



# ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 31

## 2020 IN REVIEW

**VISION:** A place to belong and become who God is calling us to be.

**MISSION:** Connecting people to Christ

**STRATEGY:** Love God, Grow Community, Serve Others



# Agenda for the Annual Meeting

## Sunday, January 31, 2021

1. Call the meeting to order
2. Review and approval of the agenda - P 1
3. Review and approval of previous congregational meeting minutes
  - a. Annual Meeting January 26, 2020 - P 13
  - b. Annual Budget Meeting November 22, 2020 - P 14
  - c. 2021 Approved Budget - P 15
4. Review and accept 2019 Audit Report P 14
5. Ministry Reports
  - a. Pastoral Staff - P 2 & 3
  - b. Little Lights Preschool - P 4
  - c. Trinity Kids - P 5
  - d. Trinity Students - P 6
  - e. Connection Groups - P 7
  - f. Missions - P 8
  - g. Treasurer's Report - P 16
6. Nominating Committee Report for Elections - P 9-12
  - a. Church Council Candidates – elect 3
    - i. Mindy Grass
    - ii. Carrie Nash
    - iii. Rachel Staab
    - iv. Josh Tresemer
    - v. Kelsey Wilson
  - b. Endowment Committee Candidates – elect 1
    - i. Rick Noda
    - ii. Craig Scherzberg
  - c. Nominating Committee Candidates from Congregation-at-Large – elect 2
    - i. Sarah McCabe
    - ii. Doug Pikop
    - iii. John Popelka
  - d. Nominating Committee Candidates from Council – elect 2
    - i. Les Lenz
    - ii. Victoria Tomanek
    - iii. Marcus Schmidt
7. Election results presented
8. Adjourn with Prayer

## From the Pastoral Staff

*Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.  
~Hebrews 10:23*

The unprecedented experience and impact of a pandemic in 2020 creates a challenge for preparing an annual report. Numbers and statistics have little meaning; there is no comparative data to allow productive evaluation. Ministries had to pivot. In person worship did not occur much of the year. Community moved into homes rather than a building. Yet, through it all, we can continue to have unswerving hope in our faithful God.

Our faithful God continued to provide blessings throughout the year.

- I don't want to be blind to the hardships and difficulties of 2020. They are real and impacted everyone. We are all painfully aware of job losses, economic loss, sickness, death and a host of other experiences. Yet, God continued to bring blessings. Many developed new devotional habits. Some learned new ways of communicating and staying in touch, recapturing distant relationships. People reevaluated priorities and found new joy in forgotten experiences. God's provision and faithful generosity provided Trinity with financial resources to cover all the expenses of ministry. We did not end the year in debt. Our building process continued throughout the year. The delays have been minimal.

We learned a great deal that we would not have experienced otherwise.

- The pandemic advanced trends on many movements in the Church. I will highlight two: First, the national decline in worship has been leading to an increase in online worship. This became critical very quickly in March. We responded. From the first day of cancelled in-person worship, we provided online services. People from all over the country have tuned into Trinity. There has been a learning curve; we are getting better. The technology in our new building will allow us to increase the quality of our online presence. Second, community connection is possible online. Through zoom and other technology, Connection Groups met, informal groups gathered, and meetings continued. People were able to stay connected.

God remains faithful through all things.

- When I served my internship in Nebraska over 30 years ago, a verse from an old hymn was often used as a prayer for gatherings. These words have become a constant prayer in my heart: "O where are kings and empires now of old that went and came? But, Lord, your Church is praying yet, a thousand years the same." God is faithful. We have a future and a hope. Tomorrow is filled with potential. While the beginning in our new building may not be what we imagined due to COVID, we trust God. He has faithfully identified a path for us. Now with Bold Faith we go into the future, Connecting People to Christ.

I want to close by thanking the leadership of this congregation, and invite you to join me in appreciating our staff and council. Last year was a challenge for which no one was or could have been fully prepared. Yet, your leadership rose to meet the challenge. Behind the scenes, they continued to drive our ministry, always with confidence in God's faithfulness and vision for our future. I know I am blessed to be partnered with this leadership to serve through Trinity.

Respectfully Submitted  
Erik J. Boye | Lead Pastor



## Pastoral Staff Reports Continued

Well, it was quite the year! Reflecting on the oddness and reality of 2020, it's hard to fathom we are now out of it. For me, I continued my education through Sioux Falls Seminary through Luther House of Study. I took classes on the Holy Spirit, the letters of Paul, and finished Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). My CPE experience placed me in chaplaincy with CHI Health at Immanuel Hospital. Experiencing chaplaincy while going through a pandemic was certainly interesting. I saw the great work of our health care professionals while also observing the difficulties they faced. For many I spoke with, not being able to have visitors, even family, was the most challenging and frustrating part for patients and health care professionals alike.

I continue to be incredibly thankful for the support and flexibility of this congregation as I go through seminary training, I am equally grateful for the staff that surrounds me in ministry through a very intense and busy semester of CPE this fall. My seminary route is not standard which has me bumping up against institutional structures along the way as I continue to work with the Synod to navigate this often frustrating process.

As we enter our new building, I am thankful for Trinity's staff and the tremendous job they have done. 2020 has been an exhausting year for our staff team as they learned new ways to do ministry through Covid and transitioned to a new location. As I sit in my new office, I am thankful to God for walking with us through this incredibly challenging year and look forward to the ministry He calls us to in 2021 both in this building and throughout the community!

Matthew Pearson | Pastor in Training

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Serving Trinity primarily in the areas of pastoral care, spiritual formation, and Sunday worship leadership feeds into my biggest ministry passion of helping followers of Jesus know and experience God's love in a way that underlies every dimension of life which leads to a growing love for all people. As with most areas of Trinity's ministry, these areas looked a lot different beginning in March 2020.

Pastoral care shifted from in-person visits in hospitals and care facilities to phone and video calls. Thankfully, I was able to do some in-person visits near the end of the year. At the end of January, the spiritual formation piece began with leading Emotionally Healthy Discipleship classes. About thirty people participated in an Emotionally Healthy Relationships course, which started in-person at the end of January and concluded via Zoom in April. I also offered a Zoom-only course on Emotionally Healthy Spirituality from April-June. A fun reality of this online course was that people from all over could join in. We had participants in Illinois and Iowa along with many from the Papillion area, sixteen in total. Look for more opportunities to participate in Emotionally Healthy Discipleship in 2021!

Much of my time in 2020 was spent working toward completion of a Doctor of Ministry degree. The general overview of the program is spiritual transformation for mission, and I focused on faith formation in the digital age. My research explored some of the ways screens are changing us. Another area of concentration looked at how practices like contemplation, solitude, and Sabbath can help us experience God in a real, personal way. My project invited families from Trinity to participate in a six-week experience in imaginative prayer with about fifty people from eleven families completing the experience. I recently defended my dissertation and will graduate from Western Theological Seminary in May. I'm planning to schedule a presentation of my project this spring.

If you want to explore ways to connect with God more deeply, I'd love to meet with you. Catch me after worship or email me at [prdave@trinitylife.org](mailto:prdave@trinitylife.org) to set up a time to talk.

Pastor Dave Parrish | Associate Pastor

# Little Lights Preschool Report

Teaching Children to Grow, Learn and Shine for Jesus

At Little Lights Preschool it is our mission to provide a loving and secure Christian environment for young children and to develop a solid foundation for life. While 2020 presented many challenges due to COVID-19, we were able to provide an educational, safe, and loving environment for the children. In March 2020, the preschool closed for the remainder of the school year. The staff provided online lessons and zoom meetings for the children so they could feel connected to their teachers and classmates. In August 2020, we opened our doors again for school. With our new COVID-19 protocols in place we had a very successful and safe Fall semester. The children loved coming back to school and we appreciate the support of their families! In 2021 we look forward to moving to our new classrooms at the new Trinity Church and cannot wait to continue building our Christian foundation. Please continue to pray for our Little Lights children and our teachers.



## THE NUMBERS

Teachers: 4

Substitute Teachers: 4

Families Served: 45

Includes four from Trinity and 41 who either have another church home or do not claim one.

The amazing support of the families also makes our preschool successful.



"Little Lights is very organized, and the teachers are patient and caring. I always felt comfortable leaving my child there."

"We really enjoyed our time with Little Lights. We are always praising Little Lights to all of our family and friends. Thank you for all you have done for our little one."

"My child loved going and learned a lot. We would definitely sign up again for future children and/or recommend to others!"

# Trinity Kids' Report



Trinity Kids' (TK) first year of programming was cut short in the spring of 2020. Prior to the church closing due to COVID, TK averaged 50 kids each week. During that time, we reached 10 new families. Once we fully online in March, over 10 of our volunteers recorded lessons that continued through the summer! Trinity Kids reached 20 families with our Drive Thru Block Party in September, and reopened in person in October. Although the in-person group was much smaller, we were able connect kids to Jesus through Trinity Kids at Home videos and monthly take-home activity packets. A big hit was our Simply Christmas series, serving families with Christmas boxes full of activities and devotions.

Statistically, the greatest mission field in our church is in Kids' Ministry since the probability of someone accepting Jesus as a child is much higher than later in life. Trinity Kids is looking forward to launching NEW programming with a NEW look in our NEW spaces in 2021. With the help of our amazing team of dedicated volunteers, our vision is to connect more kids and families to Christ! We pray that you will join us in this exciting mission to transform lives!



In June, Trinity Kids tackled an online version of Vacation Bible School, bringing VBS into the homes of over 115 kids. More than 20 volunteers were involved in recording lesson and worship materials or putting together and delivering take home bags filled with crafts and activities for families! For five days, these families (and even more who didn't request bags) engaged with Rocky Railway through YouTube videos and VBS activities. Many of these families showed up in person at the end of the week to donate Macaroni and Cheese via the Marvelous Macaroni Machine - 187 boxes were collected for Heartland Hope Mission!



We had to be creative with 1st communion in 2020. After attending instructional classes together in the spring, the ceremony for First Communion was postponed due to the pandemic. With some innovation, they were able to receive their first communion within their own family, celebrating this milestone in person in October! These 19 Trinity Kids are now Trinity Students and we look forward to watching their continued growth with Jesus. Please keep both our Trinity Kids and Trinity Students ministries in prayer.



Trinity Kids continues to support Mary Kamara at the Roots Home, which is part of The Raining Season ministry in Sierra Leone, Africa. The offering collected each week at Trinity Kids, both online and in person, helps to support Mary's needs as she completes school and transitions to adult life in Sierra Leone.



# Trinity Students Report

I do not have to mention that 2020 was a weird year for ministry, and Trinity Students was no exception. We had only a handful of normal Trinity Students meetings in 2020, the majority of the meetings happening at the start of the year before COVID changed the world. I am very proud of how the Trinity Students team has responded to the challenge.

In March we realized that ministry would not look the same for the foreseeable future, so we created “Trinity Students Live.” Trinity Students Live was a YouTube video that premiered weekly that involved some aspects of the evening prerecorded, and others live. We still had a message, worship, games, and small groups. Overall, I think it was effective for that time. We realized near the end of it that students had little interest in being on zoom after they had been on zoom for their schooling all day. During the summer, we had a slight reprieve and were able to resume in person meetings for Bible study, outdoors only. This year we walked through two Pauline Epistles. I am continually impressed by our students. They really took this year’s Bible study seriously. On a couple of occasions, we had students bring up some tough theological questions. Because the purpose of Bible study is to learn how to read the Bible without always having the church to answer questions (when they enter college, for example), we always encourage students to research their question for a week then come back and then we talk about it. I was blown away with how much thought and effort our students put into researching their questions.

When the school year started up, we had a few weeks of in-person Trinity Students. Our numbers were down (surprising nobody), but I was still encouraged. We had an average of 60 people attending our Trinity Students in the fall. When Trinity shut down again, we took a new approach to ministry. We broke up our Trinity Students Wednesday programming into different segments and put them on social media. While we’re only a few weeks in at the time of writing this, I am pleased at the results. We have good engagement both on spiritual activities such as the messages or outreach initiatives, as well as fun activities such as our weekly game day. Trinity Students led the church in raising over 500 food items for those in need in the Omaha area this year.

As we begin 2021, we are excited at the prospect of moving to the new building and all that God will do through our ministry in the coming years. Thank you for supporting our church and ministry!

Chase Florum | Trinity Students Director



# Connection Group Report

This year is not about the numbers. We've had to get creative about how we stay engaged as a community. But it's been a year of "all hands on deck." Connection groups have weathered the changes of 2020 and remained flexible in how they express their faith and shine the light of Jesus to those in our Trinity community and beyond.

**Phone calls** to those living alone, those in older age category, and eventually the entire Trinity community, multiple times. We've relied on many willing volunteers to repeatedly form phone trees to make personal contacts with everyone in our Trinity community.

**Connection group leaders reaching out to members:** Leaders staying connected with email prayer chains, keeping in tune with the needs of their group members. Other leaders made home visits to those in their group, in order to keep in touch and visit at the door.

**Outdoor gatherings:** Fire pit gatherings, driveway gatherings, and parking lot gatherings. Wherever people could find an outdoor space, people gathered for social, Bible studies and worship songs. Outside was the place to be!

**Zoom studies, game nights and social visits:** We are blessed to have the technology to see each other's faces, in the midst of staying at home. What an encouragement to talk to friends and gather in groups over video calls.

**Care center encouragement and appreciation events:** Students made chalk drawings on the sidewalks of care centers to encourage residents with Bible passages. Trinity community members made thank you signs and organized appreciation drive-by events to care centers to show appreciation for care workers.

**Creativity and flexibility in our service to others:** Rather than serving hot meals at Empty Tomb, Connection groups prepared and dropped off sack lunches. Heartland Hope Mission shifted to packing and carrying out groceries to those in need. Stephen's Center dropped off meal supplies to be prepared in house. One Connection group organized a "Reverse Advent" food drive to local food pantries. They also wrote personalized Christmas cards to care center residents.

Laura Thompson | Director of Discipleship Development



# Missions Report

As 2020 has come to a close, we reflect on the ways it has been both interesting and difficult. The year was unlike any in the past for figuring out how to continue to partner with our overseas missions, The Raining Season (TRS) in Sierra Leone, West Africa and Shalom Ministries in India.

In years past, we have been able take a group of people and travel to TRS. This was not possible in 2020. We missed the opportunity to visit the children and caregivers, and to serve out in the Freetown community. India was hit hard by COVID and is still dealing with how to best share the Gospel and be the church while a pandemic is happening. In India, Shalom ministries continued to train native Indian missionaries to send out into India, while also tirelessly working to care for lepers, orphans and widows. Although we were not able to travel to TRS last year, and Shalom Ministries has had to be very creative to continue their mission, it is important that we also continue to offer our prayerful and financial support to both of these mission partners. Together we are living our mission, connecting people to Christ around the world.

In Sierra Leone, the orphanage shut down for several months, keeping kids in-lock down, primarily to keep the special needs children safe due to their many pre-existing conditions. Remarkably Sierra Leone, the country, is open while still trying to keep COVID outside of the country as much as possible. At TRS, the kids are back in school and the orphanage center is open and functioning as normal. Somehow Sierra Leone was spared from the pandemic which is truly a blessing as their health care system is fragile at best. The kids are doing wonderfully well and the staff continues to do an incredible job caring for the kids.

The ROOTS program, part of The Raining Season Orphanage, opened two new houses for the older children that are aging out of the orphanage. In these ROOTS homes, one for boys and one for girls, these soon-to-be young adults learn skills necessary to be independent and functioning members of the community.

We continue to see incredible things happen through our partnership with TRS and Shalom ministries. If you have any interest in either of these overseas missions, please contact Matt Pearson. If you have interest in becoming a sponsor for a child orphan at The Raining Season, contact Rachel Staab, a TRS Sponsorship Ambassador who would love to connect you to the joys of sponsoring a child.

To stay up-to-date on prayer requests, please join our Facebook group, Trinity Prays. This community is lifting local and global issues to God in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Pearson | Pastor in Training

# Nominating Committee Report for Elections

Due to COVID concerns, masking and social distancing, this year there will be three options available to vote for Trinity Church leadership: Friday, January 29 and Saturday, January 30 between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 pm and Sunday, January 31 before and after both 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. services. Trinity Church members are invited to the new location, 848 Gold Coast Rd, to cast your vote for our future leadership.

## Council Member Candidates Vote for 3 of 5



**Mindy Grass**

**Spouse:** Greg; **Children:** Parker (26) married to Kristen, Taylor (25), Rylee (21), and Brady (17); **Occupation:** Health Coach, part-time from home **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Active in our Connection Group, 2021 social event planning group **Past involvement:** Empty Tomb volunteer, Lenten dinner host, Vacation Bible School volunteer **Community Involvement:** Active with Campus Life, Youth for Christ volunteer **Why I would like to serve:** I would love the opportunity to become more involved with Trinity and get to know more of our church family. We have grown spiritually in our faith as a couple and family and look forward to continuing that through becoming more engaged with the church. I would love to be an active contributor to the future of Trinity and make a difference in where we are headed. Our Trinity family has been such a significant part of our lives, especially these last couple years with Brady having surgery and through his recovery. I have the passion, commitment and energy to be a part of our Church Council and welcome the opportunity to serve.



**Carrie Nash**

**Spouse:** Kasey **Children:** Collin (16), Cade (13), Carter (10), Kylie (9) **Occupation:** Children's Minister at Trinity **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Current Council member and staff member, Sierra Leone sponsor **Past involvement:** Footsteps volunteer for 7 years, MOPS member and coordinator, Youth group volunteer, Sierra Leone travel 2017 **Community Involvement:** Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader **Why I would like to serve:** I have enjoyed serving the last three years during the building process, rebranding, and ministry changes of Trinity Kids and Trinity Students. I believe that I can continue to offer support and ideas to further the mission of Trinity as we move forward through times of transition.



**Rachel Staab**

**Spouse:** Nick **Children:** Ava **Occupation:** Corporate Actions Representative at TD Ameritrade **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Women's Connection Group Leader, Young Couples' Connection Group Leader, Worship Design Team **Past involvement:** Trinity Students Small Group Leader, Vacation Bible School Teacher, Sunday School Substitute Teacher and Regular Teacher **Community Involvement:** The Raining Season Sponsor and Mission Trip Attendee, Crescent Food Pantry Volunteer in Crescent, IA **Why I would like to serve:** I have decided to run for Church Council because, over the last year, I have been encouraged by the changes Trinity has implemented as we transitioned to offering online worship and as moving into our new building becomes a reality. I believe that serving on the Council will allow me opportunity to participate directly in the continued change I am passionate about in a way that glorifies God.

## Council Member Candidates Continued



**Josh Tresemer**

**Spouse:** Michelle **Children:** Taylor (11), Mason (9), Jameson (7) **Occupation:** Commercial Lender at First National Bank of Omaha **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Finance Committee **Past involvement:** Bold Faith Capital Appeal Committee **Community Involvement Current:** Youth Baseball and Basketball coach; Nebraska Independent Community Bankers Board of Directors. **Past:** Big Brothers/Big Sisters Mentor; Teammates Mentor; Partnership 4 Kids Service League Board Member **Why I would like to serve:** I would be honored to share my time and spiritual gifts to serve the Trinity congregation. I have volunteered for various community and philanthropic organizations in the past, and am excited for the opportunity to be considered to serve at a place that is central to our family; Trinity Church. We are beginning an exciting chapter in the history of our congregation. I would grateful to be a part of the leadership team as we grow in our new building to further our mission of Connecting People to Christ.



**Kelsey Wilson**

**Spouse:** Matt **Children:** Haysen and Cash Stech **Occupation:** Outreach Assistant at Midwest Eyecare **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Connection Group and Women's Group **Past involvement:** Operation Christmas Child, Christmas Eve service, Paint-a-Thon, Funday Sunday, Thanksgiving Baskets **Community Involvement:** When Trinity is involved, I help when I can **Why I would like to serve:** I want to give back to Trinity and help grow our church which has been a saving grace for myself and my family. I also believe it's important for my children to see me involved with the church and show them ways to give back.

## Endowment Committee Candidates Vote for One of Two



**Rick Noda**

**Spouse:** Nancy; **Children:** Chris Noda, Katie Mott; **Occupation:** Retired (Clinical Laboratory Scientist - Compliance Officer); **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Assisted with the pick-up and delivery of food items collected by a bible study group to Tri-City Pantry; **Past involvement:** Church council member, Pastor search committee; **Why I would like to serve:** This position offers an opportunity to help with the management and stewardship of the gifts entrusted to Trinity by members and friends of the Church.



**Craig Scherzberg**

**Spouse:** Donna; **Children:** Angela Sivertson (Papillion), Emily Scherzberg-Darragh (Chicago), Jamie Cutler (Phoenix); **Occupation:** Retired; **Past involvement at Trinity:** Greeter, Usher, One year on Audit committee; **Community Involvement:** Homeowners Association volunteer; **Why I would like to serve:** I have the time and desire to support the church beyond attendance and giving. I feel it is important to honor donor requests while carrying out church mission and vision. I have a working awareness of financial investments via self-directed IRAs, 401k, 529 accounts and 20 years membership in an investment club.



## Nominating Committee Candidates From Congregation at Large Vote for Two of Three



**Sarah McCabe**

**Spouse:** Nate **Children:** William (8), Benjamin (6), Josie (3) **Occupation:** 3rd grade teacher at Bell Elementary **Past involvement:** Volunteered with Sara Martens on committee about Trinity's brand for the new building **Community Involvement:** I volunteer on several committees and help out at events at Bell. **Why I would like to serve:** I have attended Trinity my entire life, and it has a special place in my heart. I've experienced some of the biggest moments of my life at our church...our wedding, my dad's funeral, my grandpa's funeral, the baptisms of our 3 children, our boys attending Little Lights preschool...I am thankful for all of these moments and would love to give back to Trinity in a small way. When Chuck Johnston nominated me, he mentioned that the church is looking to add younger people to this committee. Since I am currently in the last year of my thirties, I jumped at the chance to join a group that thinks I am young! In all honesty, I would love to help the church add some new ideas and perspective through my connections.



**Doug Pikop**

**Spouse:** Paulette **Children:** adult sons, Todd, Trevor and Tanner, two daughters-in-law and six grandchildren **Occupation:** Retired. a) Served in the U.S. Air Force on active duty from 1969 - 1993 with overseas assignments in Spain, Vietnam, Thailand and Australia plus stateside assignments in Texas, California, Colorado, Mississippi, South Dakota and Nebraska. b) Lutheran Brotherhood/Thrivent Financial from 1993 - 2015 **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Regular worshipper on-line since COVID-19; volunteer cook at Stephen Center; volunteer at Heartland Hope Mission Food Pantry. **Past involvement:** Church Council three different times; served on Endowment Board of Trustees; served as song leader for many years. **Why I would like to serve:** I have served in many capacities at Trinity since 1983 including service on the nominating committee (several times) so I have prior experience.



**John Popelka**

**Spouse:** Karen; **Children:** Brian Popelka married to Wendy, grandchildren Owen and Sophie; **Occupation:** Retired engineer for Corps of Engineers and Offutt AFB; **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Volunteer for Heartland Hope Mission, Funeral committee for set up and ushering, collected and delivered food to Tri City Pantry; **Past involvement:** Various maintenance activities for the church, Greeter; **Community Involvement:** Member of Papillion Area Lions Club, Homeowners association President, Sanitary Improvement District officer; **Why I would like to serve:** I agreed to serve Trinity in this capacity because Christ and Trinity Church are very important to me and my family. I feel this is a great way to serve Christ by serving our members, our church, and our community.

## Nominating Committee Candidates From Church Council Vote for Two of Three



**Les Lenz**

**Spouse:** Robin; **Children:** Casey married to Jack, grandson Ryker (soon to be 5); **Occupation:** Civil Engineering Designer; **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Church Council, Connection Group Leader, Hospitality Committee, Bible App Devotional Organizer; **Community Involvement:** Recreation Sports Coach and organizer, flood relief helper; **Why I would like to serve:** First and foremost, I am humbled to be even asked to be on the Nominating Committee. Being a positive and giving person, I have always told myself, if you are going to be a part of the church, do not hesitate to BE A PART. You never know when you are going to make a difference in a person's life. I see the potential of this church making a difference in our surrounding community. It truly is all about how God is using the people around us. I feel God moving this church. Being the Beacon on the Hill (90th and 370) I see nothing but positive things. God uses all of us so many different ways. He has given us all talents. Time to get out of the boat!



**Marcus Schmidt**

**Spouse:** Kathy; **Occupation:** Vice President, Product Management at Intrado Corporation; **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Church Council Secretary, Authentic Men Connection Group, Online Services Host; **Past involvement:** Bold Faith appeal advisory team, Evangelism team, Brush Up Nebraska Paint-a-Thon team; **Community Involvement:** Raining Season Roots Project sponsor, Siena Francis House volunteer, Operation Christmas Child volunteer/sponsor; **Why I would like to serve:** This is an amazing time to be part of Trinity and what God is doing through us. As we recover from the challenges of 2020, I look forward to helping us find new people to serve in leadership roles. Together, we can help lead our Trinity family forward as we use our new mission outpost plus new technology to connect people to Christ in more ways than ever before.



**Victoria Tomanek**

**Spouse:** Matt; **Children:** Ella (7), Lane (5), and twins Kyla and Cal (3); **Occupation:** physicians assistant at the Omaha Veteran's Affairs medical center; **Present Involvement at Trinity:** Church Council Member, Worship Team Initiative, Trinity Kids Volunteer; **Past involvement:** Hospitality-Greeter/Usher, Evangelism team, New member Community series class leader; **Community Involvement:** Veteran Affairs Stand Down to Homeless Veterans, UNMC Physician Assistant Program; **Why I would like to serve:** In this last year while serving on church council, I have enjoyed being involved with a great group of believers who have a passion for Trinity's mission and vision. I hope that we can continue to see Trinity adapt and grow to help reach our growing community. By having strong and faithful leaders our goal of connecting people to Christ can be accomplished. I have agreed to serve on the nominating committee because I feel the church council is a vital group of our church who can make important decisions that continue to further our mission, change lives, and grow God's Kingdom.

## **Trinity Lutheran Church Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes January 26, 2020**

Council President Dan Sommer called the meeting to order at 11:39 a.m. and opened with a prayer. The meeting was opened with 67 congregants in attendance.

Three new items were added to the agenda:

- Brief description of new construction
- Sale of the out lots on the property
- Minutes seconded and approved with additions.

The Agenda, January 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes, and the Annual Report were approved by the Congregation. Dan Sommer reminded everyone to get a copy of the Annual Report pamphlet if they didn't already have one.

Congregational meeting minutes and November budget meeting minutes. Motion was made to accept and was seconded. Unanimous voice approval.

Review and accept the 2019 audit report and 2020 annual report. Motion was made to accept and was seconded. Unanimous voice approval.

New Business:

- Church construction update by Pr. Erik. Construction of the new building is on schedule and on or below budget. The exterior structural steel is up. Interior steel still needs to be set. The decking is up. The low part on the east side - the children's space and offices - is to be enclosed on all four sides so workers can heat and work on all winter long.
- Dec. 20, 2020, is the date we are projected to get the keys. There are punch lists to be completed after that. Plan to move out of church center the 2nd or 3rd week of January. Not planning Christmas in the new building for 2020. The Sound system moves with additions and changes which will take a few weeks - there will be a 2-3 week transition to move. Aiming for first services there in early February.
- Out lots. The corner lots have been subdivided into three lots. They have been drawn up to keep the visual perspective of the new church from Hwy 370. We are working with Realtor to sell the lots. Initially, we didn't want for sale signs on the property but the council has now authorized our Realtor to put up for sale signs.
- Election Results - The results of the Congregational election were presented by Sandy Leudtke. 208 votes
  - For Church Council: Les Lenz, Marcus Schmidt and Victoria Tomanek were elected to a 3-year term.
  - For Endowment Board of Trustees: Billy Williams was elected to a 5-year term.
  - For Nominating Committee from Congregation: Cindy Sommer and Chuck Johnston were elected to a 1-year term.
  - For Nominating Committee from Church Council: Dan Sommer and Shavon Erb were elected to a 1-year term.

Dan Sommer adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m. and closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kiley Cruse | Council Secretary

**Trinity Lutheran Church  
Congregational Budget Meeting Minutes  
November 22, 2020 - Family Life Center**

Present: 22 Members

A very special thank you to Shavon Erb who took notes during the meeting.

Dan Sommer called the meeting to order at 11:27am and opened with an explanation of the budget and difficulty the finance team had with establishing the 2021 operational budget due to the all unknowns.

There were a few questions:

- What is the growth initiative? Pastor explained that this line item was in this years' budget and that if income exceeds expense we have a plan for how to spend that money.
- Are we budgeting for debt service? Dan confirmed that the next capital appeal, to start in 2021 will be to secure contributions to reduce the building debt.
- Does the budget provide for interest on the loan? Pastor confirmed that the meeting today was solely to address the operating budget, or general fund. The interest on the loan is paid out of the construction budget, which is a separate fund.

A comment was made that the summary provided by Don Davern was greatly appreciated.

Vote was held and budget was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:38am.

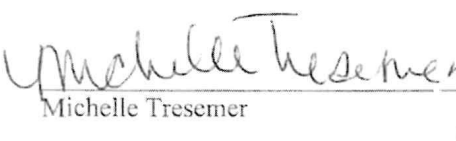
Report of the Audit Committee

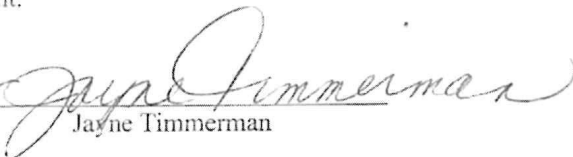
Date: Friday, February 7, 2020

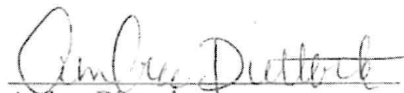
To: The Church Leadership and Membership

We have audited the records and the financial reports of Trinity Lutheran Church, Papillion, NE dated December 31, 2019. While our audit was limited to testing the transactions and balances and would not necessarily disclose all errors, we found no evidence of significant errors or omissions. In our opinion, the financial reports mentioned above are fairly stated.

We wish to commend the Finance Committee, Bookkeeper, Financial Secretary and Money Counters for their fine work during the year. On behalf of the congregation, we thank them for the gift of their time and talent.

  
Michelle Tresemer

  
Jayne Timmerman

  
Andrea Dietterle

**Trinity Lutheran Church  
Profit & Loss Budget Overview**

	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>Jan - Dec 2021</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>Jan - Dec 2020</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u>	<u>% Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u>
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Congregational Contributions</b>	\$910,500.00	\$983,137.69	(\$72,637.69)	-7.39%
<b>Other Income</b>	135,500.00	124,700.00	\$10,800.00	8.66%
<b>Growth Initiative Income</b>	25,000.00	25,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>\$1,071,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,132,837.69</u>	<u>(\$61,837.69)</u>	<u>-5.46%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>Benevolence</b>	\$91,800.00	\$99,376.70	(\$7,576.70)	-7.62%
<b>Designated Gift Expenses</b>	2,500.00	10,000.00	(\$7,500.00)	-75.00%
<b>Worship</b>	14,000.00	14,250.00	(\$250.00)	-1.75%
<b>Christian Education</b>	16,900.00	15,200.00	\$1,700.00	11.18%
<b>Youth Groups</b>	82,500.00	74,000.00	\$8,500.00	11.49%
<b>Adult Ministry</b>	5,500.00	6,000.00	(\$500.00)	-8.33%
<b>Pre-School</b>	6,300.00	6,300.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<b>Staff Salaries and Benefits</b>	687,000.00	707,341.99	(\$20,341.99)	-2.88%
<b>Administrative Items</b>	32,050.00	37,689.00	(\$5,639.00)	-14.96%
<b>Church Utilities</b>	54,100.00	32,450.00	\$21,650.00	66.72%
<b>Property &amp; Maintenance</b>	48,500.00	39,950.00	\$8,550.00	21.40%
<b>Insurance</b>	19,700.00	15,500.00	\$4,200.00	27.10%
<b>Outreach (Evangelism)</b>	36,200.00	17,230.00	\$18,970.00	110.10%
<b>Conference/Staff Retreat</b>	8,000.00	7,500.00	\$500.00	6.67%
<b>Discipleship Development</b>	4,050.00	4,150.00	(\$100.00)	-2.41%
<b>Technology</b>	22,088.00	20,900.00	\$1,188.00	5.68%
<b>Growth Initiative Expense</b>	25,000.00	25,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>\$1,156,188.00</u>	<u>\$1,132,837.69</u>	<u>\$23,350.31</u>	<u>2.06%</u>
<b>Net Income ( Loss)</b>	<u><u>(\$85,188.00)</u></u>	<u><u>\$0.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$85,188.00</u></u>	

# Treasurer's Report

Greetings and Happy New Year! 2020 certainly presented many challenges as we all tried to stay safe and healthy while remaining connected to each other and to Trinity Church. Despite these challenges, I am pleased to report that we ended the year in a solid financial position. This is truly a blessing from God and a tribute to your commitment to Trinity. Thanks to your generosity, and close management of expenses by church staff, income exceeded expenses in 2020. Construction of the new building is nearly complete, and funding of this project remains on plan. This beautiful facility will be a great place to worship and continue our mission of connecting people to Christ. Thank you for your continued support of Trinity Church! God bless.

Mark Myers | Treasurer

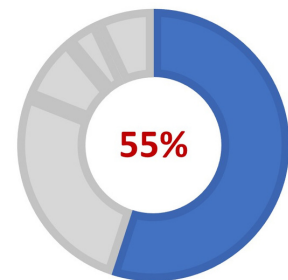
## Financials:

Income	\$ 1,573,169
Expenses	\$ 1,266,107

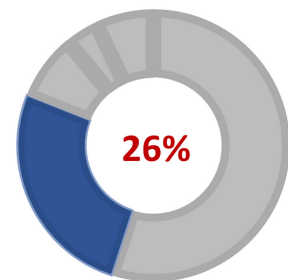
## How expenses were allocated:

Personnel	\$ 692,752
Facilities	\$ 334,508
Benevolence	\$ 101,203
Administration	\$ 87,652
Ministry & Outreach	\$ 49,992
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,266,107</b>

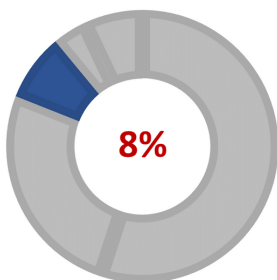
### PERSONNEL



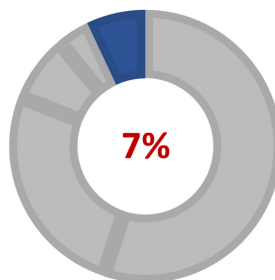
### FACILITIES



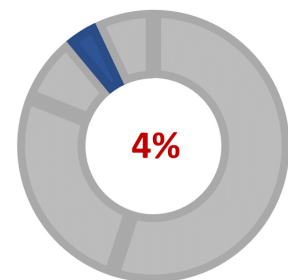
### BENEVOLENCE



### ADMINISTRATION



### MINISTRY & OUTREACH



## TRINITY'S CORE BELIEFS

We believe the Bible is the authoritative Word of God.

We believe in One God as seen in God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit.

### God the Father

- God is eternal. He was in the beginning and will be for all eternity.
- God created everything.
- God created each person in His own image, therefore all human life has value.
- God created each person to live in a relationship with Him, however, this relationship has been broken because of our sin.

### God the Son, Jesus Christ

- Jesus Christ was sent from Heaven to Earth by God to share a message of forgiveness and restore our relationship with Him.
- Jesus died to save all people from the eternal consequences of their sin.
- Jesus rose again and is alive in Heaven today. He gives believers new life for today and for eternity.
- Jesus is the only way to salvation.
- Jesus gives salvation as a free gift to those who trust in Him alone.

### God the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit draws us into living our relationship with Jesus.
- The Holy Spirit empowers those who believe to tell others about salvation through Jesus Christ.
- The Holy Spirit guides those who believe to live a life that pleases God and connects others to Christ.
- We believe that the lost (those apart from Christ) matter to God, therefore they matter to us.

## TRINITY'S CORE VALUES

**We value the two Great Commandments,**

- to love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength
- to love others as ourselves.

**We value the Great Commission** which commands us to teach others about God and to lead all people into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

**We value the Great Confession.** We confess our belief in Jesus Christ just as Peter did in Matthew 16:16 when Jesus asked, "Who do you say I AM?" Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

These values are expressed in the following ways.

**We value Loving God through**

- joyful worship
- proclamation of God's Word
- confession of sins and prayer
- the Sacraments (baptism and communion)

**We value Growing Community by**

- studying God's word together through Christian Education and Small Groups
- gathering together to share Christ-centered life
- actively inviting everyone to connect with Christ and grow with Him

**We value Serving Others through**

- ministry support inside the church
- loving our neighbors outside the church
- local and global mission support

Trinity's staff is made up of men and women who find joy in working for God's glory with the body of Christ to bring glory to God. Having served with you in 2020:

### Pastoral Staff

- Pastor Erik Boye
- Pastor Dave Parrish
- Matthew Pearson

### Administration

- Sharon Bernady
- Carolyn Bestmann
- Claire Keogh
- Don Davern
- Juli Staab

### Trinity Kids

- Sheila Kendall
- Carrie Nash

### Trinity Students

- Chase Florom

### Discipleship/Connection Groups

- Laura Thompson

### Worship & Music

- Nathan Carlton
- Chris Cherney
- Kayla Florom
- Karla Remmers

### Family Life Center Chairs

- James Shelbourn
- Riley Lampman
- Renee Thompson
- Sam Thompson
- Luke Murnane

### Nursery

- Karlene Hysten
- Shaeley Wiese
- Kaylin Pratt
- Mindy Ream
- Renee Thompson

### Little Lights Preschool

- Jennifer Carlson
- Stacy Denne
- Robyn Marshall
- Chris Mayfield
- Cindy Reilly
- Paulette Pikop
- Tammy Scasny
- Erin Chick

### Custodial Team

- Rafiou Oyeossi from VanGuard
- Betsy Smith



**TRINITY**  
**C H U R C H**

**Looking forward to  
what God has in store  
for Trinity in 2021**