckritz, Rector



Liturgy and Membership Report and Worship Status

SERVICE YEAR	2020	2019	2018
Eucharist: Sunday	10	53	53
Weekday	14	61	54
Hospital - Private	9	63	60
Baptisms	0	1	1
Marriages	0	1	1
Burials	6	4	5
Morning Prayer	204	1	11
Evening Prayer	161	1	0
All Other	2*	10	3
TOTAL ATTENDANCE	8962	5764	4950
Average Sunday Attendance	46	49	38
SELECTED DAYS			
Lent I	39	40	35
Easter Vigil/Day	86	120	90
Pentecost	52	48	37
Advent I	54	56	56
Christmas	123	79	93

* Christmas Lessons & Carols Total Sunday Attendance = 2366

Membership Information 2020

Baptisms in 2020 - None

Marriages in 2020 - None

Confirmations and Receptions in 2020 – None Transfers In 2020 – None

Transfers Out 2020 – None

Burials in 2020 – Kenneth Palmquist, Elizabeth Giles, Susan Willgeroth, Larry Taylor, Brian Dunn, and Hallie Casas

Wardens' Report

Dear friends

Last year, I started my report by saying "What can I say about 2019 except WOW". Last year I meant that in a great way. This year also deserves a WOW, but for different reasons.

Who would have thought that our beloved church would be closed for services? Who would have thought that the Sandwich board would have to stop serving hot meals? Who would have thought the Mardi Gras celebration would be the last fellowship event we had this year?

Then again – who would have thought that Father Denzil would start putting Sunday services on Facebook and Zoom? And that even our older parishioners would get tech savvy and join? Who would have thought we would be having Morning and evening Prayer 5 days per week? Who would have thought that Greg would provide such incredible and beautiful music for all these services? Who would have thought that the Sandwich board would reinvent itself and serve sack lunches from the side door? Who would have thought that people from all over the country would join our on-line services and support Trinity?

We have lost a lot this year, but we have gained a lot too. The Lord has blessed Trinity with a resilience that shows in our services, the beautification of the grounds and building itself, and our love for each other.

I usually talk about all the fellowship/hospitality events we have each year and the wonderful fun and food. This too will happen again, so let me close by saying - until we eat again!

Stay safe, God bless you

Respectfully submitted Marilou Clohessy, Sr. Warden









2019 budget vs actual and 2020 budget

TEC Operating Account \$000			
Revenues	2020 Expected	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Pledgers, Givers	63	74	67
Investment Income	44	45	41
Grant	0	25	0
IDOM	7	6	7
Memorial Fund	50	33	50
Other	8	8	5
Total	172	191	170
Expenses			
Buildings & Grounds	30	33	32
Clergy	97	103	95
Diocese	11	11	11
Other Salary	26	22	28
Other	8	12	8
Total	172	181	174
Net Income	0	10	-4

Pledgers, givers: some new people, some unexpected large contributions, many unexpected other contributions.

Grants: Payroll Protection Program. We preserved 17 of Memorial fund. 2021 PPP Second Draw

IDOM: stayed with us financially even though they couldn't use the building

Christmas: Despite all impacts of the pandemic, Christmas donations matched last year's

Several bills (insurance, pension, health, Rector Housing IRA) due in 2021 were paid in 2020.

Health insurance costs decreased; Rector IRA inadvertently not budgeted Budget presumes mid-year return to church; 12/31/2020 checking account balance 14

Mission Funds

	12/31/2019 Balance	2020 Contributions	2020 Payments	12/31/2020 Balance
All Saints	2,345	3,521	964	4,633
Linens	(169)	75	51	(145)
Flowers & Candles	859	1,529	2,351	37
Endowment Fund	100	1,130	1,210	20
Jubilee	(133)	2,757	2,644	(21)
Memorial Fund	1,484	6,995	3,042	5,437
Music	7,547	4,067	9,990	1,624
Outreach	909	3,137	2,517	1,529
Rector's Discretionary Fund	49	1,730	750	1,029
One to Grow On	(162)	7,142	6,760	220
All Other	83	-	-	83
Total	12,912	32,083	30,279	14,446

Music includes Concert Series, Choir/licenses, Bell Choir, Stipends and Organ Maintenance
Outreach includes AID, Back to School, Christmas Gift and Food Baskets
All Other includes Fundraisers, Grants, bank fees and United Thank Offering
All Saints is for the ramp near the organ
Flowers - our three deliverables were perfectly funded
One to Grow activity is for the parking lot enhancement
Outreach balance is belated funds for Christmas gifts

Report on Funds Under the Control of the Church; FY 2020

Beginning Bal-Interest/ Change in Withdrawals/ Ending Type of Fund ance Deposits Earnings Market Value Distributions Balance Endowment 799,757 52,160 29,866 62,371 46,408 701,768 Memorial 165,827 152,420 6,846 2,800 107,610 220,283 St. Margaret's 1,500 123 0 0 550 1,073 0 0 1,490 Amnesty 1,331 159 0 0 0 0 Bracelet 1,401 0 1,401 Total 36,712 871,827 204,862 65,171 154,568 1,024,004

Components of 108 Memorial Fund Withdrawals

- 50 transfer to Endowment Fund
- 33 subsidy to operating account
- 9 to pay for the painting of the Church Ceiling
- 2 to transfer Deacon John's memorial funds to Mission Funds
- 5 for the down payment on the parking lot project
- 6 to Michel's Plumbing for the upgrading of our boiler system.
- 2 to Electrician for fixing our lights in the Church
- 1 for the railing in the parking lot.

The Generosity of Father Dan Hanna

Allocation of Endowment & Memorial Fund Assets 31 December 2020

	% of investments	policy maximum
Real assets	14%	25%
Government fixed-income	5%	20%
Non-Gov. fixed income	21%	45%
Common stocks	51%	50%
Cash & short-term	9%	5%
	100%	

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Outreach Report

Trinity is amazing! Even when we could not be together in church, we came together to help others. Although we did not have our usual drive to help the folks at AID (The Association fore Individual Development), we still sent money in honor of those who died of Covid-19. School supplies could not be collected but money poured in. To our surprise, Beaupre School said that, due to a large grant and remote learning, they did not need supplies. So that money was put toward our Christmas gift program. We sent out 15 Christmas bags, 12 to Beaupre and three to members of our congregation. Each bag had a gift card to Aldi's for food, and a Walmart gift card for each child in the family. Cathie Patterson filled the gift bags with candy treats and Christmas Cheer. **15 families and 37 children's holidays were made happier!**

Yes, Trinity is <u>truly</u> amazing. Thank you, thank you! AND money continues to come in afterward and so we have a nice reserve for helping others during the upcoming year. **Your Out-reachCommittee - Marilou Clohessy, Chair**

Communication Committee Report

The Communication Committee was instrumental in keeping open and ongoing contact with Trinity's congregation. Individual contacts were made in distributing two deliveries of flowers and distribution of either Christmas flowers or Christmas decorations and sending out American and Episcopal Flags. We also increased the frequency of our semi-monthly Newsletters to monthly. We also completely redesigned Trinity's web page; www.trinityaurora.org. We instituted on-line giving and provided helpful suggestions to Father and Greg as they developed our on-line service presence. Weekly bulletins were sent out to those who couldn't access them electronically as were Newsletters to non-internet using Congregants. Our Service Register Books were digitalized, identifying a gap in documentation of Marriages in the 1940s. Books digitalized are Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages and Funerals. They still need a proof reading and correction. Thanks to all who contributed. Newsletters from 1972 to current were also digitalized. The file of digitalized historic pictures of Trinity was reviewed and contents of each labeled - Thank you for both, Tom! Respectfully submitted, Rob Borchert, Chair

Community Service Report

Trinity had one community service worker prior to the pandemic shut down. The Kane County Court Service commuted all Community Service hours so none were available. Trinity was re-activated as a site in September but we have not received any referrals since then.

The Sandwich Board, LTD

Well, we survived 2020. It is great to say that we have not missed a single Thursday in our 33 years. We have survived the pandemic, snow storms, power outages, and flooding. I am reminded of one Thursday when there were only 100 sandwiches and somehow we served 125+ people. This was the story of the loaves and fishes. Amazing!

In 2020 The Sandwich Board became a 501 $\mathbb{C}(3)$ non-profit organization. Thanks to the newly formed board of directors. This will enable The Sandwich Board to seek grants and be independent from the church as some grants are not for religious organizations.

In March we started with sandwiches and people came to the door as we were not serving inside. The first months of quarantine, I was afraid to come out. So... Rob picked up the slack and then, Scott, Gale, Marsha, Jean, Maggie and Antonia. They are here every Thursday, handing out the lunches. What a blessing is this group!

We served on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. The people are ever so grateful. People have donated clothing, hats, gloves, scarves, mittens, blankets. If you are cleaning out closets, remember we can really use outer ware and blankets. Our numbers are starting to average over 120 lunches each week. We served 3531 meals in 2020

Bless all of you for your prayers and support! Linda Barber, Director

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

Property Report

Major Building and Grounds activities.

Our grounds continued to be beautified by Maria Ulloa with help from our Sexton, Gary Gorney.

Gary also continued to touch up our external paint over the summer. This seems to be an ongoing project.

A new railing was installed by the Parish Hall entrance.

The Church ceiling and walls were painted

The berms in the parking lot were replaced. Parking stops were installed. Gary erected the advertising pole in the new berm.

Several leaking boiler pipes were replaced. The worst one was under the rear of the Church which had already been patched four times.

The boiler was upgraded to include a holding tank that should have been part of the original installation.

The Church was stripped of all Hymnals, Prayer Books, Bibles, cushions and everything else in preparation for Covid Cleaning.

The peeling floor under the pews was painted.

Tile was removed from the Chapel and at the bottom of the stairs by the bathroom.

The drain by the Chapel door was cleaned out and our flooding problem disappeared.

All remaining tile floors were stripped and waxed.

The hole the squirrel got in through was patched. The squirrel was captured and released in the wilderness

Gary continued to do touch up painting on the exterior of the Church







Other Accomplishments

Preparation of Annual Report for the February 8, 2020 Annual Meeting.

The Jubilee Center received two grants; one from our Diocese and one from the National Church.

We had our Mardi Gras dinner followed by trivia by Tom Herget.

Trinity established and maintained an on-line presence for its services and actually increased attendance.

Due to the legacy of Betty Giles a new Trinity rred Vestment was purchased.

Greg transformed the area in front of the Altar into our recording studio.

Trinity established an on-line giving process that has proved popular during this distancing time.

We applied for and received a Payroll Protection Program Grant that eased our reliance on the Memorial Fund to \$33,000.

The blessing of the animals occurred as a drive through event.

The Bell choir performed twice.

And all the other things I forgot to list!

Trinity Amnesty Center, 2020

Beginning Balance 01/01/2020 \$1,330.78

RECEIPTS:

Donations \$ 159.00 TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 159.00 DISBURSEMENTS: \$ 0.00

ψ 0.00

Ending Balance 12/31/2020 \$1,489.78

Linda Barber, Director

As you can see from the above statement – not much activity as far as immigration goes. As far as the Dreamers; status quo. Sporadic phone calls and one petition.

Hoping there will be some significant issues resolved in 2021.

St. Margaret's Guild, 2020

Beginning Balance, 01/01/2020 \$1,499.88

RECEIPTS:

Bake Sale \$ 123.00 **TOTAL RECEIPTS** \$ **123.00**

DISBURSEMENTS

Fair Share-ECW 50.00

TEC-Christmas 200.00 TEC-pledge 300.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$ 550.00

Ending Balance 12/31/2020 \$1072.88

We had one bake sale in February. We are hoping to get back together and start baking. What a year 2020 was and GOODBYE! Our dues are very nominal and we hope to have some more women join us for our lunch and meetings. Wishing all of you a safe, healthy and happy 2021. God Bless!

Linda Barber, President

Music Program Report Annual Report 2020

2020 was a challenging year. While we all could recite the many issues we faced as individuals, families and as a church community, it might be good for a moment to remember the things we have learned.

Music is vital to us as a spiritual community. Music has the ability to reach our hearts and minds in a way that mere words cannot.

Seeing and being with the members and friends of Trinity's community gives us joy and a feeling of oneness. Worshipping together, even virtually, strengthen our faith.

We are grateful for the members of the Adult Choir and the Trinity Ringers, and look forward to making music together soon. We all miss being together, and know we will return soon.



We are blessed to have technology that has helped us to worship together via Zoom. Personally, I have enjoyed learning how to record, edit, splice, join, use Movie Maker, light bars and light rings, and discover the Cloud for creating music for our worship.

Working with Andrew Mertzenich, our Cantor for Sundays, is a great joy. Together with Fr. Denzil we are presenting some of the best worship online. We are richly blessed to have soloists, Melissa Athos, Guy Stephens, Matthew Stephens, Cathie Patterson, and Valerie Holland and others to enrich our worship.

We are blessed to have online services of daily Morning and Evening Prayer, Tuesday through Friday. Singing seasonal Canticles, and remembering the many people who bore strong witness to God's message, during these two offices enhances our lives, and our relationship with God and one another.

We are blessed that when the pandemic became a reality for us, that Fr. Denzil, the staff, and people of Trinity came together to think outside the box. Developing the formats for worship, trying out new technology, and planning music together continues to be a rewarding experience each week.

The organ continues to fail. It is serious. We will be writing to you soon about our plans.

Music IS outreach. As our online worship continues, it is amazing to see people from across the USA: Massachusetts, Arkansas, California and more. The silver lining is there if you only remember to look for it.



—Gregory Gyllsdorff, FAGO, СнМ

GREG'S STUDIO

Closing Prayer

Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**





Trinity Episcopal Church

218 East Benton, Aurora, IL 60505 630-897-7283 – <u>www.trinityaurora.org</u> – Rob@trinityaurora.org

The Rev. Denzil J. Luckritz, Rector Gregory Gyllsdorff, FAGO, CHM, Organist and Choir Master

Vestry

Marilou Clohessy, *Sr. Warden*; Ken Adam, *Jr. Warden*, Mary Jacxobsen, Cathie Patterson, Rob Borchert, Trish Tousignant, Guy Stephens