



TRINITY CHURCH

ANNUAL CELEBRATION MEETING

Sunday, January 30, 2022

2021 IN REVIEW

OUR MISSION

Connecting People to Christ

OUR VISION

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

**LOVE
GOD**

**GROW
COMMUNITY**

**SERVE
OTHERS**

Agenda for the Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 30, 2022

1. Welcome, Prayer & 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 Minutes January 31, 2021 - P 2
 - b. Annual Budget Meeting Minutes November 21, 2021 - P 3
 - c. Approved 2022 Budget & 2020 Audit Report completed in 2021 - P 4
4. Celebration Video & Ministry Reports
 - a. Lead Pastor - P5
 - b. Little Lights Preschool - P 6
 - c. Trinity Kids - P 7
 - d. Trinity Students - P 8
 - e. Connection Groups and Associate Pastor - P 9
 - f. Missions and Pastoral Intern - P 10
 - g. Worship Minister - P 11
 - h. Treasurer's Report - P 12
5. Nominating Committee Report for Elections - P 13-18
 - a. Church Council Candidates – elect 3
 - i. Debra Bowen
 - ii. Kiley Cruse
 - iii. Shavon Erb
 - iv. Bob Graham
 - v. Carl Rhoten
 - b. Endowment Committee Candidates – elect 1
 - i. Rick Olstad
 - ii. Craig Scherzberg
 - c. Nominating Committee Candidates from Congregation-at-Large – elect 2
 - i. Jackie Mach
 - ii. George Madson
 - iii. John Popelka
 - d. Nominating Committee Candidates from Council – elect 2
 - i. Carrie Nash
 - ii. Rachel Staab
 - iii. Josh Tresemer
6. Mission, Core Beliefs, 2021 Staff - P 19-20
7. Leadership and Election Results
8. New Business: Land Sale
9. Celebration Closing and Prayer

Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

January 31, 2021

Present: 35 members

- Motion to approve report
- Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting. Seconded and unanimously approve
- Audit report. Moved, seconded, unanimously approved.
- Ministry reports. Moved, seconded, unanimously approved.
- Discussion about building finances
- Discussion about new building feedback
- Signage related to hours for services... temporary sign needs?
- Discussion about relaxing occupancy guidelines
- Discussion about serving roles

Election results:

- Council Candidates
 - Rachel Staab
 - Carrie Nash
 - Josh Tresemer
- Endowment Board
 - Rick Noda
- Nominating from congregation
 - Sara McCabe
 - Doug Pikop
- Nominating from council
 - Victoria Tomanek
 - Marcus Schmidt

Council President, Dan Sommer closed in prayer at 11:58

Reconvened at 12:04pm to vote on officers

- Council officer elections:
 - President: Shavon Erb
 - Vice President: Marcus Schmidt
 - Secretary: Rachel Staab
 - Treasurer: Josh Tresemer
- Folks in previous roles will hand off to folks in new roles.
- Signing authority will all switch over with the bank tomorrow – Don will start all this on Monday.

Adjourned at 12:23pm

Congregational Budget Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2021

Present: 72 members

Shavon Erb called the meeting to order at 11:43 AM and opened with prayer. Josh, the Council Treasurer, came up to the stage to discuss the budget. He discussed how the budget is created through collaboration with ministry leaders, staff, Don Davern, the Finance Committee, and Council. He highlighted that our income is down this year, so staff salaries were not increased for the second year in the row and the benevolence items were cut in half from 10% down to 5%. He then opened the floor for discussion and questions.

There were a few questions:

- A question was asked if staff salaries are included in the Kids or Student ministry line item on the budget. It was confirmed that staff salaries were not included in this.
- This line is specifically just expenses from the ministries (most of this is covered by students attending the trips and families covering expenses). The church will do scholarships for students as needed, but a majority of the expenses are covered by families and students attending those events/trips.
- 43% of the 10% of benevolence funds goes to the NE Synod. Roughly, \$20-25K.
- Property and maintenance items have actually increased even though we have one property instead of two. The line item on the budget is just for property and maintenance. It doesn't include the capital items and most of this wasn't budgeted initially as we were not sure what the cost would be.
- Congregational contributions include historical data to estimate and we also include pledge numbers to help estimate, but this number always changes when the actual gifts come in.
- Travel expenses for staff to attend retreats and professional developments are analyzed to allow for judgement to be considered as to the most cost effective way to attend these items (ie., attending virtually instead of traveling to the conference). Staff use discretion to determine where items can be cut.
- Other income consists of over abundance on student trips and ministry, Little Lights fees being collected, and other items that come in throughout the year.
- Evangelism is down by \$20K. This cut was due to a cut on staff to eliminate a Social Media Coordinator role that we will not have this year.
- The deficit at the bottom was discussed as the fact that we have an income issue, we have cut expenses faithfully. We need to spread the word about income and giving and how this increase can help us with our expense issues.
- To help with trying to get our income we have been diligent and sent letters and pushed hard in the last couple weeks to try and help increase our income.
- The use of passing the plate and the use of the boxes in the back of the room was used during Covid and as a church we are now going back to the passing of the plates as of today and going forward. We are hopeful this will serve a reminder and help to increase the giving as well.

Vote was held and the budget was unanimously approved.

Council and the Finance Committee will monitor the budget over the few months and will pray that giving increases to meet the projected deficit. If income does not increase, we will have a congregational meeting in March or April of 2022 to vote and discuss where cuts will need to be made.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 PM with a prayer.

Trinity Church
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
2022 APPROVED BUDGET

	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>Jan - Dec 2022</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>Jan - Dec 2021</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u>	<u>% Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u>
Income				
<i>Congregational Contributions</i>	\$937,851.00	\$910,500.00	\$27,351.00	3.00%
<i>Other Income</i>	139,350.00	135,500.00	\$3,850.00	2.84%
Total Income	<u>\$1,077,201.00</u>	<u>\$1,046,000.00</u>	<u>\$31,201.00</u>	<u>2.98%</u>
Expense				
<i>Benevolence</i>	\$48,967.00	\$91,800.00	(\$42,833.00)	-46.66%
<i>Designated Gift Expenses</i>	2,500.00	2,500.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>Worship</i>	15,000.00	14,000.00	\$1,000.00	7.14%
<i>Christian Education</i>	16,900.00	16,900.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>Youth Groups</i>	79,500.00	82,500.00	(\$3,000.00)	-3.64%
<i>Adult Ministry</i>	8,000.00	5,500.00	\$2,500.00	45.45%
<i>Pre-School</i>	6,300.00	6,300.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>Staff Salaries and Benefits</i>	697,818.00	687,000.00	\$10,818.00	1.57%
<i>Administrative Items</i>	33,227.00	32,050.00	\$1,177.00	3.67%
<i>Church Utilities</i>	63,700.00	54,100.00	\$9,600.00	17.74%
<i>Property & Maintenance</i>	69,552.00	48,500.00	\$21,052.00	43.41%
<i>Insurance</i>	21,200.00	19,700.00	\$1,500.00	7.61%
<i>Outreach (Evangelism)</i>	15,650.00	36,200.00	(\$20,550.00)	-56.77%
<i>Conference/Staff Development</i>	8,000.00	8,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>Discipleship Development</i>	4,150.00	4,050.00	\$100.00	2.47%
<i>Technology</i>	27,152.00	22,088.00	\$5,064.00	22.93%
Total Expense	<u>\$1,117,616.00</u>	<u>\$1,131,188.00</u>	<u>(\$13,572.00)</u>	<u>-1.20%</u>
Net Income (Loss)	<u>(\$40,415.00)</u>	<u>(\$85,188.00)</u>	<u>(\$44,773.00)</u>	

Report of the Audit Committee

Date: *September 10, 2021*

To: The Church Leadership and Membership

We have audited the records and the financial reports of Trinity Lutheran Church and the Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund dated December 31, 2020. 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, and Financial Secretary 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*
Michelle Tresemer Jayne Timmerman

Andrea Dietterle
Andrea Dietterle

Lead Pastor's Report

See, I am doing a new thing. ~Isaiah 43:19

Predominant in our hearts during 2021 was the joy of God doing new things after the darkness and difficulties of 2020. As we emerged from the restrictions of 2020, Trinity experienced God-guided newness to reorient our future.

First, we moved into a new location. After two decades of planning and preparation, we were able to process with the cross from the Family Life Center into our new mission center. Since our first service on January 31st, we have been singing praises, praying, learning from the Word, receiving the sacraments, and growing together as the people of God. Volunteers and staff have worked diligently to learn effective use of our new technology. Leaders have worked to evolve our Worship Center service into a natural expression of our traditional Lutheran confessions and values. Although this proved to be a challenging process, we have kept God's mission at the forefront, developing a meaningful service, faithful to our tradition while reaching those who have just encountered the Christian faith. If you have not been to worship recently, I encourage you to give it a try! A significant affirmation of our worship effectiveness can be noted in the four adults who were baptized at Trinity in 2021. We are connecting people to Christ.

Second, we have experienced new giving. In May we embarked on a three-year initiative titled GO in which \$1,200,000 was raised for two purposes. The first is mission. Leadership is working on a local mission focus, equipping our building with final furnishings, and providing resources for community events to create natural opportunities to engage with Christ. The second purpose of GO will pay our monthly mortgage for the next three years. Additionally, last fall we brought to your attention our \$100,000 shortfall in the General Fund. The congregation provided \$63,000 in additional funds which has allowed us to end 2021 with a \$37,000 shortfall. We know that our generosity is an expression of our faith, and our giving shows that we are growing in Christ. It is important to continue to respond generously so that we can continue our mission without the need to reduce staff or ministry programming.

The greatest transition that I see is our new emphasis on mission, specifically Connecting People to Christ. The Church is here to reach people who do not yet have a relationship with Jesus Christ and to mentor them into becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus. Our building was designed for this purpose. Our worship has evolved for this purpose. Our staff and Council leadership focus on this mission to make the very best decisions. And this church family is living this mission. I hear your stories and rejoice because of your love and care for your "ones". This newness influences every part of Trinity Church.

I want to thank our staff, council and leadership for their partnership in the Gospel. We have walked through unique challenges, unimaginable opportunities, great difficulties, and remained faithful to the Gospel. Thank you.

Finally, I want to thank the congregation for remaining faithful. We have partnered together for the mission to which we have been called by God. In the coming year, may we feel even more released to engage in mission, worship with enthusiasm, and give generously.

Respectfully Submitted
Erik J. Boye | Lead Pastor



TRINITY
LITTLE LIGHTS
PRESCHOOL

**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. In January of 2021, halfway through the school year, we moved into our classrooms at the new Trinity Church. The children transitioned smoothly from one building to the next and quickly adapted to the new routines. The new classrooms, community room and playground are amazing and all contribute to our mission of providing a loving environment for the children to grow and learn.

We started our 2021-2022 school year in August. While we remained in masks for the first semester, we were able to add some fun activities back into our schedule that we missed in 2020. We went on field trips to the Schramm Educational Center in Louisville, hosted our Dads & Donuts event and Halloween parties, had visits from the Trinity pastors for chapel time and a visit from the Papillion Sump Library for story time. We love being part of such a supportive church community and small-town community. In the second semester we are looking forward to more fun events to come such as our Moms & Muffins event, Friendship parties and Spring field trips. While our daily schedules are filled with fun opportunities for our students, we make sure to take the time to sit back and enjoy watching them play and grow. What a truly special gift!



THE NUMBERS

Teachers: 4 & Substitute Teachers: 4
Families Served: 56

Includes 5 from Trinity and 51 who either have another church home or do not claim one.

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

“We loved everything about Little Lights. The staff was amazing and always made my child feel welcome! They were great about COVID precautions and communication. Thanks so much to everyone for a wonderful preschool year!”

“I’ve had two children attend and I’ve never felt disappointed about any aspect of Little Lights. Ever. Expectations are always met. Great communication, clean facility, amazing staff, and most importantly, my kids learn and have fun. We love Little Lights!”

“We loved Little Lights. We are so thankful that our daughter was able to attend preschool during a year full of uncertainties. We appreciate all the hard work that went into making this a safe and successful school year. Our daughter grew so much over the past year. Thank you!”



“I couldn’t be happier! My child thrived there. The teachers are a blessing!”

“My son was excited to come every day!”



TRINITY
KIDS

Connecting Kids and Families to Christ

Trinity Kids is thriving in our new building! We love our new space, new furnishings, and new families (11) who have joined us on our adventures to learn more about Jesus! Covid made Kids' ministry more challenging, but we continue to share God's love with those He brings to us, averaging around 40 each week.



Our Trinity Kids volunteers are amazing! Between decorators, set-up, check-in, nursery and helpers, we have over 50 dedicated volunteers (18 of which are new in 2021) who all contribute to connecting kids to Christ throughout the year. Kids' faces light up when they are greeted by these trusted adults and students who are creating community with our kids! Those once reluctant to come now rush in to see their friends and teachers!

Outside of Sunday mornings, **Trinity Kids hosted four incredible events:** Treasured VBS in June, and three family events including Bake-off in March (17 families), Trunk or Treat in October (22 trunks/over 150 people) and Gingerbread Christmas in December (20 families/100 people)! Treasured VBS occupied nearly every inch of our building and grounds with 130 kids from Trinity, Little Lights, and the community! Over 85 volunteers ensured maximum fun for all involved! Each day through crafts, skits, Bible stories and game, kids discovered they are priceless to God!



Service to others is a huge part of Trinity Kids! Weekly and VBS offerings support Mary Kamara at the Roots Home in Sierra Leone, Africa. In addition, Heartland Hope Mission in South Omaha benefitted from the 394 boxes of macaroni and cheese VBS kids brought as well as the x jars of peanut butter from Jingle Jars for Jesus! Our Trinity Kids are a blessing to others!



TRINITY
STUDENTS

**A ministry for students in
grades 6-12**

2021 marks the nearly full second year of the alternate status quo the entire world was thrown into at the start of 2020. Last year also marked nearly the first full year in the new building. These realities have meant that Trinity Students has had to completely reformat how ministry is done.

At the beginning of 2021, Trinity Students was still only online using Zoom. We called it, Trinity Students Live. This served its purpose, however, students quickly got zoom fatigue as they also used this platform for school every day. We reformatted again.

After briefly being able to meet outdoors for summer Bible study, requirements shut us down again. Rather than trying to fit a the square shape we had become into a the circle hole we had been, we reinvented our online format once again. Centering around Social Media, regularly posting online messages, weekly engagement questions, fun activities such as video game nights, and quizzes/polls, our engagement increased and helped overcome the zoom fatigue.

We resumed in-person ministry in late spring in our new student-designated space, a first in my tenure at Trinity Church. The return brought much excitement! With a completely new social culture, we reformatted once again. Our volunteers are trained differently, the weekly in-person ministry is done differently, and we have had to adopt our ministry to fit our new space. Similar to pruning a garden, I believe these changes have created a healthier version of Trinity Students.

It has been fulfilling to see our students excited about church and Trinity Students after a period of being physically separated. They are excellent inviters. As I reflect on our recent New Years Party an example of this comes to mind. There were six first time guests were present. It's rare that we go more than a week without having at least three or four new guests. For many of these guests, it's their first time connecting with a church. Our students do a great job helping their friends experience a loving and caring community, and our adult leaders get to be a source of encouragement for their spiritual growth. Every time a student guest transitions from a guest to a core Trinity Student member, I am reminded of Trinity's mission of connecting people to Christ.

Although our students didn't get to experience Mission Trip (high school) or Adventure Trip (middle school) in 2021, we hosted our own student conference, RESET 2021. It was a beautiful convergence of three churches along with Campus Life that included service projects, worship, and messages. This event was a marker moment for a handful of our students as they went from being "Trinity Students guests" to "Core Trinity Students Members". We brought in an out of city band and flew in three speakers, including a former Dare 2 Share speaker who has spoken internationally. He sent me a text that RESET was one of the most impactful and well-organized small conferences he's had the privilege of speaking at.

As we enter 2022, Trinity Students continues to faithfully reflect upon how to best connect our Students to Christ. We have a vision team that meets weekly to pray for all the students in Trinity, as well as the students in our community. We look towards 2022 invigorated at the prospect of what God will do at Trinity.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chase Florum, Trinity Students Minister

Connection Groups and Associate Pastor's Report

2021 was a year of fruitful, enjoyable, and varied ministry for me as Associate Pastor at Trinity. Some of my ministry foci remained the same as previous years. I continue serving in worship (preaching, hosting, and administering the sacraments) and officiating at weddings and funerals. While hospital and care center visiting came to a screeching halt in 2020, we were once again able to resume those visits in 2021.

2021 also brought many new experiences. I defended my doctoral dissertation “Unplugging to Connect: Reimagining Christian Identity Formation in the Digital Age” in January and graduated in May with a Doctor of Ministry degree from Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI. My D.Min. research explored how the constant connection so many of us live with affects our emotional, mental, and spiritual health. My project invited families from Trinity to practice imaginative prayer for six weeks; parents debriefed about their experience with the prayers. I’m grateful for the involvement and support of Trinity throughout this program.

In September I took on some additional responsibilities in adult discipleship, guest follow up, and new member assimilation. My goal in this area is for each adult in Trinity to be challenged and supported to grow as a follower of Jesus. Trinity’s main vehicle for adult discipleship is Connection Groups. At the end of 2021, we had fifteen connection groups that meet regularly for Bible study, community building, and prayer support/encouragement. Those groups have a total listed membership of 187 participants. In addition, we have groups that meet to serve within and outside of the church or to gather around an activity of shared interest. Connection Groups faced some challenges this year. While some returned to pre-Covid meeting schedules and patterns, others are still working on connecting again. I’d love to have every Trinity adult involved in a Group. We have a solid base, but we definitely have much more work to do.

In 2021, sixty-five adults met for eight Sunday nights for the Emotionally Healthy Relationships course. This group showed up faithfully, shared stories of their relational habits, and diligently worked on developing new patterns of relating to others. Also, a new men’s group for life-on-life discipleship started in mid-November. This group met weekly to read through a section of Mark’s Gospel, to share about an important, relevant topic from their lives, and to support each other in prayer. Recently we expanded into two groups with exponential possibilities for further growth.

One more thing - I’m currently working with our discipleship initiative team to explore discipleship pathways for new and existing members of Trinity. Our goal is for each adult participant in Trinity’s ministry to identify and work toward a next step in his or her life as a follower of Jesus. Stay tuned for more information about the work of this team.

I believe that God calls each Christian to lifelong growth. If you’re looking to grow as a follower of Jesus, I’d love to meet with you. Here are some growth options we could explore. You should consider signing up for the upcoming Emotionally Healthy Spirituality course that will meet on Sunday nights from February 20-April 10. I’d love to get you plugged into a Connection Group. We could talk about how you might grow through enneagram coaching. You might want to know more about a men’s discipleship group. And I’d love to hear your story of life with Jesus and dream with you about your next steps in living abundant life with him.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Parrish, Associate Pastor

Missions and Pastoral Intern's Report

Over the last two years it has been difficult to know how we should effectively serve and work with the mission organizations with whom we have partnered and for which we care deeply. I am excited to share just a bit about our ministry partners here at Trinity and am also so thankful for the work they do sharing the love of Christ out into the world.

The Raining Season is our mission partner in Sierra Leone, West Africa. They have been thriving in so many ways while also sharing with me their desire to see mission teams come and join them again in the work they do in person. We are hoping to be able to take a team over sometime in the next year assuming travel is back up and running.

The orphanage continues to care for nearly 100 kids of various ages. This orphan home in particular has a significant impact in caring for children with special needs. There is much work going on behind the scenes that I am unable to share at this time, but rest assured God is moving in some really incredible ways in Sierra Leone. There are also now two Roots Houses (transitional housing for older kids) that allow the older kids at the orphanage to begin to figuring out how to live and function as adults in Sierra Leone.

Our mission partner in India, Shalom Ministries, has experienced a lot more impact in the population of India than TRS has experienced in Sierra Leone. Shalom continues to train and equip native missionaries. They also spend a good amount of time caring for widows and the outcasts of their society.

Locally our church continues to serve and support Heartland Hope, Stephen Center, Empty Tomb, and Youth For Christ. We have partnered with Campus Life (Youth For Christ) in the hiring of Jordan Kinstler who serves in Trinity Students while also working for Campus Life reaching students in the Papillion and LaVista Schools.

Little Miracles is a newer Trinity Church ministry which started in June of 2020. Its purpose is to help mothers in need during their child's first year of life. We provide self-care items for the mother and items they need for their baby. Moms submit a request online and we hold a monthly pick-up time for them to receive their items. Since its beginning, Little Miracles has helped 15 mothers, given away over 1,500 diapers, 5 high chairs, 3 cribs, and utilized the help of 10+ volunteers, countless donors. We have a Little Miracles Facebook community. This is a space for anyone interested in partnering with Little Miracles and the opportunity to connect moms and their families to Christ. You will find this group at www.facebook.com/groups/littlemiracles.tc/.

On September 1st my role changed from Pastor In Training to Pastoral Intern which has meant a few changes in my role. Since then I have had the opportunity to work with Pastor Ellen from St Thomas Lutheran Church as my off-site Supervisor. She has helped me get a different perspective and see experiences in ministry in new ways. Internship year involves being more involved in conversations like stewardship and leadership. I am lucky to have a congregation to serve that values training and equipping leaders in the church. I look forward to continuing to serve Trinity while learning and growing in pastoral leadership.

I am also excited for what God has done this past year and look forward to how He will call Trinity Church in the next year, sending us to serve, love, and share the Good News of Jesus in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Pearson | Pastoral Intern

Worship Minister's Report

As I entered into my second year of serving as your worship minister, I could not have imagined the challenges that we as a church and myself as a leader would have to endure and work through. Simultaneously, I could not have imagined the victories and growth in faith and character we would experience. The New Testament writer James captures a unique truth when he says that “the testing of your faith develops perseverance.” That was proven in 2021.

First and perhaps most obviously, we moved into a new building. Our worship center equipped with some amazing technology, has allowed us to expand our ministry and liturgical imagination. Using intelligent lighting, we have been able to enhance the visual palette of worship, capturing emotion and expression as well as the different seasons of the church calendar. With a new sound system and acoustic friendly room, we have greatly increased our potential for excellence in the quality of sound. Last but certainly not least, we have been able to livestream as a means of helping our congregation remain engaged during the uncertainties of the Covid-19 pandemic.

These wonderful areas of technological expansion and growth serve as tools to facilitate opportunities and cultivate rhythms for people to experience our mission and vision. We’ve seen a number of people, from long-term members of Trinity to spiritual seekers in our community, become engaged with our congregation and take massive strides in growing their relationship with and maturity in Christ. Worship is essential to this process for several reasons.

- 1. It gives us language to process our faith both as individuals and as a faith community.** As we sing songs, say the Apostles’ Creed and the Lord’s Prayer, celebrate and receive the sacraments, and hear from the Scriptures, we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit’s work of transforming how we live our lives.
- 2. It connects us to a two-thousand-year-old faith tradition.** Our faith is not lived in isolation or in a vacuum, detached from history and relationships. Worshiping together is a chance to reconnect with our collective faith history and recognize that in following Jesus, we are a part of something so much bigger than ourselves: God’s kingdom coming to earth.
- 3. It creates space for people to move from intellectual knowledge of God to personal experience of His presence.** As we encounter God in our own hearts and minds, both personally and communally, we grow to know and love him more deeply. This in turn translates into loving our neighbors as we love ourselves, providing them with the opportunity to experience God’s presence through their relationship with us.

Finally, I want to take a moment to highlight our worship ministry volunteers. There are many who serve on a weekly basis, both visibly and invisibly, without whom worship would simply not happen. These volunteers are instrumentalists, vocalists, slide runners, camera people, and sound board operators. Without them, so much of our Sunday ministry would simply not happen. It’s filled me with so much joy over the last year as I’ve seen them grow in skill, in passion, and in focus to connect people to Christ. If you are interested in becoming a part of our community of volunteers, please let me know! We would love to have you.

It’s an honor to worship with you every week, and I’m looking forward to another incredible year of connecting people to Christ!

Respectfully submitted,
Nathan Carlton, Worship Minister

Treasurer's Report

Greetings Trinity Family! 2021 was an exciting year for our congregation as we were able to move into our new building in early January. We have been blessed by God to be able to gather in the facility and truly Connect People to Christ! Worship, Trinity Kids, Connection Groups, Trinity Students, Fellowship, Trinity Café, Little Lights, Basketball, Social Events, and all things Trinity Church have brought us together in one place thanks to the Spirit-led generosity of our congregation. In 2021, we completed the Bold Faith capital appeal that allowed for the “Bold” step to move forward on the new building project. At the same time, the Go! Campaign commenced to strategically equip our new facility for future mission. As expected with any new project (not to mention the continued challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic has placed on all of us), some expenses associated with acclimating to the new building exceeded budgeted projections. In addition to the added “moving expense”, our General Fund revenue lagged for a few months during 2021 as many of us navigated changes to our “normal” life routines and rhythms as was discussed at the 2022 Budget Meeting in November. I am pleased to report that contributions in November and December have significantly improved General Fund balances for 2021, thus finishing the year at originally budgeted levels. A brief snapshot of the year-end finances is shown below. Thank you for your generosity and call to Christ’s mission at Trinity Church!

Respectfully Submitted,
Josh Tresemer | Trinity Church Council Treasurer

General Fund

Revenue	\$1,084,914
Expense	\$1,017,558
Net Income	\$ 67,355

Note: Revenue includes the \$99,075 Payroll Protection Grant. Without it, there would have been a (\$31,720) deficit.

12/31 Fund Balances

General	\$242,194
Building	\$212,369
Endowment	\$411,424
Memorial	\$ 82,235

Highlights

- + Congregational Contributions were \$853,242 or \$46,842 higher than 2021 budget.
- + Total Expenses were \$21,519 lower than budget, mostly attributed to lower Youth Group net expense.
- + \$70,933 of Escrow was retained following the sale of the FLC (Building Fund).
- Utility/Property Maintenance Expense exceeded budget by \$19,130, due to new building & associated one-time expenses.
- (\$31,720) Net Deficit when not including PPP Grant, but a \$53,458 improvement over budgeted deficit of (\$85,178).

2022
Nominating Committee Report
to Elect Leadership



TRINITY
C H U R C H

Per the Trinity Church constitution, those eligible to vote are confirmed, contributing, communing members of Trinity Church. Voting takes place before and after worship on Wednesday, January 26 and Thursday, January 30.

Council Member Candidates

Vote for 3 of 5

Debra Bowen



Adult Children: Paul Pollack, Amanda Westby, Danielle Pollak, Ashley Bowen

Occupation: Accounting/Accounts Payable at Ford Storage and Moving

Present Involvement at Trinity: Wedding Liaison; Hospitality Team: greeter, usher, communion server; Luncheon helper for Baptism Basics and Pizza with Pastor

Past involvement: Communion Server

Community Involvement: Girl Scout leader, Habitat for Humanity Volunteer, Sunday School teacher

Why I would like to serve: The Lord put it on my heart to serve. I got that call a couple of years ago. He told me that I need to be part of my church community and be more involved and to serve others. A warm "hello" and a smile may be all that is needed to make someone feel welcome at Trinity. I want to share my love for Christ and my Church family by serving where I am called.

Kiley Cruse



Spouse: Jay

Adult Children: Schyler & Jena

Occupation: Writer/editor/photographer at Omaha World-Herald

Present Involvement at Trinity: Church Council, Trinity Kids, Norblade Connection Group

Past involvement: Coffee fellowship, Trinity students: youth group volunteer and mission trip chaperone, Bold Faith campaign

Community Involvement: I lead Trinity's group that has served a meal quarterly at Empty Tomb Ministries for the past 10 years

Why I would like to serve: My family and I joined Trinity Church in 2010 and it quickly grew to be like a second family. Through connection groups, Bible studies, volunteering and various activities, we have forged many lasting friendships. These Christ-centered relationships have helped me continue to grow my own faith.

My first term on council has been filled with both excitement and challenges. Despite financial challenges caused by the pandemic, it's been so wonderful to worship with everyone in our new home, all finally together under one roof. Hard work was put in by so many volunteers, Trinity staff and council to make our move successful. I'm overjoyed at the number of visitors and new members that Trinity has welcomed in the last year. But there is still work to be done. The post-pandemic church will need us to find ways to engage multiple generations in leadership and service, use technology to expand our reach, and engage in missional discipleship. I would appreciate the chance to help our church navigate these issues. I believe developing a culture of volunteerism, both inside Trinity and in the community at large, would be one way for our church body to grow together in faith and fellowship.

I am passionate about the mission of our church. I would love the opportunity to continue the work we are doing to find the best ways possible to engage current members and to connect more of our community to Christ.

Council Member Candidates Continued

Shavon Erb



Spouse: Kyle

Children: Tucker (17), Lily (15)

Occupation: Senior Resolution Manager for Gallagher Bassett

Present Involvement at Trinity: I have served at Trinity Church Council President since January 2021. I am a Hospitality Team leader and scheduler. I also serve on the confirmation initiative team.

Past involvement: Council Vice President in 2020. Served on both the Trinity Kids and Hospitality initiative teams.

Community Involvement: I assisted with the Red Cross Blood drives previously at Trinity and helped facilitate bringing them back as a student-led mission in 2021.

Why I would like to serve: It has been an honor to serve in this leadership role the last three years. I'm excited to see what God has in store for us!

Bob Graham



Spouse: Marlene

Adult Children: Jennifer Neumann, Jessica Graham

Occupation: Retired

Present Involvement at Trinity: Heartland Hop Mission, Greeter, Usher

Past involvement: Church Council (2 terms), Sunday Adult Bible Study, Rooted Bible Study

Community Involvement: Assoc. of Graduates: Decoration of Veteran's Graves

Why I would like to serve: Our beautiful new facility offers a wonderful place to move forward the ministry to which we have been called. But new facilities offer new challenges. Also, rapid change in society around us will create new challenges in our church and our community post pandemic.

Carl Rhoten



Spouse: Deanna

Adult Children: Carlene Flint, Brianna Burger, Erin Upton, Courtney Rhoten

Occupation: Computer Operations Analyst Pinnacle Data Services

Present Involvement at Trinity: Lead usher and greeter for the 8 a.m. service;

Past involvement: Usher at the 8 a.m. Sunday service, Greeter at the 7 p.m.

Monday service; Vice President of the Youth Group

Community Involvement: Past Tri-City Pantry board member

Why I would like to serve: I see this as my next calling to serve God.

Endowment Committee Candidates **Vote for One of Two**

Rick Olstad



Spouse: Gigi

Children: Rick Olstad Jr, Brandon Olstad

Occupation: Senior Logistics Specialist, CLASS Omaha, Inc.

Present Involvement at Trinity: Trinity Church Singers, Wednesday Night bible Study, Matt Pearson's Internship Committee

Community Involvement: Assistant Cub Scout Master Pack 465, PBA Board Member and Equipment Manager, Predator Select Baseball Board Member and 10-14 Years Baseball Coach

Why I would like to serve: I would consider it an honor to be able to serve my church in another capacity.

Craig Scherzberg



Spouse: Donna

Children: Angela Sivertson (Papillion), Emily Scherzberg-Darragh (Chicago), Jamie Cutler (Phoenix)

Occupation: Retired

Past involvement at Trinity: Usher, Greeter, 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

Jackie Mach



Adult Children: Tiffany Vieth and Todd Mach

Occupation: Hair Dresser for 55 years

Present Involvement at Trinity: Co-chairman of Empty Nesters, the Donut Lady, Bible Study Group member, once-a-month coffee maker

Past involvement: Council Member, Helped with Blood Mobile, Put up Nativity set outside for the past seven years

Community Involvement: Current member of GFWC Papillion Junior Woman's Club for 51 years - served in all Officer positions, Current member of GFWC Horizon Club for 12 years-served in all officer positions along with President of GFWC District II, Current member of Papillion volunteer Fire Department for 7 years-helped with 9/11 Celebration and Blood Mobiles

Why I would like to serve: I am always to help serve my church and community where the opportunity arises!

George Madsen



Spouse: Nadine

Adult Children: Lindsay (38), Kyle (35)

Occupation: Senior Planning Analyst, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt AFB

Present Involvement at Trinity: -Current Finance Committee member, Greeter, Usher

Past involvement: Church Council (2010-2016), Council Treasurer (2011-2016), Annual "Paint-a-thon" participant, "Faith Gives" campaign worker and caller

Community Involvement: TeamMates of Nebraska youth mentor, TeamMates Board of Directors, PLV School District

Why I would like to serve: I will be privileged to serve on the Nominating Committee if elected. I have been a member of Trinity Church for about 15 years and have served on the Church Council, so I believe I can help find the right people to serve in leadership roles in our church.

John Popelka



Spouse: Karen

Adult 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

Carrie Nash



Spouse: Kasey **Children:** Collin, Cade, Carter & Kylie

Occupation: None

Present Involvement at Trinity: Church Council, Trinity Kids, Worship Host, Connection Group Leader

Past involvement: 3 years on staff as Children's Minister, Trinity Students Small Group Leader, Various Teams and Committees

Community Involvement: Foodbank of the Heartland, MOPS, Boy Scouts, The Raining Season

Why I would like to serve: It is always an honor to build relationships with others in the congregation and find people who have a passion to serve on Council in the coming years. I love getting to know the hearts of potential leaders and communicating the vision of Trinity.

Rachel Staab



Spouse: Nick Staab **Children:** Ava

Occupation: Team Lead, Alternative Investments at TD Ameritrade

Present Involvement at Trinity: Church Council Secretary, Women's connection Group Leader, Little Miracles Founder and Coordinator

Past involvement: Trinity Students Small Group Leader, Vacation Bible School Teacher, Trinity Kids Teacher and Substitute Teacher

Community Involvement: The Raining Season Sponsor and Mission Trip Attendee, Crescent Food Pantry Volunteer, Crescent, IA

Why I would like to serve: I have decided to run for Nominating Committee because, over the last year, I have been encouraged by the changes Trinity has implemented as we grow to become a place where the un-churched find their home. I believe that serving on the Nominating Committee will allow me opportunity to find people in our congregation who are as passionate about these changes as I am.

Josh Tresemer



Spouse: Michelle **Children:** Taylor (12), Mason (10), Jameson (8)

Occupation: Commercial Lender at First National Bank of Omaha

Present Involvement at Trinity: Church Council Treasurer, 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.

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 and the 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 calling and joy working for God's glory along with you.

Having served with the body of Christ at Trinity Church in 2021:

Pastoral Staff

- Erik Boye, Lead Pastor
- Dave Parrish, Associate Pastor
- Matthew Pearson, Pastoral Intern

Administration Team

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

Trinity Kids

- Sheila Kendall
- Carrie Nash

Trinity Students

- Chase Florom
- Jordan Kinstler

Discipleship Development

- Dave Parrish
- Laura Thompson

Worship & Music

- Nathan Carlton
- Karla Remmers

Café

- Denise Kerr

Little Lights Preschool

- Jennifer Carlson
- Erin Chick
- Stacy Denne - Director
- Robyn Marshall
- Chris Mayfield
- Cindy Reilly
- Jill Pratt
- Tammy Scasny

Custodian

- Rafiou Oyeossi from VanGuard



TRINITY C H U R C H

848 Gold Coast Rd
Papillion, NE 68046
402-339-3788



TRINITY
CHURCH

848