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Annual Parish Meeting Agenda
Sunday, February 8, 2026

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call to Order
3. Establish a Quorum
4. Adoption of Minutes of Annual Meeting (January 26, 2025)
5. Correspondence (if any)
6. Comments by Wardens
7. Treasurer's Report: Rob Heath
8. 2026 Budget: Rob Heath
9. Report of Nominating Committee: Connie Harasymiw
10. Acceptance of Nominating Reports
11. Elections
12. Update on Accessibility Project
13. Acceptance of All Printed Reports
14. Other Business
15. 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.

Trinity Episcopal Parish Annual Meeting, January 26, 2025

Opening prayer: Pastor Hugh Haffenreffer

Meeting called to order 11:23am

A quorum was established – 54 participating, 45 in attendance and 9 through mail-in ballots.

1. Adoption of minutes. Motion to approve minutes of 2/4/2024 made by Garth Myers, second by Don Ghostlaw. No discussion. Vote to approve unanimous. Motion passes.
2. Correspondence. None.
3. Comments by wardens. Wardens Carol Jones and Connie Harasymiw expressed thanks for the support of the parish community. Despite lack of a priest-in-charge, we are navigating the work of the church with the assistance and commitment of the whole congregation. We are truly a lay-led parish. On page 8 of the Annual Report, please find the list of things the whole parish indicated as our goals. The list was drawn up from last year's meeting. Over the course of the year, we have started working on many of them. At each vestry meeting, this list of goals is an agenda item. It is an active and interactive list – new items can be added or adjusted. Progress is being made on ADA accessibility, which is a large and complicated project. Wardens have met with consultants and fire marshal regarding our options for access. Many other parishes are facing the same issue. Kitchen upgrades are moving forward, including the instillation of a slop sink as required by code. Two members of the parish are certified as Safe Serve. The newly named Geoffrey Nielson Community Room is receiving a new ceiling and lighting. The vestry will periodically update the parish as progress continues to be made.
4. Treasurer's Report. Rob Heath. Income: Excluding investments, income was \$3k higher than budgeted. Expenses: less than budget by \$13.9k. Staff costs under \$9.7k because of vacancies and fewer hours worked. Property-Church under \$1.8k because less snow removal, and lower utilities.
 - a. Total Expenses exceeded Total Income by \$9.3k. Budgeted for investment withdrawal but used excess in checking account instead. Nothing was withdrawn from investments to cover operating expenses. Checking account balance is

\$31,774. Investment balance is \$1,232,864. Increase of \$123,000 over last December (market dropped in December).

Designated accounts are strictly for specific purposes. Restricted accounts can be used for anything with Vestry approval.

- b. Physical Improvements: streaming camera and switch, new chairs, slop sink. Outreach-Special Nigerian scholarships. Outreach General: Diocese grant for Haiti, and tree donation/expense. Special Gifts: several one-time donations. Memorial Fund: donations in memory of Arnold Cosgrove, and hymnals.

Budget: a deficit budget in that we will have to take out \$56k from investments to balance. This is still within our withdrawal guidelines to not reduce principal. Included an estimate of what we thought a 19hr/wk PIC would cost. Staff budget lowered because fewer hours are being worked. Supply clergy cost reduced assuming we had a PIC. Music increased for higher organist fee and choir rehearsals. Outreach and Mission remained at 10% of Income. Utility costs reduced assuming cost saving measures will continue. We had a good stewardship campaign. Excluding investments, income increased 8.4%. Excluding PIC, expenses decreased 9.6%.

5. Nominating Committee report. Don Ghostlaw. Nominating committee members: Barbara Don Ghostlaw, Garth Myers, Tina LaMorte. Thanks to Rob Heath and Melanie Hepburn for their ongoing service as treasurer and clerk. The slate for 2025 includes Don Ghostlaw for warden; Aversa Sheldon and Melissa Pavick for vestry members; Linda Blessing as existing and Susan Fennelly as the new Annual Convention delegates; Kathy Cole and Donna Brown as Alternate Annual Convention delegates; and Barbara Cosgrove, Peter Dewberry, Sheila Dewberry and Cheryl Chadsey as the 2025 Nominating Committee.
6. First motion to accept the slate, moved by Kathy Cole, second by Greg Joseph. No discussion.
7. Motion to approve the slate made by Greg Joseph, second by Garth Myers. No discussion. Motion passes.
8. Many thanks to Rebecca Scruton for serving on the vestry this last year. We are very grateful for her wisdom, experience, and prayerful guidance.
9. Acceptance of all committee reports: Motion to accept the reports made by Kathy Cole, second by Linda Blessing. No discussion. Motion approved unanimously. Motion passes.

10. The Parish community present discussed actions and strategies for increasing our membership. Aversa Sheldon and Melissa Pavick, new members who will be joining the Vestry during 2025, have already spearheaded 2 events aimed at bringing young families to Trinity. Others interested in being part of this effort should reach out. Don Ghostlaw has worked tirelessly to get our services up and live streamed. The issue of ADA accessibility is being addressed by Vestry. Connie Harasymiw asked everyone to put the calling of a priest-in-charge on top of their personal prayer list – ask God to bring us the people we need.

11. Closing prayer: Carol Jones.

12. Motion to adjourn made by Greg Joseph, second by Kathy Cole. Meeting concluded at 12:23pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Melanie Hepburn
1/26/2025

REPORT FROM THE WARDENS

As we reflect on 2025, we are overwhelmed with pride, gratitude and humility for the generosity, faith, and commitment of the Trinity family and our deep sense of God's constant guiding love and light. We are a relatively small congregation without a settled priest since Fr. Tom Furrer retired in summer, 2022 so one might imagine that we are slowly fading away but nothing could be further from the truth. We are not merely surviving but thriving!! And truly, your generosity—of spirit and resources - makes this possible.

We are seeing new faces among our regulars on Sunday mornings. All are most welcome and we pray they will choose to enter more deeply into our family. Our number of pledgers has remained constant but a significant number, 42%, increased their contribution for the coming year.

We have continued our many cherished traditions in worship, fellowship, adult formation, outreach, and pastoral care. We also introduced some new initiatives to help us move ever closer to how God is calling us to live as a community of faith, sharing more of ourselves and our resources with the wider community.

Each Sunday, we worship God in services of Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer and listen for His voice in the carefully chosen words of the sermons and homilies. We are so blessed by the ministries of the Rt. Rev. Gordon Scruton and Pastor Hugh Haffenreffer and excited that Rev. Linda Spiers has joined our rotation for the coming year. Our services of Morning Prayer are beautifully led by our officiants: Kathy Cole, Joan Joseph, Garth Myers, Rose Riley and Carol Jones. We are very thankful to Don Ghostlaw, Peter Dewberry, Garth Myers, Rose Riley and Carol Jones for the prayer and thoughtfulness that they put into the preparation of their homilies. As many have commented, it is a blessing to hear God's word shared through these different voices. We are also thankful that every Sunday, we enjoy a beautiful organ music accompaniment to our singing. We said farewell to Dr. Kevin Mack last year but are very happy that Mei-Tsen Chen has now joined us.

Last year, both Canon Tim Hodapp and Canon Kevin Olds visited us and led our Sunday worship. There were three baptisms: Noah LaMonica, Madison Cook, and Cameron Pryzbek; and three people received their first Holy Communion: Wes Rockwell Pavick, Nola Rae Pavick and Madison Cook. The former parishioner, Bruce Miner, Jr. was laid to rest in March. Let us continue to hold these folk and their families in our prayers.

Our outreach efforts continued to be a beacon of hope, made possible by your generous hearts and hands. Through our programs and weekly collections, we have served those in need and strengthened our ties to the broader community, embodying Christ's call to love and serve. Time and again, this congregation has shown its ability to come together and make a difference. Your generosity has changed lives and brought God's grace into the world.

As always, there are too many people to name individually for the roles they play in making Trinity the remarkable place that it is. Please know that you are seen, appreciated, and celebrated. We hope that everyone will read the accompanying reports that detail your work and achievements.

As we prepare for 2026, we are called to be bearers of light in a world that often feels dark. Together, we will continue to grow in faith, extend our outreach, and embrace new opportunities to live out God's mission. We are excited about our new partnership with St. James, Glastonbury and the greater opportunities this brings in our ongoing search for a part-time priest. We are bravely trusting God in our bold new initiative to FINALLY make our buildings handicap accessible and in finding ways use our kitchen resources to serve our community.

Thank you for your unwavering generosity, commitment to Trinity and love for one another. With God's guidance, we will step boldly into the future, trusting Him to light our path.

With great awe and gratitude,

Your Wardens,
Carol Connie and Don

REPORT OF THE TREASURER – 2025

A. Trinity Parish 2025 Budget and Actuals (page 9)

Excluding Investment Income, Income was \$11k higher than budget. Pledge/non-Pledge was higher than budget by \$4.6k. Other Income was higher than expected by \$6.9k mainly due to the Griffith Studio renting our Chapel.

Expenses excluding expenses budgeted for a Rector were over budget by \$3.5k.

- Staff and Music results should be looked at together since our new organist is an employee and budget is under Music.

- Program was over because we spent more for Supply Clergy since we didn't hire a Rector as hoped.

- Property was over mainly because of utility costs. We are looking at the effect the refrigerators that Hawks Helpers have on our electric bill.

Total Income exceeded Total Expenses by \$4.6k.

Nothing was withdrawn from investments to cover operating expenses.

B. Designated/ Restricted Accounts (pages 10-11)

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 2026 (page 12)

We had a good pledge campaign, and pledges were increased by \$15k. Excluding Investments, Income increased \$19.8k. Excluding Rector, Expenses increased \$12.3k. We included the cost of what half of a full time priest might cost for the entire year. Budget for Outreach and Mission is higher (10% of income), Supply Clergy higher, Church Property is higher because of additional cleaning, insurance, and utilities.

Fiscal Year 2025 accounts were processed using Power Church Plus software.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Heath-Treasurer

2025 ACTUAL TO BUDGET

	2025 Actuals	2025 Budget
Income		
Support	136,160	131,565
Investment Income	0	56,100
Other Income	8,976	2,100
Total Income	\$145,136	\$189,765
Expenses		
Rector Compensation	0	52,799
Staff Compensation	16,702	14,122
Christian Formation	377	1,500
Music	13,663	17,300
Program	8,234	4,000
Outreach and Mission	12,775	13,367
Office	14,908	14,820
Property Church	59,692	57,192
Diocese & Deanery	14,215	14,665
Total Expenses	\$140,566	\$189,765
Income Less Expenses	\$4,570	\$0

NOTE: In 2025 nothing was actually transferred from Investments to cover operating expenses.

Cash Accounts

 Checking Account Balance: **\$33,900**

Investment Accounts

	Donations/Bequests	Vanguard	Total
Beginning Balance	1,232,864	0	1,232,864
Additions	0	41,000	41,000
Withdrawals	-25,000		-25,000
Income/Dividends	27,625	691	28,316
Chg in Market Value	109,451		109,451
Ending Balance	\$1,344,940	\$41,691	\$1,386,631

We opened a Vanguard Money Market account to put excess cash and as a way to get at money faster than with our Donations and Bequests account through the Diocese.

The \$25,000 withdrawal from our D&B account went into our Vanguard account.

2025 DESIGNATED/RESTRICTED ACCOUNT ACTIVITY

Account Name	Beginning Balance	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Ending Balance
Designated Accounts				
Special Gifts Physical	12,011		12,011	0
Improvements	0	10,929	10,929	0
Flower Fund Memorial Garden	689	4,815	4,595	909
Discretionary Fund-Rector	7,060		3,432	3,628
Outreach-General	2,608		1,800	808
Outreach-Special	875	575	620	830
Community Outreach	120	28,255	28,275	100
Theological Seminary	786			786
Stained Glass Windows	0			0
Music	1,296			1,296
Altar Guild	1,264	50		1,264
Memorial Fund-Designated	2,161			2,211
Total Designated Accounts	28,870	44,624	61,662	11,832
Restricted Accounts				
Parish Hall Accessibility	0	45,700	0	45,700
Memorial Fund-Restricted	161,291	10,771	10,700	161,362
Sale of Rectory (net)	37,623	0	1,526	36,097
Nielsen Estate	482,850	0	9,403	473,447
Total Restricted Accounts	681,764	56,471	21,629	716,606
Fund Growth TOTAL INVESTMENT	551,100			670,025
	1,232,864			\$1,386,631

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

Comments on Designated/Restricted Accounts:

Physical Improvements: Chapel renovation, refrigerator.

Memorial Garden: completely redid the garden.

Outreach-General: corrections, Kateri.

Outreach-Special: Nigerian student scholarships, Gaza Hospital, AEP, Charles Wright Back Packs, Peace School, Wethersfield Food Bank, Haiti.

Special Gifts: transfer to Parish Hall Accessibility.

Sale of Rectory: transfer to fund refrigerator.

Nielsen Estate: transfer to fund Chapel renovation.

Parish Hall Accessibility: donations to fund initial phases of Parish Hall Accessibility project.

Memorial Fund-Restricted: proceeds from life insurance policy received and added to Parish Hall Accessibility Account.

2026 BUDGET

Income	
Support	144,132
Investment Income	78,910
Other Income	8,930
 Total Income	 \$231,972
 Expenses	
Rector Compensation	82,728
Staff Compensation	29,983
Christian Formation	1,000
Music	3,550
Program	5,656
Outreach and Mission	15,306
Office	15,839
Property	63,240
Church	
Diocese & Deanery	14,670
 Total Expenses	 \$231,972
 Income Less Expenses	 \$0

NOTE: Budget for Rector assumes half of a full time priest.

Investments used to cover the expense.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Members of the Nominating Committee were Barbara Cosgrove, Cheryl Chadsey, Peter Dewberry and Sheila Dewberry and Connie Harasymiw (off going Vestry member). Below is a list of all those who have agreed to serve during the 2025 term and the year of their term end.

WARDENS

Don Ghostlaw	2027
Rose Riley	2028

CLERK

Melanie Hepburn	2026	can be extended by vote of Vestry
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TREASURER

Rob Heath	2026	can be extended by vote of Vestry
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VESTRY

Greg Joseph	2026
Rebecca Scruton	2026
Aversa Sheldon	2027
Melissa Pavick	2027
Ray Colburn	2028
Sarah Butters	2028

ANNUAL CONVENTION DELEGATES

Lynda Blessing	2026
Susan Fennelly	2027

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joyce Tomlinson	2026
Kathy Cole	2026
Sheila Dewberry	2026
Barbara Cosgrove	2026

WORSHIP TEAM REPORT

In the Episcopal Church, worship and music are under the leadership and supervision of the Rector of a parish. In the absence of a priest, the Wardens assume 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 in 2022. Garth Myers served as the Chair of the Worship Team in 2025, with Carol Jones (Warden), Nan Heath, and Donna Brown as the membership. In December, our new organist, Mei-Tsen Chen joined us.

While we have had Morning Prayer and lay homilists at about 50% of services, we have learned to worship more deeply with Morning Prayer and God has blessed us with a good group of parishioners who are gifted in communicating the Word of God to the congregation. We have been overjoyed with Gordon Scruton's continued involvement in leading one service of Holy Communion each month, and with Pastor Hugh Haffenreffer leading the celebration of mass (Holy Eucharist) more than a dozen times in 2025; recently, we are delighted that the Rev. Linda Spiers has joined our rotation of priests leading worship. We still consider it a sign of the strength of our lay leadership that attendance for Morning Prayer services has averaged only a few parishioners fewer than services with the Eucharist in 2025.

The Worship Team met almost every month in 2025. Each meeting included a reflection on the strengths of the preceding services, as well as any challenges faced. We then looked forward to the services for the next respective season on the church calendar, aligning readings, prayers and versions to be used alongside service music and hymns. Garth and Nan took the responsibility for choosing our weekly hymns, with Garth rotating off of that service in December with Mei's arrival. Mei replaced Kevin Mack as the organist at Sunday services.

We held a Healing Eucharist at noon on the first Wednesday of the month which was 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.

In the coming year, the Wardens and Worship Team will continue to plan services that can magnify the Glory of God and provide spiritual inspiration for our congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Worship Team members: Chair, Garth Myers. Carol Jones, Nan Heath, Donna Brown, and Mei-Tsen Chen.

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

The Altar Guild faithfully prepared our church for Sunday worship and other special services throughout the year. This past year, these included three baptisms and one funeral.

Our current members are Cheryl Chadsey, Kathy Cole, Helen Descrochers, Sheila Dewberry, Marilyn Galek, Jennifer Gebhardt, Melanie Hepburn, Carol Jones, and Joyce Tomlinson. We are grateful to Jennifer Gebhardt and Nan Heath who are also our Flower Coordinators. They supervise the floral arrangements throughout the year and manage the Flower Fund budget including the biannual requests for donations. We are particularly grateful to Joyce, our laundress, for her diligent care of our fair linens and to Clark Tomlinson who faithfully keeps the Sacristy Light burning. This candle must always be lit when the Presence of Jesus Christ (Eucharist) is in the Ambry. It is only extinguished during the Triduum (Maundy Thursday to Eater Vigil) when Christ's absence is symbolically marked by extinguishing it.

In August, we received some beautifully embroidered altar linens from Grace Episcopal Church that was closed in September.

We welcome anyone, male or female, who is called to join us in this vital sacred ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Jones, Altar Guild Director

FAITH FORMATION REPORT

"In all things give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (I Thessalonians 5:18). We as a team give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve God and to serve you. We desire to be for each of you and each other conduits of God's love, knowledge, and wisdom that can be experienced through the study of Scripture, prayer, sharing and learning. We give thanks to each of you for participating with us, each other and with God in the journey into which God invites us. And we give thanks to God for God's faithfulness in guiding, upholding and empowering us in this endeavor. It is wonderful that a parish our size and without a regular priest has so many parishioners involved in our faith formation groups.

Here is a list of ongoing opportunities for spiritual growth which were offered last year:

A Morning Prayer Service (ZOOM) is held Wednesdays. This Lay Led Book of Common Prayer Service is facilitated by Clark Tomlinson. Prayers, Scripture, and reflection on the scriptures are shared. Prayer requests and intercessions are shared and offered, and carried by each of us through the coming week.

Centering Prayer, (meets via zoom on Wednesday afternoons) co-led by Gordon Scruton and Tina LaMorte, provides a 45 minute space for reflecting on a chosen reading and 20 minutes of

Centering followed by sharing as desired. This time in community provides space to "be" with God and each other.

A weekly Saturday morning (zoom) group led by Garth Myers reads daily reflections from the Center for Contemplation and Outreach. Saturday Mornings we discuss and share insights and questions that arise out of the readings. Each week of readings invite us into a deeper awareness of God, self and others, our society and culture. We have the opportunity to be exposed to a broad spectrum of reflections written by people of faith, expressing deep and challenging insights which draw us more deeply into our journeys.

Alternate Saturday mornings (1st and 3rd) a Lectionary Bible Study group, led by Peter Dewberry meets in the Seabury Room. The group studies the Lectionary readings for the following Sunday.

February of 2025, the Christian Formation Committee was reconfigured and re-branded the Faith Formation Team. The team has been working on providing various opportunities for the people of Trinity and the our neighbors to stretch and deepen our sphere of knowledge in order to equip us in our call to loving God, our neighbors and all of creation.

Lent of last year we had a seven week video and discussion course based on the Final Days: A Lenten Journey through the Gospels. We continued studying together through the second week of June, after which we broke for the Summer.

September - November, Bible Study began again. "Singing in Harmony with God: Pain, Hope, Love". A study of the Psalms facilitated by Sarah Butters and Rebecca Scruton.

September - November, A Book Study : "Exploring Paul's Jewish Identity" met Wed evenings with a light soup supper. Facilitated by Don Ghostlaw.

Monthly Forums began in September exploring the following topics.

September: Creation Care, Tim Lewis; October: Indigenous People: Land Acknowledgment and After, Garth Myers; October: Bonhoeffer, Pastor Hugh; December: Advent Quiet Day. Guided reflections and prayer with the icons of Christ, Mary, John the Baptist and Michael the Archangel, Bishop Gordon; December: Potluck Lunch with the showing of the video of The Birth of Jesus from The Chosen.

We are in the process of planning Forums and studies for 2026. Please contact any of the team members with ideas and requests you might have that could help you in your spiritual and day to day journey.

Times and locations of Faith Formation opportunities are listed on the parish website, weekly E-news and Sunday Announcements. All of these are open groups. Please feel free to join,

knowing you are most welcome. Also, if you have questions, please contact any of the team members or the parish office.

We ask for your ongoing prayers for us and for Trinity Parish that we will provide what God desires for Trinity (that is YOU).

"And may God who has begun a good work in you continue his work until the day of Jesus Christ" Philippians 1: 6

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Butters, Cheryl Cementina, Cheryl Chadsey, Don Ghostlaw, Tina LaMorte,
Rebecca Scruton.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

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

The Committee's primary responsibilities include:

Creating or modifying financial policies and controls as required

Monitoring adherence to existing policies and controls

Reviewing monthly financial reports before presentation to Vestry

Assisting Vestry in developing 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 reports, 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, and an interest-bearing money market fund.

Designated Funds have been cleaned up, and have a newly established fund for the Accessibility Project.

Electricity costs, which have been increasing, have been monitored, to determine how much is due to increased rates, and how much is due to more refrigerators and freezers for Hawks Helpers. Charles Wright has offered to contribute toward the extra usage and that is currently under consideration.

The Finance Committee benefits from the knowledge and insights of parishioners and welcomes anyone who would like to join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Cole

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

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

UPDATES: 2025

The decision to provide live-streaming continues to be the catalyst for needed improvements and updates to Trinity's infrastructure.

Streaming: Report: This year we have made more progress with the streaming and church sound. Don Ghostlaw and Dan Keifer have spent a great deal of time optimizing the streaming so that it works smoothly, and Dan has spent considerable time updating the sound system in the church. We have installed a second streaming camera at the rear of the church for altar close-ups, close-ups of announcements, and to capture funerals, weddings and baptisms that take place at the back of the church. Having a second camera has enabled us to smoothly switch scenes between the cameras without the abrupt swing of the single camera from scene to scene as was necessary before installation of the second camera. We were able to catch several baptisms using the rear camera, and we use it every week for readers and homilists. We also acquired and installed specialized hearing devices for the hard of hearing, which are being used every Sunday.

We continue to stream to YouTube and would like to begin streaming to our new Facebook page. However, Facebook will not permit streaming to its platform until at least 100 people ‘follow’ the Trinity Facebook page. So please ask your friends and family to go to our Facebook page and hit ‘follow.’ As of the date of this writing we have 37 followers so we have a way to go! *Don Ghostlaw and Dan Keifer*

Computer Networking: Report: Don Ghostlaw and Dan Keifer assumed a new role maintaining our computer network in 2025. Our networking equipment, used to connect wireless access points, provide computing services to the Office and around the building, including to rooms in the basement that may become used in the future, and to the streaming services, will be updated in 2026. In addition, we need a new streaming computer because the one that Don donated several years ago was used and has reached its end of support. Don has acquired a new one as a donation and will be installing it during 2026. *Don Ghostlaw and Dan Keifer*

2026 INITIATIVES:

- Update networks
- Install new streaming computer

The Technology Committee would like to recognize and thank:

- Dan Keifer for making sure that sound is always first class both in church and over our streaming.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Joseph

SOCIAL MEDIA

In addition to Trinity’s website and Eblasts, we are now back to having a presence on Facebook thanks to Melissa Pavick, who finally resolved Trinity’s problems with this social platform. These three platforms 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. Facebook provides Trinity with a social networking platform. The website provides more in-depth coverage and details and is the access source for live-streaming. In addition to Worship information and Spiritual opportunities, the congregation can also access 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

MISSION & OUTREACH

Mission & Outreach at Trinity is a lay-driven ministry focused on serving local, regional, and global causes. Trinity's Mission & Outreach committee serves as a resource for the congregation to guide, organize and record M&O projects and activities. Our theme for 2025 was **God Loves a Cheerful Giver**. 2025 also presented us with new opportunities to serve, not only throughout the world, but with current Outreach partners as well. The Peace School, LA wildfires and the expansion of Hawk's Helpers from a weekend subsidy to a weekly food+ distribution program to over 125 families are just three of many highlights included in the list below. The M&O bulletin board in the Parish Hall continues to provide and update information on all of Trinity's Outreach partners in our ever-evolving committed journey to serve. The three sections below record what was done in each category during 2025.

With heartfelt gratitude to a congregation who continues to lovingly and generously open their hearts to those in need throughout the world, we thank you.

Joan Joseph & Ann Marie Stavola

2025 Local Mission & Outreach:

- Wethersfield Food Bank - Lenten Food Drive – (Vickie Crafa) – 232 items (SNAP & NON-SNAP items) + \$350 in gift cards
- Wethersfield Food Bank - Holiday Food Drive – (Vickie Crafa) – 285+ items + \$645 gift cards
- Wethersfield Social Services - \$500 (Vickie Crafa) to the Backpack fund for back-to-school supplies
- Wethersfield Social Services - \$1500 (Vickie Crafa) to the Wethersfield Fuel Bank
- Charles Wright Elementary School Hawks Helper Weekend Backpack Program – (Connie Harasymiw) Trinity provides space for the collection, storage and refrigeration of food items. School volunteers meet weekly to prepare food packages for distribution to school families facing food insufficiencies. In June \$370 which had been donated to the now defunct Purse Ministry was disbursed to Hawks Helpers. The Summer Snack Program collected over 700 snack items to supplement the program and provided a cooler for perishables on the front porch. Our Advent collection for specific non-snap items needed for weekly distribution netted 120 items – many with individual items packaged as one.
- St. Paul's Food Pantry – (M&O Committee) The Food Pantry at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Wethersfield services well over 50 families weekly and is partially subsidized by Foodshare, with the remaining needs being met by local donations and partnerships with area supermarkets. The needs continue to grow and they have turned to area

churches to help fill the gap. In September \$250 from the M&O Fund was given to supplement weekly donations.

- Because We Care – Barbara Cosgrove continues her mission to help our parishioners in need with cards, phone calls or meals. Please contact her with the information. Phone: 860-295-062 or email: arnoldcosgrove@gmail.com.
- Friends & Needles – Report: This group of 12 to 15 ladies continue to meet on Thursday afternoons at church to knit prayer shawls, baptism blankets and other items for donations. It is also a group that has many excellent knitters who are will to share their skills and expertise to help beginning knitters. Come join us. Connie Harasymiw.
- Sean’s Closet – Report: We continue to build the distribution network for the clothing and home goods items. After building this network in 2020, the Covid shutdown sent us back to square one. We, now again, are connected with the Social Services department of the town and also with St. Paul's Lutheran Church and also with Charles Wright Elementary School and are responding needs as presented by them. Connie Harasymiw.
- Keane Foundation - \$500 (Donna Brown) to support Keane on Kids After School Enrichment Programs.
- Det. Robert “Bobby” Garten Memorial - \$500 (Ann Marie Stavola/Joan Joseph) to the memorial fund for a former Trinity parishioner who was a Hartford police officer who lost his life in the line of duty.

2025 Regional Mission & Outreach:

- Community Dinners at Hands on Hartford (Warren & Lynda Blessing) – 440+ meals. Report: We have continued to support the Community Dinners sponsored by HOH on Bartholomew Steet in Hartford this past year. Parishioners have contributed the food and beverages for all our dinners. We have had an energetic Trinity group available to prepare and serve the meal. It was great to integrate some new volunteers into helping this past year. Our dinners are on Monday evenings and involves about two hours’ worth of time (4:45 to 6:45). We also had a group this year who supported HOH Memorial Day Picnic for their local neighbors. We went up and assisted with serving the luncheon that day. Warren & Lynda Blessing
- Purse Ministry – Unfortunately, due to health reasons, Sue Rafala is unable to continue this ministry.
- Camp Washington - \$800 (Corinne Helfant) to support summer camp opportunities for children.
- Malta House of Care - \$500 (Vickie Crafa) to the Malta House of Care Medical Clinic that provides high-quality, free primary health care to uninsured adults in Greater Hartford
- Alzheimer’s Association, Conn. Chapter - \$500 (Rose Reilly)

- Friendship Service Center (Joan & Ann Marie) – A winter collection of most needed toiletry articles resulted in over 450 items being brought to this shelter.
- Citizens of the World – the Issa Family - \$500 (Carol Jones) was sent to our Syrian family to provide support in their struggle to make a life in America amidst the immigration hurdles of 2025.
- The Diaper Bank of Ct. - \$500 (Joan Joseph) was donated to this organization that provides diapers, formula, period & Incontinence products & more across Ct.
- The Bloom Initiative: Anti-Human Trafficking Org. through the Hanmer School Coat & Blanket Drive – (Ann Marie Stavola) – 20 coats and 15 blankets were collected with one week’s notice.
- South Park Inn – \$500 (Vickie Crafa) donated to support this Hartford shelter.
- St. Mark’s Episc. Church, Los Angeles, CA. - \$800 (Joan & Ann Marie) in Feb. for wildfire relief

2025 Global Mission & Outreach:

- St. Vincent’s Center for Children with Disabilities – \$3000 (Connie Harasymiw) was given as part of a \$15,000 grant awarded by the diocese for a new well. This project which was delayed last year due to unrest in Haiti was finally sent this December.
- Kateri Medical Mission – \$500 (Joan Joseph)
- American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem - \$1000 (Gordon & Rebecca Scruton) in September - whose mission is the *transforming [of] lives of the vulnerable & displaced in the Middle East*. In May, the *Good Friday Offering for Ahli Hospital in Gaza City* collection totaled \$3255 (\$2255 from the Congregation + \$1000 from Trinity).
- Nigerian Scholarships – *NOTE: now done through Africa Education Partnership (AEP)*. \$6000 (Don Ghostlaw/AEP) total was raised to be sent to Bishop Dogo in Kafanchan, Nigeria to provide scholarships. The Nigerian Scholarship Funds provide education with books, uniforms and food for one year for students. The cost per student is \$300. This very important ministry also provides hope for the future of these students. This year Trinity Parish raised \$6000 (*\$2120 was raised through a Dually Noted concert with \$3880 through congregation donations*) that was sent. Also, thirteen parishioners adopted thirteen students. They received photos of their students and receive their report cards. These parishioners are also able to write letters to their students. Trinity’s heart is truly doing God’s work by bringing the children to learn God’s love through education. A Job well done Trinity Parish! *Respectfully, Cheryl Chadsey*
- Soup to Go & Copprome Orphanage, Honduras (Ginger Smith). \$1850 raised through this sale held in October and March to subsidize Ginger’s trips to Honduras. In August \$1500 was raised (\$475 from M&O fund and \$1025 through congregation donations) to aid during a food crisis. Report: For 2025 I was at Copprome in March & October. In January, 2 months before I arrived a new born baby girl was left on the front porch of a

house. She is now 1, walking and doing great. In September I received a call saying the food money was used to pay the electric bill. Thanks to our Trinity family I collected \$1500 which allowed them to get sufficient food until I arrived in October. We now have 38 children and 7 are 1-5 which is the most ever in that age group. They are positively adorable!! Sister Teresita can no longer walk but she promised me that she will still be there waiting my arrival in March 2026. . Please pray that she is able to keep her promise!! Many thanks to everyone who has supported me during the last 25 years that I have been helping Copprome. I invite anyone interested to join me sometime in the future. Ginger Smith.

- The Peace School (through Action International Ministries - \$750+ (Rebecca Scruton) sent to support the opening of this school in Egypt for Gaza child refugees.

MEMORIAL GARDEN REPORT



“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 Cheryl Chadsey and Rob Heath 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.

No one was interred in the Memorial Garden in 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Tomlinson

PROPERTY REPORT

Our historical property demands ongoing minor tasks to keep everything running in an acceptable manner. With no sexton in place, everything is maintained by volunteer assistance. It would be wonderful to have an additional person or persons who would volunteer for small occasional duties or just to help with setting up for a parish house function, such as a funeral or church meeting. If you would be able to assist with any of these, please let 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. Since we have continued to expand our useable space, monitoring our cleaning vendor and enlarging their duties has also been watched. Monitoring and interfacing with groups utilizing our space has been time consuming this year. If one checks out our activities calendar, you will see a lot is going on. Some of these activities go into our treasury and help in offsetting some of our expenses.

We have also upgraded our very old security system to protect against fire, smoke and intrusions.

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

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

The Family Engagement Committee is a lay-person committee with the goal of having more families interact with Trinity Parish through community-based events. Ultimately, we hope this mission will serve Trinity Parish in creating more opportunities for families to become Trinity Parish members.

Trinity Parish is ideally located in charming Old Wethersfield, and is prepared to become more engaged in community-based events that bring the local community together. In 2025, the Family Engagement Committee organized three community events that served Old Wethersfield and local families.

The first event was the Easter Egg Hunt, held annually on Holy Saturday. In 2025, this event was supported by 10-12+ volunteers and was attended by 20 families. The children of these families searched for eggs on the parish front lawn, while volunteers sat at craft tables and engaged with the families through crafts and coffee. This event was advertised in the local paper.

The second event was held in August during Porchfest. Porchfest is an annual event in Old Wethersfield, supporting the community through live music. Each year, it attracts thousands of people from Wethersfield and its neighboring towns. As this was our first time participating in this event, we had a theme based on the story of Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors. We donated clothes from Sean's Closet (set up in the church hall), had representation from Hawks' Helpers, and hosted craft tables again and Bible story time on the lawn. All together, we coordinated with at least 12 volunteers, and hosted around 30-40 families.

Lastly, we held our 2nd annual Carols and Cocoa event on December 4, 2025. This event was a huge success. We brought around 200 individuals to Trinity Parish through caroling outside, and hosted hot chocolate inside with bathroom access and a warming station for the public. All together, 20-30 of our Parish members supported this event in some way.

It was a highly engaging event, held during one of Old Wethersfield's biggest annual events, Holidays On Main. The church was lit up until 9:00 pm so the public could see the beauty of our historic windows!

Our plans are to continue with these three events for 2026, and to consider expansion to a larger Christmas event for the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Wagner Pavick and Aversa Sheldon

Members:

Melissa Wagner Pavick

Aversa Sheldon

Cheryl Chadsey

Sarah Butters

Ann Marie Stavola