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ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AGENDA

February 26, 2023

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call to Order
3. Establish a Quorum
4. Adoption of Minutes of Annual Meeting (ZOOM) on February 15, 2022
5. By-Law Changes and Acceptance
6. Correspondence (if any)
7. Comments by Outgoing Wardens
8. Treasurer's Report: Rob Heath
9. 2023 Budget: Rob Heath
10. Report of Nominating Committee
11. Acceptance of Nominating Committee Report
12. Elections
13. Comments from the (incoming) Wardens
14. Acceptance of All Printed Reports
15. Other Business
16. ECCT Parish Self Study
17. Motion to Adjourn and Closing Prayer

A PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

Almighty and everliving 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 VIA ZOOM

February 15, 2022

1. The meeting was opened by the Rev. Tom Furrer with a prayer on Zoom.
2. Warren Blessing, Warden, called the meeting to order at 7:06pm. The meeting was attended by 33 parish members.
3. A quorum was declared by the mailed return of 74 ballots from the 102 ballots that were sent out to members in good standing. Our by-laws require 1/3 of members in good standing return ballots which was 34 ballots be returned. Members were thanked for prompt return.
4. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of February 21, 2021 were approved by the return of 74 ballot sheets.
5. Pastor's comments: the Rev. Tom Furrer addressed members on Zoom, thanking them for their ongoing support for the work of the parish and to everyone who has supported the various activities despite the challenges of COVID. A magazine has been produced highlighting the extensive outreach activities the parish has engaged in and copies will be mailed to members.
6. 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.
7. The 2022 budget, passed by the Vestry in December of 2021, was presented and discussed.
8. The Nominating Committee report was given and the results of the mail-in election were presented.
9. Comments from the Wardens: The Wardens spoke briefly from their comments in the Annual Report.
10. Acceptance of All Printed Reports: The motion on the returned ballot sheet indicated acceptance of all printed reports.
11. Other Business: There was none.
12. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm
13. The closing prayer was offered by the Rev. Tom Furrer.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Hepburn, Parish Clerk, 2/21/2022

BY-LAW CHANGES and ACCEPTANCE

The following are the suggested changes to the existing by-laws desired, change in the number of Wardens, the term of office of Vestry members at large, and including the homebound or members in assisted living in order to allow them to vote.

Article III-OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this Parish shall be a Rector/or Priest in Charge, two or more Wardens, a Clerk, a Treasurer and six (6) other communicants of the Parish. The foregoing shall constitute the Vestry of the Parish; the Rector/Priest in Charge shall be chairman ex-officio.

Section 3. Terms of office are as follows:

- Wardens: Term of one (1) year with a three (3) year limit.
- Treasurer: Term of two (2) years with a six (6) year limit.
- Clerk: Term of one year (1) with a three (3) year limit.
- ***** Six (6) Vestry members at large. Term of office three years (3) with two members elected each year on a rotating basis.***

Article IV-PARISH MEETINGS

Section 2. At the Annual Parish Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present the following slate of nominations.

- ***** Two or more Wardens***
- Treasurer
- Clerk
- Six (6) Vestry members at large.
- Four (4) delegates To Diocesan Convention; of which two (2) are designated as alternates, with a three (3) year term limit.
- Nominating Committee; Four (4) parishioners for a one (1) year term. No term limit.

BY-LAW CHANGES and ACCEPTANCE (continued)

Article II-MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. In accordance with Canon I of the Diocese of Connecticut, any person who has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, whether in Trinity Parish or another Christian Church, and whose Baptism has been duly recorded by Trinity Parish is a member thereof. Such members sixteen years and over are considered adult members.

***** All members of this parish who have received Holy Communion in this Parish, including those homebound or in an assisted living home, administered by an authorized Parish member, at least three times during the preceding year are to be considered communicants of the Parish and all communicants sixteen years of age and over are adult communicants.***

An adult member shall meet the registration requirements by having been registered in the Parish register of Trinity Parish, or by having been confirmed or received by a Bishop in communion with this Parish, or by presentation of a letter of transfer in due form signed by the appropriate authority of another parish in the Anglican Communion. All registered communicants shall be considered voting parish members, Including those registered communicants who are homebound or in an assisted living home, but are capable of voting by absentee ballot.

***** Proposed Changes***

COMMENTS BY THE OUTGOING WARDENS

God is working His purpose out as year succeeds to year..." "Be not afraid, I go before you always". These first lines of two wonderful songs capture many aspects of this past year's journey. And what a year!

In January 2022, we held services at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary fully masked and distanced, and held an outdoor service , on the porch at 11:00 for those not ready to be indoors. During the ensuing months discussions and decisions of health safety due to Covid continued within the parish, and the Covid Committee, informed by the ECCT, helping us to live into our new normal. Working on the many components of the Annual Meeting was a daily task for many during January.

In February, Our Annual Meeting was held using ZOOM. We missed the Breakfast Brunch, yet had a successful meeting. Under the organizational leadership of Leslie Jones, we and three other churches participated in the re-settlement of a refugee family. A number of our parishioners put in hours and days, and months of work helping with this endeavor which is unfolding in wonderful ways.

We continued our journey through Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Trinity Sunday, and Pentecost leading us into the Summer months. In June, Fr Tom and Maryjane shared with us that after much prayer and discernment they needed to return to their family in Ohio. To say the least, this came as a surprise. Much gratitude and sorrow were shared at their last service and luncheon.

During the next few months Lay Eucharistic Ministers and visitors were trained to be licensed by the ECCT to participate as Lay leaders in this time. We were re-capturing and living into this season's meaning of being a "God guided, Lay led" Parish. During the time of Fr. Tom's being with us, we wardens met weekly with him and then met together separately. Our weekly wardens' meetings have continued as we endeavor to lead as God desires. In addition to these meetings, the Vestry meets monthly considering the concerns, needs, and direction of Trinity at this time.

"Be not afraid", "God is working his purpose out".

As we navigate into our new way of being church, we have discovered, and deeply appreciated, the lay leaders who have, with joy, stepped forward to lead Morning Prayer, preach and continue to assist our supply clergy. Morning Prayer is held at least once a month with the Holy Eucharist the other Sundays. The rota of three clergy willing to supply for us and assist us at our times of needing priestly counsel has been a gift and blessing.

October gave us the opportunity to celebrate all God's creation with weekly prayers, music and arrangements all helping us focus on God's glorious gift of all creation. The Blessing of the Animals was, yet again, a special event for both the parishioners and the wider community. We also enjoyed the talented creativity of a team of parishioners who built a St. Francis "Scarecrow" along with a lovely setting depicting his mission. His silent message was on display for a month.

COMMENTS BY THE OUTGOING WARDENS (continued)

In November, we celebrated All Saints' Day, All Soul's' Day, and Advent. The vestry met with Bishop Jeff and Amber (diocesan assistant for parishes in transition) in order to learn of our next steps in preparing us for the calling of our next priest. The work this entails is detailed and intense, and time consuming. But "God is Working His Purpose Out"...

In December, we continued our Advent journey. As Christmas approached, a dozen plus folks went "a Wassailing" to homes of shut-ins, returning to the Parish Hall for cookies, hot cocoa and sharing. Singing to and talking with our folk who aren't able to join us was a privilege, pleasure, and fun! Our Christmas Services were rich in worship and in glorifying God in Jesus.

With Fr Tom's departure and the changes brought on by Covid, meanwhile discerning how we are to "be" at this time, several folks have decided to worship at other churches. There are also folks who have found "online" services experienced during Covid to be their new way to worship. So, friends change is happening.

We as wardens and vestry are seeking to live and lead from the paradigm that "God is Working His purpose out" for His Church and we are to "be not afraid for he goes before us".

The question extended to all of us is, "In what way are we (you and us) willing to work with God to help Trinity (and you) fulfill God's desire to love and serve in this community and become God's new creation"?

Working together as three co-wardens has been a privilege and immense support. Each one a special person with special gifts. We welcome and give thanks to God for our two incoming wardens, Connie and Carol, who together with Garth and the vestry will lead us in our forward movement.

"I am working my purpose out in and through you. Be not afraid, I go before you always, come follow me". I love you, God.

Respectfully submitted by Warren Blessing, Garth Myers, Rebecca Scruton (Co-Wardens)

REPORT OF THE TREASURER – 2022

Notes to Financial Statements:

A. Trinity Parish 2022 Budget and Actuals (pg. 9)

Income was less than budget by \$20.1k because pledges received were way down. Pledges were under by \$20k and Non-Pledge under by \$.9k.

Expenses were under budget by \$25.6k

Rector Compensation under because Rector left end of August.

Admin under \$1.9k mainly due to little spent for kitchen/building supplies, and advertising.

Outreach and Mission under \$2.1k because didn't spend planned amount.

Total Expenses exceeded Total Income by \$1.6k.

Nothing was withdrawn from investments to cover operating expenses.

B. Designated/Restricted Accounts (pg.10)

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 Outreach 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. A total picture of Trinity's accounting must include both operating and designated/restricted fund activities.

C. Budget 2023 (pg. 11)

The main goal this year was to "maintain". We increased our Outreach and Mission to 9% from 8%, towards our goal of 10%. We had money left from a Memorial gift from 2021 which we will use to continue to enhance our music program. In discussion with the Diocese it appears that planning for a ¼ time priest will best fit into our current financial situation. We assumed that the earliest we might have someone would be July so only budgeted for 6 months of expenses. We took an educated guess as to what the expenses might be since it varies by individual and we won't know the actual figures until we have someone.

Fiscal Year 2022 accounts were processed using Power Church Plus software.

Respectfully submitted by Rob Heath, Treasurer

ACTUAL TO BUDGET – 2022

	2022 Actuals	2022 Budget
Income		
Support	153,671	174,137
Investment Income	0	0
Other Income	11,208	10,845
Total Income	\$164,879	\$184,982
Expenses		
Rector Compensation	26,123	47,033
Staff Compensation	20,203	20,154
Christian Formation	759	1,000
Music	11,178	11,150
Program	8,048	8,000
Outreach and Mission	12,679	14,799
Office	16,486	18,350
Property Church	54,984	55,354
Diocese & Deanery	16,072	16,332
Other	0	0
Total Expenses	\$166,532	\$192,172
 Income Less Expenses	 -\$1,653	 -\$7,190

NOTE: In 2022 nothing was transferred from investments to cover operating expenses.

Cash Accounts

 Checking Account Balance: **\$34,560**

Investment Accounts

	Don. & Beqs
Beginning Balance	1,053,165
Additions	60,022
Withdrawals	0
Income/Dividends	20,682
Chng in Market Value	-168,988
Ending Balance	\$964,881

DESIGNATED/RESTRICTED ACCOUNT ACTIVITY - 2022

Account Name	Beg. Balance	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Ending Balance
Designated Accounts				
Special Gifts	1,866	263	2,186	-57
150th Anniversary	1,595	0	1,595	0
Physical Improvements	2,480	18,442	20,922	0
Flower Fund	3,184	3,095	4,320	1,959
Memorial Garden	6,859	450	48	7,261
Discretionary Fund-Rector	1,812	1,608	377	3,043
Outreach-General	481	1,429	1,429	481
Outreach-Special	850	7,195	7,925	120
Community Outreach	923	0	0	923
Curate	1,733	0	1,733	0
Theological Seminary	297	22	0	319
Stained Glass Windows	1,296	0	0	1,296
Music	1,264	0	0	1,264
Altar Guild	2,005	1,185	0	3,190
Memorial Fund-Designated	7,850	0	5,600	2,250
Total Designated Accounts	34,495	33,689	46,135	22,049
Restricted Accounts				
Memorial Fund-Restricted	160,691	2,906	745	162,852
Sale of Rectory (net)	73,777	0	18,290	55,487
Nielsen Estate	387,463	80,228	21	467,670
Total Restricted Accounts	621,931	83,134	19,056	686,009
Fund Growth	396,739			256,826
TOTAL INVESTMENT	1,053,165			964,884

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

1. Physical Improvements: \$4,900 for slate roof repair, \$4,100 lighting/energy saving project,
2. \$3,950 paint/plaster sanctuary, \$6,000 roof repair in "alligator pit".
3. Memorial Fund: transfer to Altar guild, donations, and transfer in to close 150th Anniversary acct.
4. Curate: \$1,100 to offset increase in Diocese Assessment for Father Darryl, add to Rector's discretionary Fund.
5. Special Gifts: Icon and transfer.
6. Nielsen Estate: additional estate settlement and interest.
7. Outreach-Special: Nigeria for student scholarships, Kateri, Syrian family, and purse ministry.
8. Outreach-General: transfers for coding errors.
9. Memorial Fund Designated: memorial donation transfer for music.
10. 150th Anniversary: transfer back to Memorial Fund to close the account.
11. Sale of Rectory: transfers to cover costs of Physical Improvements.
12. Altar Guild: note card sales, and memorial donations for Jane Ross and Arlene Hallisey.

2023 BUDGET

Income

Support	147,302
Investment Income	16,860
Other Income	2,750

Total Income **\$166,912**

Expenses

Rector Compensation	17,941
Staff Compensation	26,830
Christian Formation	1,000
Music	7,550
Program	9,700
Outreach and Mission	13,302
Office	14,106
Property Church	59,773
Diocese & Deanery	16,710
Other	

Total Expenses **\$166,912**

Income Less Expenses **\$0**

NOTE #1: Rector compensation assumes 1/4 time, hired in July, and estimated expenses.

NOTE #2: Outreach and Mission broken out from Program to highlight we are contributing 9% of pledge income to various Outreach programs.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee, comprised of Lynda Blessing, Jennifer Gebhardt, Susan Whitehouse, Rose Riley and convening member Carol Jones are presenting the following names for your consideration for Parish leadership roles at Trinity parish.

Respectfully submitted, Rose Riley

Wardens

Garth Myers
Connie Harasymiw
Carol Jones

Clerk

Melanie Hepburn

Treasurer

Rob Heath

Vestry

Cheryl Chadsey (New)
Kathy Cole (New)
Bruce Duncan (New)

Susannah Brown (Existing)
Don Ghostlaw (Existing)
Charles Melchreit (Existing)

Annual Convention Delegate

Ray Colburn (Existing)
Lynda Blessing (New)

Alternate Convention Delegate

Jenifer Gebhardt (New)

Nominating Committee

Barbara Cosgrove
Rose Riley
Judith Shaw
Susan Whitehouse

INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

ALTAR GUILD

The faithful stewardship of the Altar Guild makes sure that for the fifty-two Sundays of each year, our church is prepared for the celebration of the Eucharist or the service of Morning Prayer. This preparation ensures the candles are always filled with oil, the correct readings are marked in the lectionary, the sanctuary is cleaned and organized and, most importantly, the altar and credence tables are prepared with clean linens, our precious silver vessels and the bread and wine as needed, and worship supplies are maintained. The colors of each liturgical season are expressed in the altar cloths and priest vestments which are regularly cleaned and carefully stored in the sacristy. Many are quite old now and were given by former altar guild members or purchased in memory of a past member. Two members are on duty each week which can involve additional work for midweek services such as funerals or weddings. Everyone joins in the preparations for the Christmas and Easter seasons and our annual polishing marathon. It is a pleasure to work with our current members: Kathy Cole, Helen Descrochers, Marilyn Galek, Jennifer Gebhardt, Nan Heath, Melanie Hepburn, Marty Koehler, Denise Paternostro and Joyce Tomlinson.

Our beautiful flower ministry continues, despite rising costs, thanks to the artistry of Nan and Jennifer. After each service, the flowers are given to a parish member suffering from illness or bereavement, or to one of our shut-ins. We are thankful for parishioners whose donations to the flower fund make this ministry possible.

We are particularly grateful to Joyce for her diligent care of our fair linens and to Clark who keeps the sanctuary light burning.

This year, we were saddened by the retirement of Susanna Brown and the passing of two former members, Arline Hallisey and Jane-Helen Ross.

Respectfully submitted Carol Jones, Director

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

As with other areas of ministry here at Trinity, we are experiencing transition and change in our Christian Formation opportunities. During Covid, Morning Prayer and Centering Prayer began and were offered on Wednesdays via ZOOM. Likewise a Saturday morning discussion group focusing on daily writings/reflections from the organization, Contemplative Outreach was formed. The combined attendance of all the groups averages 26 souls.

Morning Prayer, led by Clark Tomlinson, follows the Morning Prayer Service found in the Book of Common Prayer. Scripture, prayers and reflection on the scriptures are shared. Prayer requests are shared and offered and carried by each of us through the coming week.

Centering Prayer, 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.

The Saturday morning group, (based on readings from Contemplative Outreach) is led by Garth Myers. In this group we read a daily reflection each week. Saturday Mornings we discuss and share insights and questions that arise out of the readings. Each week of readings invites us into a deeper awareness of God, self and others. We have the opportunity to be exposed to a broad spectrum of reflections written by people of faith, deep and challenging insights which draw us more deeply into our journeys.

Part of our Christian Formation is reaching out to and serving others. Two areas that make this possible for us are being Lay Worship Leaders and Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Participants in these ministries attended a two hour orientation course (each) for licensing in the ECCT. These are the folks who now lead Sunday Morning Prayer at least once a month. The Lay Visitors visit those not able to attend church, bringing to them the Word and Sacrament.

Many ideas have been suggested for opportunities for more spiritual growth. We do need people who will lead or facilitate study groups of various types. Please speak to any of the Wardens (outgoing or incoming) with questions or thoughts.

The current weekly meetings continue to be on ZOOM. Please contact Rebecca to receive a ZOOM invitation for MP and CP and Garth to receive an invitation for the Saturday Morning Discussion.

Respectfully submitted, Rebecca Scruton

FINANCE

Current Members (2022): Charles Melchreit (Chair), Rob Heath (Treasurer), Kathy Cole, Ann Marie Stavola

Early in 2022, Vestry outlined the duties of the Finance committee to facilitate a post-Covid re-launch. 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 Clergy and Vestry in development of the annual budget
- Developing long term income/expense strategies
- Recruiting, training, and scheduling Counters
- Researching ad hoc financial questions

After a lengthy Covid-induced hiatus, the Finance Committee resumed monthly in-person meetings during 2022. Over the course of the year:

The committee provided support to the Treasurer by reviewing financial reports, the auditor's comments, and draft budgets.

Kathy Cole continued to oversee the counting process, including scheduling and training.

Rob Heath initiated the intensive task of formalizing documentation of financial processes and account structure.

Considering the difficult investment environment in 2022, the committee monitored the performance of the diocesan Donations and Bequests for Church Purposes fund to confirm that the portfolio's performance was consistent with overall market conditions and that the investment allocation was prudent.

During the fall, the committee developed a formal policy for spending from the endowment for operational purposes; this policy was subsequently adopted by Vestry.

Early in the year, Vestry indicated that Committee membership is to include a member of Vestry (who serves as Committee Chair), the Treasurer, and several members of the congregation as at-large members. There continue to be opportunities for parishioners to volunteer for this ministry.

Respectfully submitted Charles Melchreit

TECHNOLOGY

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 2022 recommendations:

- The office computer has been upgraded. Microsoft 365 has been added courtesy of Tom Drennen.
- Print documents have been organized and a location spreadsheet has been created. Digital holdings remain in a wide variety of places on the office computer, but are included in the location spreadsheet.
- Online meetings continue to be an option through Zoom.

Future consideration:

- Upgrade inkjet printer
- Explore the capabilities of Microsoft 365
- Streaming. The capability of streaming our services for our shut-ins, additional viewing space in the Parish House or Seabury Room, for any seeking to worship in their own space, and those seeking a new church community is in the process of becoming a reality. Because of an anonymous, generous donation and a vision for sharing the Good News of God in the expanding paradigm of being "church" we can move forward in this endeavor.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Joseph

SOCIAL MEDIA

Trinity's website continues to provide our community with up-to-date information about what is happening at Trinity. In addition to Worship information and Spiritual opportunities, the congregation can also access audio and print versions of weekly sermons and homilies. Policies, bylaws, and Vestry reports are available as well as a photo gallery. Constant Contact has been discontinued and Trinity has returned to weekly eblasts. We encourage parishioners to take advantage of these tools for the latest information about Trinity.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Joseph

MISSION & OUTREACH

The parishioners of Trinity Parish have continued their support of many Outreach and Mission endeavors. We strive to maintain a balance between local (Wethersfield), regional (Connecticut) and international projects. The Outreach and Mission account in our operating budget that is funded by parishioners through their pledges and giving began the year at \$14,799. By vote of the Vestry it was disbursed as follows.

• Keane Center (local)	\$ 500
• Wethersfield Fuel Bank (local)	\$ 700
• Wethersfield Back Pack Program (local)	\$ 300
• St. Monica's Christmas Toy Drive (regional)	\$ 500
• African Education Partnership (international)	\$ 500
• IRIS-Citizens of the World (international)	\$ 7,500
• Kaduna Center for Study of Christian/Muslim Relations (international)	<u>\$ 2,500</u>
Total	\$12,500

With the generous support of the congregation, many parishioners organize collections of needed items for various groups. These include the Wethersfield Food Bank HAT, South Park Inn, Toiletries for Camp Hispaniola, Hands on Hartford food items, Sean's Closet clothing and home goods.

FRIENDS AND NEEDLES

We have begun to meet regularly again to make prayer shawls, hats and mittens and other items for donation. We share books, puzzles and conversation and knitting patterns and also work on our own projects. All are welcome and knowing how to knit is not necessary, come and learn.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Harasymiw

SEAN'S CLOSET

Sean's Closet continues to be in a holding pattern as far as distribution of clothing is concerned due to Covid concerns. We did give many household items to the IRIS/Citizens of the World project as they were setting up the apartment for the family from Syria.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Harasymiw

CITIZENS OF THE WORLD

In 2022, Trinity joined in a consortium, Citizens of the World, with First Church in Wethersfield, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Cromwell and the Church of Christ in Newington to sponsor a refugee family. Committee members attended training sessions with IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services). The group found and furnished an apartment in Hartford. In September we welcomed a Syrian family with parents and three teen age sons. In addition to financial help, Trinity members have helped the family in learning English, finding jobs, and provided support to the high school students.

Respectfully submitted, Donna Brown

COPPROME

In 2022, I was at Copprome twice for 12 days each time. Currently there are 42 children, about equal numbers of boys and girls. We do have a baby for the first time who came in at 7 months old in April because his mother was known to the orphanage and was a drug addict. While there I spent most of the money on food and a new Fridge plus the children were taken to a water park for the day as it is so incredibly hot. I was told by the people in charge that I am the only person that ever takes the children on a day trip and buys healthy food for them. Most of their meals consist of tortillas, rice and beans with some local fruit, a hot mid day meal sometime with chicken and a few vegetables. All donations and soups purchases from Trinity have always been gratefully appreciated as it really helps with the much needed food purchases. Thank you so much from the children and adults of Copprome and especially Sister Teresita.

Respectfully submitted, Ginger Smith

NIGERIAN SCHOLARSHIPS

For the fifth year in a row, Trinity members have sponsored scholarships for 69 children in the Anglican Diocese of Kafanchan. For \$100, we provide tuition, uniforms, books and meals for one student for an entire school year. Most of these students come from very poor families. Some are orphans. Without these scholarships, they would not have any education.

Respectfully submitted, Cheryl Chadsey

PURSE MINISTRIES

Because of the pandemic the Purse Ministry has been on hold. All foodstuff and toiletries were trashed and have been replenished. Hopefully filled purses will be distributed beginning this spring.

Respectfully submitted, Sue Rafala

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 Rebecca Scruton, Gordon Scruton, Vicki Crafa, Warren Blessing, Clark Tomlinson 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.

Ann Cameron and Isabel Moore Bunting were interred in the Memorial Garden in 2022.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce Tomlinson

WORSHIP TEAM

Worship and music are under the leadership and supervision of the Rector. Fr. Tom Furrer gave that leadership from January until August of 2022. After his resignation in August, 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. Warden Garth Meyers became the Chair of the Worship Team which was created to plan and oversee elements of our worship and music.

Planning and implementing weekly worship, hymns, service music and bulletins requires constant weekly preparations. Worship needs to be coordinated with the Altar Guild. The Episcopal Church of CT asks parishes with part time clergy to have lay led Morning Prayer and sermons at least once a month. We have been blessed with a good team of licensed Worship Leaders and Preachers who have volunteered and been trained to guide us in our monthly Morning Prayer service. The quality of their spiritual leadership has been well received and appreciated by the congregation.

As we moved through the season of Covid restrictions, we returned to our normal practice of inviting parishioners to receive the sacrament at the altar, which has also involved returning to having Eucharistic Ministers assist at the altar. Out of continuing concern for the health and safety of our vulnerable parishioners, we continue to offer the option of small personal chalices with sealed bread and wine or grape juice so that parishioners can remain in their pews to receive Communion. Around half of the congregation chooses to remain in their seats to receive and half receive in the altar.

Philip Tummescheit has continued to amaze and inspire our worship through his ministry of playing the organ throughout the year. He has rare gifts and skills on the organ for a person of his age and has continued to improve the quality of his playing throughout the year. Heidi and Philip have continued to choose our hymns, as they did under the leadership of Fr. Tom. Dorothy LaBelle has blessed our congregation with her music ministry over many years. This year she has led our Communion music on the keyboard.

The Worship Team experimented with meeting four times a year to plan each quarter of the Liturgical Year. Coordinating all the details of worship is a complex task. Little subgroups have worked together to develop different elements of our worship and music. Our Team continues to be a work in progress. Since September, we have returned to using the Book of Common Prayer for our services instead of printing out the whole service in the bulletin, expanded the variety of Prayers of the People, returned to including weekly prayers for the Anglican Communion and ECCT and begun to use more of the options available for services and liturgical music. We hope to continue to expand the variety and quality of our Prayer Book worship to enrich the spiritual life of parishioners. We also invited parishioners to sing Christmas Carols at the homes of some of our parish shut-ins on a December Sunday afternoon, which was a joyful and meaningful experience for all.

While they are not in our scope of responsibilities we give thanks for those who plan for and serve as ushers/greeters, readers and leaders of the Prayers of the People and as hosts for Coffee Hour.

Worship Team members: Chair, Garth Meyers; Gordon Scruton; Heidi and Philip Tummescheit; Carol Jones; Nan Heath; Donna Brown.

PROPERTY

Just like most years, considerable time was 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 a couple of additional people 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 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:

- Classroom counter and sink replaced that was rotted out.
- Repaired plaster wall in downstairs boys' room.
- Had slate work completed on northside of sanctuary roof and the two roof valleys on the southside.
- Had the Sanctuary ceiling and walls repaired and painted.
- Purchased four new lights and installed on the front of the building.
- Had the handicap chairlift repaired and is operational.
- Large flooding occurred in the school classrooms, all areas cleaned and dried.
- Had many of our exterior water drains cleaned to prevent future over-flow problems.
- Had a long-term leak in a roof area where a new membrane was installed and the old air vent removed. Water leaks occurred in the basement and had to be cleaned up after every rain storm.

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

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