



The Message

The Newsletter of
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral - Little Rock, Arkansas

A House of Prayer for All People

Epiphany 2022



2021 Annual Report

Trinity Cathedral Staff

Dean and Rector

The Very Rev. Amy
Dafler Meaux

Clergy

The Rev. Deb Cooper
The Rev. Canon
Dr. Lisa Corry
The Rev. Susan Payne

Lay Staff

Reta Dean
Jack Dowling
Joe Harris
Mary Penick Hodges
Dawn Howe
Dr. Colin MacKnight
Ricky Parks
Wyamon Stokes
Jeanie Toombs

ECEP

Christy Poindexter

The Vestry - 2021

Senior Warden
Neal Lea
Junior Warden
Tom Fennell
Treasurer
Herschel Cast
Clerk
Lisa McNeir
Member-at-Large
Susan Borné

Steve Bethel

Tom Clark
Terri Erwin
Sarah Henry
Harold Joyner
Susan Mehlberger
John Milwee
Melissa Whitfield
Jennifer Wilson-Harvey
Mary Margaret Wippo
Marcia Wayland

Chancellor

Clarke Tucker

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Leadership

A Message from the Dean



To the People of Trinity Cathedral - Grace and peace to you through our Lord Jesus Christ! What a year it has been!

Gratitude

I am deeply grateful for the privilege to serve as your Dean and Rector. It is a great honor to walk with our parish through every aspect of our life together. Thank you very much for the faithful and generous gifts of your time, ministry, and financial contributions! You are the heart of ministry at the Cathedral and a blessing to us! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Challenge

In February, during an incredible winter storm, our chiller became unrecoverably damaged. Although we knew the chiller would not last forever, we always hoped for “one more year.” Then, in August, not long after the chiller was replaced, Dean’s Hall was set afire by arson: a very unexpected attack! Thankfully, neither of these challenges was insurmountable, and in both cases, we had the benefit of insurance. Most of all, the kindnesses of our parishioners, both financially and spiritually, enabled us to navigate ministry in the midst of them. Your financial support, including additional contributions toward the chiller, allowed us to maintain a stable financial base. Your patience and resilience meant we navigated worship between Chancellor’s Hall

and the Cathedral with minor inconveniences. Our resilience in the face of these two major challenges puts the pandemic in its place. Again and again, our resolve to be together for worship and ministry outweighs every challenge.

Change

This year also brought about changes to our staff team. After faithful years of service, The Reverend Dr. Russ Snapp, Dr. Victoria Harden, and Mr. Jason Pennington-Saughey each left their ministry at the Cathedral. We remain grateful for their ministries! In the midst of these changes, we welcomed Jack Dowling as Communications Director and Colin MacKnight as Director of Music. It’s hard to express the joy Jack brings to our staff. His creativity, energy, and dedication to hospitality has brought new life in countless, sometimes unseen, ways, including our print communications, the website, our bulletins, and emails. Meanwhile, Colin hit the ground running with the return of choir, presenting a recital, a Requiem, three lessons and carols, and the renewal of our children’s choir. Both of them bring calm temperaments, experience, and knowledge in their fields. Their insight and drive for ministry help us grow in all areas of our life together. And let’s not forget Reta who joined us in the fall to be a welcoming face and voice at the front desk. While change is hard, I am grateful we have navigated these staff changes with grace and thoughtfulness towards the future.

Discernment

In many ways, ministry in 2021 was defined by discernment. There was a desire to return or re-imagine how we would worship, learn, and engage our community. To this end, we began gathering for in-person worship in March, Sunday school returned for all ages in September, and Matthew 25 continued our outreach efforts. During its retreat in February, the Vestry approved partnering with Polk Stanley Wilcox for the creation of a Master Plan. The goal was to examine all our property and propose the best possible use of our space. Concurrently, a Mission-Strategy committee was formed to examine our capacity for new ministry in the community. Now, the Vestry will consider both the Master Plan and the goals of several ministry areas. We

will use our core values and strategic filter as we make decisions about our life together over the next few years.

Re-turn

While the pandemic continues to frustrate ministry in 2022, we have hope. Soon, COVID will reach endemic, rather than pandemic, proportions. I believe this means we will return to communion in both kinds, renew our lay Eucharistic ministry, and explore more opportunities to gather, with the return of Bliss and Insights, for example.

Parish Ministry

We must practice a little self-care, facing some ongoing challenges unrelated to the pandemic: lack of physical accessibility to the Cathedral, building momentum in youth ministry, and deepening our community partnerships. This year, we will hire two new full-time employees: a leader for Children, Youth, and Family Ministry and an Associate Organist. Both of these positions will enrich current ministry while building our capacity to grow. In addition, we are working to enhance our communication abilities: improving the quality of our streaming worship, updating our print and digital materials, and finding new ways to share the good news of ministry at the Cathedral. By caring for the Cathedral community, we will grow our capacity to connect with our external community.

Community Ministry

This year I hope we will enrich and expand our community ministries. The strong work of the Matthew 25 Committee ensures ongoing, great ministry with St. Francis House, Stewpot, and Dorcas House. The Reverend Deb Cooper continues to lead a strong team of volunteers and interfaith partners that support ministry with an Afghan refugee family, I am meeting with Washington Elementary School staff to imagine how we can support them as a Community School, and a committee is being formed to bring new life to our garden beds and the empty lot on Broadway. We will reinforce our current ministry partnerships: our relationship with Bethel A.M.E., the Early Childhood Education program, and our ministry with the Diocese. As we partner with our community, we will grow our capacity as a *house of prayer for all people*.

Gratitude

I began by thanking you, our parishioners and friends of the Cathedral. Now, I hope you'll join me as I give thanks to all of our lay leaders and staff. We have a core group of lay leaders, our Vestry and committees, who are here weekly, sometimes daily. Without their leadership, ministry would feel lonely and unmoored. I am especially grateful to our wardens: Neal Lea and Tom Fennell. Their calm demeanors and wise council have led many of our decisions this year. The Cathedral has benefited beyond measure from their faithfulness. I have few words that express my full gratitude for our staff. Their love for the Cathedral and community grounds our ministries in a desire to serve. My days are full of people who love our Cathedral and seek to serve it in every way: what a blessing! Thanks be to God!

My great hope for 2022 is that I will continue to connect with our community. Please know that my door is always open to you: let's make a plan to meet soon! You remain in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

Yours in Christ,
Peace be with you,
Amy+



A Message from the Sub-Dean

As I reflect on this past year, I think of it as being book-ended by the sacrament of Baptism.

Coming out of limited in-person worship, last spring, on Holy Saturday afternoon, (the day before Easter), we had outdoor baptism for lots of littles, and there were wonderful little siblings running around - as well as the presence of many happy family members enjoying the time. We were together, we were celebrating, and it was beautiful. Then, just a couple of weeks ago, as we celebrated the Baptism of Jesus on the Sunday following the Epiphany, I had the privilege of participating in a baptism. These seasons and days hold focus on resurrection and light.

In the midst of pandemic restrictions and loss of freedom to gather, these foci really encapsulate the year as I have stepped into the Sub-Dean role—resurrection and light. Under this wide umbrella Trinity experiences change and rebirth.

In the area of youth ministry, we had to work in the midst of constraints. Nine committed adult volunteers have faithfully loved and spent time with youth, ranging from 5th to 12th grades, on Sunday mornings (*see more in Children, Family, and Youth report on pg. 21*).

A new birth last summer was partnering with Christ Church to offer Vacation Bible School on our Trinity grounds. We will continue this year and expand to include St. Michael's Episcopal Church. Rebirth with children also took place in the form of a Pick-Up Pageant on Christmas Eve. Children's ministry will gain momentum in the coming year.

Pastoral Care has been another area of new birth. There have been hard stops during the pandemic, changes of leadership with staff changes, and new and developing opportunities (*see more in the Pastoral Care report on pg. 16*).



Within all of these new and changing ministries that I have been so grateful to serve, we have started a small group called *Sacred Ground*. This program is a video-based discussion group, offered through the Episcopal Church, on race and history. This unique venue allows for each of us to prepare with focus, find our own voice, hear the voices of others, and be transformed as we crystallize convictions through the lens of our Christian faith. As this group continues through its curriculum, my hope is for it to be an example of formation through small groups exploring a topic slowly and over time.

In the midst of all that has been new and encouraging, there have been unique challenges in the past year beyond the pandemic: multiple break-ins and a fire. These were hard on us all as a staff. I will confess, these violations and acts of violence to our things and the grounds of the Cathedral showed me very sneakily that I have developed a visceral connection to the land, the grounds, and the building. While these have been hard, I realize this place is a part of me and I am a part of this place. The journey of some pain on this track has surprised me with gratitude and encouraged me.

As I ponder this past year, I hope fruit borne for us all has been change, light, and life.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa M. Corry

From the Senior Warden

by Neal Lea

Just when we thought that 2020 was an unusual year in the life of the Cathedral, 2021 proved to be equally interesting. We moved from worshipping outside on Spring Street to only live-streaming services. We started getting vaccines and were able to worship in the Cathedral, albeit wearing masks and sitting every other pew. We enjoyed in-person worship for a few months until the summer temperatures got too hot for us to be in the Cathedral without AC (remember the 20 inches of snow and freezing temperatures in February that froze our cooling tower?) Thank goodness we had the space to move into Chancellors Hall for the Summer months while we awaited the repair of the HVAC system.

Thanks to the generosity of many of our parishioners, along with insurance money, we were able to move back into the Cathedral in the middle of July. We got a couple of weeks back in the Cathedral, only to be moved back to Chancellors Hall due to a fire in Dean's Hall. Again, thank goodness for Chancellors Hall, and that the fire was contained, and most importantly that the Cathedral is still standing. As a Parish we have learned to adjust and adapt in the most unusual circumstances these past two years.

The Cathedral saw several staff-changes in 2021. In February, we welcomed Jack Dowling as our new Communications Director. We saw the retirement of the beloved Russ Snapp. Stuart Hoke moved to St. Mark's Episcopal as their interim Rector. We welcomed the very talented Colin McKnight as our new Music Director in July and Lisa Corry was named Sub-Dean.

Parishoner Sarah Bennings and her team at Polk Stanley Wilcox were hired to do an architectural assessment of the Cathedral properties. They spent a great deal of time with various ministries learning how the property promotes or hinders ministry and mission. While Sarah's team was doing its work, a Mission Strategy committee explored how to deepen our relationships with our neighbors, the Little Rock community, and the Diocese. This includes the possibility of sharing our space with community partners, growing ourselves as a resource for the Diocese, and enhancing our ongoing ministries of music and education.

In October, we were able to share our space, with the help of Rev. Deb Cooper and several parishioners, to welcome a family of Afghan refugees to live in Harrison House while they get their feet back on the ground after fleeing Afghanistan. It brings me great joy to see their family enjoying the front porch of Harrison House as well as playing with balls in the driveway and on the street and I am proud that we as a Cathedral along with other community partners helped make this possible.

I want to thank the Executive Committee for their commitment and leadership: Tom Fennell, our Junior Warden; Lisa McNeir, our clerk; and Susan Borne, our Member at Large. And a very special thank you to Hershel Cast, our Treasurer who has decided to step

down after 12 years in this role. We cannot thank Hershel enough for his many years of service and his institutional knowledge. I would also like to thank Steve Bethel, Tom Clark, Terri Erwin, Sarah Henry, Harold Joiner, Susan Mehlburger, John Milwee, Marcia Wayland, Melissa Whitfield, Jennifer Wilson-

Harvey, and Mary Margaret Wippo for their service to the Cathedral as members of the Vestry.

Dean Amy Meaux and Sub-Dean Lisa Corry have done an amazing job of leading us through this bizarre year with grace and strength. And I would be remiss if I did not mention Mary Hodges, without whom we would all be lost.

A huge thank you goes out to Mary Starr and Wade Brock for leading the Every Member Canvas Campaign; under their leadership our members have pledged \$1,297,419. This shows your unwavering commitment to the future of Trinity.

As we begin 2022, we are excited for the return of our Bliss event in the fall, new members to serve on the vestry, and some additions to the Cathedral staff. The potential for energized ministry, for our members along with our community and Diocesan partners, is being explored and I look forward to this taking shape.

It has been a pleasure to serve on the vestry and as your Senior Warden.



February vestry retreat on Zoom

From the Junior Warden

by Tom Fennell

This has been an eventful year in the life of the Cathedral with respect to facilities and operations. The important work that was done included:

1. The replacement of the cooling tower for the worship space was necessitated by problems with the aging unit and leaking pipes. While this was an expensive undertaking, the cost was offset by insurance and by the generous support of the congregation. During the summer it was necessary to move services to Chancellors Hall.

2. A master planning process was undertaken by Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects to study the use, condition, and future possibilities of our facilities. Through the work of many committees, staff, clergy, and friends of the church, a comprehensive plan was developed. This plan takes into account each group and each part of our facilities to maximize programs, efficiently utilize space, and provide adequate resources for present and future use.

Of particular importance is the plan to relocate Early Childhood Education Program across Spring Street into the buildings vacated by Little Rock Prep. This location will better serve ECEP and free up space for other programs within the church.

Another important feature is to develop an improved entrance on the northeast corner of the property to provide a proper front door for the diocese as well as community programs.

A key part of the plan is addressing Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility throughout the campus. Improving accessibility would require new ramps, elevators and access hallways. Providing universal accessibility should be a priority for the next couple of years.

Going forward, I hope that the Cathedral pursues the goals of the master plan in phases as funds become available. It is not necessary to do all the work at once, as great benefit can be accrued incrementally.

3. In response to a serious fire in Dean's Hall, Mary Hodges and other staff have been working with the insurance company, contractors, and others to assess, remediate, and rebuild the heavily damaged area. In addition to rebuilding the spaces, a major effort was undertaken to salvage vestments, hangings and other valuable items impacted by smoke and fire. Removing the smoke smell was also an extensive process. Though much was lost, we are well on the way to restoring the space. Lisa Thorpe's work create new stoles and banners

from damaged vestments is inspiring.

4. The ongoing repairs and upgrades to Harrison House continued with interior work that proved timely, as this work allowed us to use Harrison House as a temporary home for an Afghan refugee family.

5. Building security has been a pressing issue due to several break-ins, including the fire in Dean's Hall. Mary has been looking at alternatives and solutions and I hope that the vestry follows her recommendations and commits its resources to addressing this problem.

It has been an honor to serve the Cathedral as Jr. Warden. It has also been humbling. I had no idea how many parishioners give so much time and treasure to make Trinity such a special place. But daily work with the Dean, Mary Hodges, Herschel, and so many others gives one a sense of God's work in the world.



Operations

2021 Cathedral Parish Statistics

Communicants

Last Reported	877
Added by Baptism	12
Added by Confirmation	9
Received by the Bishop	2
Added by Transfer	7
Total Gained	30
Lost by Death	20
Transferred Membership	22
Total Losses	33
Total Parishioners	874

Children's Formation	
Episcopal Youth:	
3-year-olds – 5th grade	65
Youth 6th Grade – 12th Grade	93
Active Participants:	
3-year-olds – 5th Grade	20
6th Grade – 12th Grade	10
Adults teaching	15

Adult Formation 127
Includes: Dean's Forum, Pilgrim's Path, two Lenten series, Adult Catechesis, Sacred Ground, Caste discussion, and Art and Spirituality workshops

Special Vestry Committees

Cathedral Connections Committee	2
Family Ministry Committee	8
Liturgy and Music Committee	7
Communications Committee	7
Theological Enrichment Committee	10
Stewardship Committee	5
Building and Grounds Committee	8
Matthew 25 Committee	12
Early Childhood Education Program Board	5

Members in Parish Organizations

Acolyte Program	27
All Saints' Guild	29
Altar Guild	17
Cathedral Choir	21
Cathedral Handbell Choir	9
Cathedral Tower Bell Ringers	7
Centurion's Guild	33
Children's Choir	10
Daughters of the King	8
Eucharistic Visitors	12
Episcopal Youth Community	30
Flower Guild	32
Greeters	6
Intercessors	11
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	27
Lectors	40
Pastoral Care Team	26
Stewpot	7
Ushers	33
Vergers	6
Wedding Guild	17



Treasurer's Report

Despite our hopes at the start of the year, 2021 was strongly impacted by the difficulties associated with COVID 19. Despite this, the Cathedral managed to perform as projected by the original budget with deficit spending of about \$166,700, which is close to the budgeted deficit of \$152,000. Our cash balance was more than adequate to manage this deficit. The Cathedral chose not to apply for a Federal Paycheck Protection Program loan in 2021 as in 2020, although our Early Childhood Education Program (ECEP) did.

The original budget for the year included income from the Keller/Stephens Endowment Funds of \$250,000; however, only about \$50,000 was requested for non-operating expenses associated with our Afghan refugee program and special music.

A few specifics for 2021:

Budget Total Income	1,664,600	Pledge Budget	1,265,000
Actual Total Income	\$1,445,582	Pledges Paid	\$1,243,540 98.3%
Difference	\$ (219,018)	Difference	\$ (21,460)

Budget Total Expenses	1,816,560
Actual Total Expenses	\$1,612,264
Difference	\$ (204,296)

Actual Total Income	\$1,445,582
Actual Total Expenses	1,612,264
Net Operating Income	\$ (166,682)

One important item to note from the above is that pledge payments, our major source of income, are 98% of that originally budgeted, a fantastic result. Knowing that our parishioners consistently meet their pledge commitments is most gratifying to Cathedral leadership.

To provide more detailed information for 2021 and to look ahead at 2022, the following page of this report shows:

- A more detailed comparison of actual year-end results versus the budget for 2021.
- An analysis of pledge dollars from 2016 to 2022, which provides insight into our yearly pledge positions.
- The Vestry-approved budget for 2022 that anticipates using monies from the Keller/Stephens Endowment funds and projects deficit-spending of about \$100,000 that can be covered by our cash balance.

On a personal note, I want to say that it has been a privilege to serve as your Treasurer for the last many years and I thank all of you for your support. The Cathedral's strong clergy and lay leadership assures its success for many years to come. If you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at cash@yahoo.com.

Respectfully Submitted and Thank you,
Herschel Cast, Treasurer



Trinity Cathedral 2022 Budget

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Revenues			
Operations Income			
Total Total Pledges	\$1,265,000	\$1,243,540	\$1,284,980
Total Contributions	\$30,000	\$52,720	\$50,000
Total Plate offerings	\$50,000	\$19,950	\$20,000
Total Reimbursements	\$63,300	\$72,575	\$67,000
Total Other Income	\$251,300	\$855,432	\$253,750
Total ECEP Reimbursements	\$50,000	\$49,750	\$49,750
Total Operations Income	\$1,664,600	\$2,292,970	\$1,725,480
Expenses			
Operations Expenses			
Total Outreach/Inreach	\$19,400	\$10,649	\$10,700
Total Diocesan Support	\$150,000	\$147,967	\$152,971
Total Liturgy	\$6,000	\$5,923	\$6,200
Total Music	\$19,100	\$20,952	\$24,600
Total Ministry - General Pastor	\$76,550	\$27,593	\$28,900
Total Adult Formation	\$4,000	\$1,178	\$3,600
Total Youth Formation	\$16,700	\$764	\$21,000
Total Children's Formation	\$15,250	\$4,408	\$15,000
Total Communications	\$31,160	\$37,760	\$34,600
Total Buildings and Grounds	\$422,800	\$428,260	\$452,450
Total Trinity Properties Expenses	\$0	\$45,411	\$65,412
Total General Office	\$46,700	\$43,664	\$65,600
Total Finance	\$18,400	\$10,070	\$18,950
Total Continuing Education	\$12,500	\$2,879	\$12,000
Total Salaries	\$754,895	\$626,182	\$692,092
Total Benefits	\$220,104	\$198,597	\$224,945
Total Expenses	\$1,816,560	\$1,612,263	\$1,829,020
Net Income	\$(151,960)	\$680,706	\$(103,540)

Pledge Analysis

Item	Year						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No. of Pledges	240	240	247	256	255	241	236
New Pledges	21	31	34	28	32	22	21
Discontinued Pledges	29	31	27	19	33	45	34
Total Pledged	\$1,021,513	\$1,094,351	\$1,099,914	\$1,238,061	\$1,327,475	\$1,265,000	\$1,311,819*
Average Pledged	\$4,256	\$4,560	\$4,453	\$4,836	\$5,192	\$5,107	\$5,558
Total Pledges Paid	\$1,032,175	\$1,055,272	\$1,050,163	\$1,386,377**	\$1,331,461	\$1,243,540	N/A

* Pledged to date

** Includes previous Dean's Challenge of Salary Return of \$90,000

Endowment Report

by Scott Tabor

Markets continued their upward trend in 2021 and all accounts associated with the Trinity Endowments performed well.

The Consolidated Endowment account increased 11.85% with an ending balance of \$1,129,439.

Trinity Cathedral Stephens Music Fund increased 12.02% with an ending balance of \$1,184,031.

Trinity Cathedral Keller/Stephens Legacy Fund increased 12.14% with an ending balance of \$2,389,696.

Trinity Cathedral Keller/Stephens Bldg Fund increased 12.15% with an ending balance of \$2,387,471.

All accounts are managed with a similar asset allocation which is considered balanced in nature.

We did have a few distribution requests submitted and approved in 2021. We had a request for .50%(approx. \$14,000) distribution from the Music Endowment to continue our tradition of hosting musical events for our community along with a \$7,500 disbursement from the Memorial Fund for a deposit on the new continuo organ. While some of these disbursements have been approved, funds have yet to be disbursed.

Communications

by Jack Dowling, Communications Director

What a joy it has been to get to know the Trinity community over the past year. My role as Communications Director allows me the opportunity to observe the many ministries and activities that are happening here. Arriving in the middle of a snow storm and a pandemic, it was surprising to me how much was happening off campus and behind the scenes to keep the Trinity family together.

I have a varied background that has allowed me to add a number of creative skills to my repertoire. The thing I had not done before coming here, and what has been a huge piece of keeping people connected, is live-streaming.

Our worship moved from fully live-streamed when I arrived to a hybrid of in-person and streaming. Our

Sunday morning services get anywhere from 75 to 150 views on YouTube. I believe this will continue to be an important part of my work for a long time, even post-pandemic.

I must give thanks and credit to Richard Moore for the quality of our streaming presentation. He is a maestro at the keyboard, switching camera angles in time with the music and adding titles at just the right moment. He has a wonderful sense of what will be enjoyable to the viewer.

If you would like to learn more about our live-stream process, or even would like to join Richard and me as part of the "Stream Team", please let me know. We would love the company.

YouTube By The Numbers 2021

482 subscribers, 110 new subscribers, 25,100 views, 3,300 hours of view time, viewers from 5 countries and 11 states

Three videos with most number of views:
 #1. O Gracious Power recorded by the choir
 #2. Announcement of Colin MacKnight as Director of Music
 #3. Announcement of the vesting room fire



Every Member Canvas

by Wade Brock

We began organizing the Every Member Canvas in the summer of 2021. Mary Starr and I, along with her mother, Frances Ross, and our niece, Courtney Ross, chaired the campaign. We worked hand-in-hand with Jack Dowling, Neal Lea, and Dean Meaux. We are so grateful for their guidance and assistance.

Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Vestry, we set our goal at \$1.4 million. The factors going into the goal included plans to increase staffing to support Children and Family Ministry, increase capacity for keeping our community connected through our online presence, and better stewardship of our buildings and grounds.

We adopted the slogan of The Episcopal Network for Stewardship, “Every Perfect Gift,” based on the verse from James 1:17— “Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father...with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” And what change we’ve had on so many fronts the past two years! Our slogan and this verse spoke perfectly to the consideration that all gifts of time and resources are valuable, and that through our endurance there has been no lack of gifts from God. With a goal and a slogan, we were off and running.

Dean Meaux announced the launch in late September and pledge cards and letters went out to our parish in mid-October. Our members were very responsive! Ninety households increased their pledge and there were twenty-one new pledges.

Near Christmas we enlisted the assistance of the

Vestry to make personal calls to 86 people. In addition, we asked for the assistance of Rett Tucker and Jack Harvey, who generously volunteered to help us reach out to people; of course, we took both of them up on their offer.

As of January 26, 2022 we have not yet met our goal of \$1.4 million but have received pledges of \$1,311,819 from 236 parishioners! We are most appreciative of your support of our beloved Trinity Cathedral.

Mary Starr, Frances, Courtney, and I are extremely grateful for the pledges that were made for our parish and Cathedral. For those of you who have not pledged, please join us! Go online to www.trinitylittlerock.org or contact Jeanie Toombs at 501-588-3655.

As our campaign comes to a close, I would like to share something that became very apparent during the canvas. Our parishioners come from many different backgrounds; sometimes we share the same impressions and perspectives and at other times they vary. Nevertheless, in all cases of those who pledged—in every case—it was evident we share a great love for our parish (which is made of one another), the Cathedral, and the local community.

In closing, I’d like to leave the reminder that we hold the opportunity to minister to so many and these ministries require our time, resources, cooperation, and efforts. Our slogan could have easily been, “It’s up to you,” or “It’s up to us.” And it is. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Every Perfect Gift 
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Little Rock



Music

From the Director of Music

As I have only been at Trinity for six months, this document is more of a semi-annual report than an account of the entirety of 2021. Nevertheless, there is much to say.

Upon my arrival at Trinity, there were two urgent tasks: the first was to fill a vacancy for a professional soprano singer. We are very fortunate that Paige Cullins was willing to return to fill this position. The second was to raise the organ console. Prior to this modification, the organ console had unusually little leg room. As someone with a lot of leg, this made it nearly impossible for me to play difficult pedal parts. I engaged John Dill to come from the DFW area to raise the entire console (except for the pedals, which stayed at their original height) so that there would be more legroom. The work was successful, and after raising the console two inches, it is very easy for me to play.

I have also prioritized reorganizing and rehousing much of the music library. Trinity is fortunate to have an extensive music library of approximately 2,400 titles, including many rare and historic pieces and editions, and much of it had not been catalogued or organized intuitively. Most pieces were also housed in boxes that were too large, thereby giving the music scores room to bend and sag under their own weight. By rehousing these scores in smaller boxes, we have not only increased the lifespans of these pieces but have regained a large amount of shelf space. I am grateful to Art Squire, Susan Mehlburger, William Hronas, and Jane Thompson for their help with the music library.

As for worship, there were some substantial obstacles in my first couple months at Trinity. For the first two weeks, Trinity was still worshipping in the gym because the church's AC required repair. Then after just two weeks back in the church, there was the fire in Dean's Hall, once again displacing us to the gym, this time for four weeks. Luckily, we were able to return to the Cathedral just in time for Rally Day (September 12th), the return of our volunteer singers, and the resumption of weekly choral evensongs.

Upon arrival in July, the choir comprised only the professional octet. Starting on Rally Day, the volunteer singers returned to the choir after a very long hiatus, and we recommenced weekly evensongs. Since then, the choir has been working very hard; a change in musical leadership always comes with some changes in repertoire, and this is further compounded by the unusually large volume of repertoire that the Trinity Choir performs every week. Finally, add the fact that many of our singers had not

been singing for a year and a half prior to Rally Day, and we have all the makings for a year of rebuilding. I'm very blessed to have such capable and committed singers who are up for this challenge.

As a brief aside, it is worth noting how extraordinary it is that Trinity offers weekly choral evensongs. Only about a dozen parishes in the country do this, mainly because of the great amount of work and expense that go into the music for these services. If you consider yourself to be an admirer of our choir, I encourage you to make a practice of attending these



beautiful, meditative services, even once per month. Remember that the music you hear on Sunday mornings is less than half the music the choir sings each week!

I have restructured the Wilson Choral Scholars program so that these young singers now compose part of the Cathedral Choir. This affords them the opportunity to sing more frequently, sing alongside seasoned professionals and volunteers, and tackle a vast amount of repertoire. We currently have four high schoolers participating in this program: Evelyn Pittman, Maggie Smith, Sara Cate Smith, and Hailey Turner. They too have risen to the challenge of this choir's rigorous performance schedule.

The Bell Choir resumed rehearsals in September but was plagued by difficulties surrounding August's fire. Much of the fabric equipment that they require – gloves, table pads, and tablecloths – had been damaged by smoke and needed cleaning or replacement. Unfortunately, bell choir membership dwindled until the choir and I decided to pause rehearsals until a later date. I am hopeful that we will resume soon.

On October 8th, I offered my first organ recital at Trinity. The concert was well-attended, and I could not have hoped for a warmer audience or a lovelier reception. The experience was greatly enhanced by a projection of the organ console so that the audience could watch up close. Jack Dowling went to great lengths to research, order, and set up the equipment for this projection. I'm also grateful to Mary Hodges, Susan Mehlburger, Margaret Faulkner, and Scott Seidenschwarz for their help in planning this event. I look forward to many more recitals at Trinity!

In December, the Trinity Children's Choir resumed rehearsals. Prior to COVID, Trinity had

two children's ensembles: the Cherub Choir and the Seraphim Choir. I decided to merge these into one ensemble for children in grades 2-8. We currently have membership of ten children. The Children's Choir sang two pieces in the pageant service on Christmas Eve and did a wonderful job. If you know someone who might

be interested, please send them in our direction! The Children's Choir is a great opportunity to learn to sing and read music, make new friends, and build teamwork and listening skills.

Due to a very generous bequest from Lenora Steinkamp, Trinity has made a deposit for a new chamber organ.

Variably referred to as chamber organs, portative organs, and continuo organs, these small instruments are wonderful for playing with ensembles of all types – both vocal and instrumental – and particularly excel at performing early music. Our instrument will have one keyboard, five stops, and 239 pipes, and will have the footprint of a medium-sized desk. Its small size is one of the advantages of this instrument: when it is in use, it can sit in the chancel very close to the choir; when it is not, it can easily be moved somewhere else. To be clear, this instrument will not replace our main organ but will nevertheless greatly enrich Trinity's music program.

The continuo organ will also have fully customizable wood carvings

(my last parish commissioned an organ with carvings of dogs, cats, rabbits, and fish!), so it will be visually spectacular, as well as aurally. (Alas, Amy has already vetoed any carvings of razorbacks.) Lenora's generosity has inspired others to donate to this instrument, and the remainder will come from Trinity's Memorial Fund. This instrument will arrive by December of 2023. I am very grateful to all those who have made this organ possible.



While the primary purpose of this report is retrospection, there are several upcoming developments which warrant mention. First, the Trinity Choir is busy preparing for a concert on Friday, February 11th at 7 pm. The choir will be singing Haydn's *Nelson Mass* with an orchestra of 14 players, most of whom play with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. The orchestra will also perform Mozart's beloved *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*. This concert is free and open to the public; please come and bring a friend!

Second, this March, we will have a guest artist: Connor Lidell is a baritone singer and vocologist based in the DFW region. He will direct our choir rehearsal on Thursday, March 10th, conduct services on Sunday, March 13th, and sing a recital on Friday, March 11th at 7 pm. Connor is one of the most talented musicians I know, and I promise that all who attend his recital will be amazed. Additionally, Connor's expertise in vocal technique and vocal health will make him an invaluable resource to our choir.

Finally, I am thrilled to announce that this spring Trinity will hold a search for the position of Associate Director of Music. My time at Trinity has made it clear how much this music program requires the support of a second staff person. Trinity needs an excellent musician to accompany its choirs, assist with rehearsals for both children and adults, deputize in my absence, share responsibility for organ-playing and conducting, aid in recruiting efforts, and help with the program's considerable administrative needs. I am indebted to Dean Amy, who was sympathetic to these needs and has been extremely supportive of this endeavor.

I am also grateful to all of you for your incredible support of our program, whether it is through financial contributions, participation, or simply telling one of our singers that you found a performance moving. I look forward to a wonderful year to come.

Yours sincerely,

Colin MacKnight
Director of Music

Ringling Society (Tower Bells)

We began our year at Trinity much like we ended the last one. Then we started seeing a return to normalcy. In early spring, we resumed our Wednesday night practice sessions. By that time, everyone had been vaccinated and we felt comfortable and eager to do so. When Trinity once again opened its doors for worship services, we were there to welcome back our members. We celebrated several weddings and tolled at all requested memorial services.

The Tower ringers had a feature article in the Christmas issue of Arkansas Living magazine, a publication of the Arkansas Cooperatives. This article was an excellent presentation of the art of change ringing. The photos are spectacular and Trinity was well represented. Our thanks to Jennifer Christman Cia at Arkansas Living for including us.

From April 21-24, 2022 we are scheduled to host the annual 7-Towers Bell Festival, an event that brings together ringers from across the country to practice our ringing skills and enjoy our Southern Hospitality. Prayers and crossed fingers that we can have this festival. Our full-time ringers remain steady at 11. Trinity continues to remain one of the strongest towers with regards to membership in North America. Recruiting new, younger ringers remains our biggest challenge. We welcome those interested in joining our merry band. Tower Bell ringing is a wonderful ministry at Trinity. Please contact Mary Wilson or Scott Whitfield for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary C. Wilson
Tower Captain



Ministries and Guilds

Pastoral Care Report

by Lisa Corry, Sub-Dean

As I stepped into the Sub-Dean role, I also began overseeing pastoral care. This held two areas of focus for me while navigating the constraints of the pandemic.

One area was administrative. In conversation with Deb Cooper, who previously held oversight with the Sub-Dean and Dean Meaux, we decided it was time to look for a database that helps us keep track of care and needs in a different way than we had previously. Through research and checking within the Little Rock Episcopal churches, we decided to begin to use Notebird. This database has proven to be very user-friendly and helpful to us as we seek to be aware of and respond to needs in the Trinity community.

Of course, as people journey, staff changes, and administrative tools change, there are changes in lay leadership and participation. Over the course of this year, both Carolyn Hartstein and Coralie Maxwell have stepped down from this area of ministry, though they both are very involved in other significant ministry at Trinity. We are grateful for their leadership.

Two team leaders, Donna Gay, Sally Fittsizer, continue the ministry with 24 team members:

Jonann Chiles, Gail Gerard, Ben Utter, Jeanne Joyner, Myra & Lee Kinnebrew, Linnie Lyle, Herschel Cast, Elizabeth Clark, Christopher Hardcastle, Ellon Cockrill, Jean & George Harper, Kristie Robinson, Margaret Faulkner, Linda Pneuman, Sally Allen, Jan Badeaux, Pam Christian, Michelle McLellen, Glory Alipit, Peter Hartstein, and Herb & Kim Hahn.

I am grateful for the ongoing care these people intentionally give to the Trinity community.

As we expressed pastoral care over this past year, we have had to focus on phone calls and occasional visits, depending on pandemic limitations. In addition, we have increased clergy focus on pastoral care. As Dean Meaux has transitioned to the Cathedral, this has been a vehicle for getting to know people as we care for them.

We look with hope to the coming year for greater freedom to express care for those with various needs in our community.

The Trinity Cathedral Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King

by Melissa Whitfield

In 1885, a group of women in New York first formed The Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK). Daughters undertake a Rule of Life, which includes prayer, service, and evangelism. Not long after that, in January of 1896, Trinity Cathedral formed a chapter. It's not clear when, but sometime over the years, the chapter became inactive. Fast forward to 2021, when a group of women met to discern whether they wanted to renew the chapter. Led by Valerie Smith, a parish member who was an active DOK member before transferring her membership to Trinity, this group met over several months and learned about The Order.

Those women — Pam deGravelles, Carolyn Hartstein, Melissa McDaniel, Marti Thomas, Melissa Whitfield, Deb Cooper and Lisa Corry — were admitted into The Order on November 14, 2021, and the chapter was reborn at Trinity, using its original charter number from 1896 — number 479. On that day, they took vows to follow a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service.

Part of every daughter's Rule of Prayer is to pray daily:

- For the unity of Christ's church
- For the spread of Christ's Kingdom, especially among women and girls
- For God's blessings upon the members of The Order
- For the spiritual growth of the parish and for the clergy of the parish to which the chapter owes allegiance

The first service project within our Rule of Service is assisting the Afghan family that the parish is sponsoring. We have been helping with grocery shopping and organizing a donated clothing room.

Please know that the Trinity Chapter is praying for the parish daily. If you have prayer requests, we want to include you in our prayers. We also welcome those women who might be interested in joining us. You can speak to any of our members to find out more or you can contact us at dok@trinitylittlerock.org.

We look forward to serving Trinity Cathedral Parish for many years to come.

Ushers' Report

by Herschel Cast

With the resumption of in-person cathedral services this year, our ushers once again stepped forward to welcome parishioners. Duties include opening the West doors, handing out service bulletins, collecting the offering, and releasing parishioners for communion. Now that access to the lift is once again available, ushers are back to manning the 17th Street door. After the service, the collection is counted and secured and, when necessary, the church is cleaned and straightened. This year, an important new duty was ensuring that all members of the congregation wore masks.

Our Head Usher is Kerry McCoy with her daughter Meghan Pittman serving as scheduler. For questions and to volunteer, please contact Kerry at kerry@flagandbanner.com

Our corp of ushers in 2021 included: Herschel Cast, Jeff Maxwell, David Duke, Tommy Jameson, Liza McNeir, Ann Morledge, George Morledge, Sandy Miller Hays, Matthew McCoy, Mary Wilson, Richard Moore, Scott Mosley, Susan Borne, Rettina Hill, Josh Hill, Harold Joyner, Grady McCoy, Kerry McCoy, Michelle McLellen, Drew Schultz, and Lisa Thorpe.



Cathedral Greeters

by Coralie Maxwell

In the words of our founder Julie Keller, "Greeters are the first contact that a visitor has when visiting the Cathedral for a Sunday service. The importance of this ministry can't be overstated, as a warm welcome makes for a good first impression."

Many thanks to these greeters who serve:

Christopher Hardcastle, Carolyn Hartstein,
Peter Hartstein, Linnie Lyle, Coralie Maxwell,
Sharon Mosley

Altar Guild

by Linda Pnueman

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral's Altar Guild is a gift of time and talent, to prepare all that is necessary for celebration of the Eucharist or other sacraments. Altar Guild members care for the altar, vessels, altar linens, candles, frontals, hangings, and at times the Paschal Candle. The high altar and credence tables are set for each service, and those settings vary by service and celebrant. Currently, the services include two Sunday Eucharists, Wednesday Healing Service with eucharist, baptisms, Ordinations, funerals and weddings when the Eucharist is celebrated. Services without Eucharist require filled candles, and may require changes in frontal, hangings, and placement of candles. Frontal, hangings, and veil vary by season, occasion, and Saints' Days.

Guild members clean, wash, polish, and store vessels and linens; clean the altar area and Sacristy after each service; consume or properly store consecrated elements, fill candles; and prepare portable communion kits. Wine, wafers, cleaning supplies, candle oil, and oil for unction are kept well-stocked. At least one guild member is usually present in the Sacristy during Celebration of the Eucharist. Brass rails are polished as needed.

During the pandemic, due to the small size of the Sacristy and changes in the Eucharist, fewer members are serving regularly. Myra Kinnebrew continues to launder and mend the linens.

Members no longer serving due to life changes or change of location in last two years are Barbara Head, Jackie Travis, Janet Robb, Glory Alipit, Jeanie Harper, and Blain Croft. We are so grateful for their years of service.

2022 Altar Guild members include Herschel Cast, Melonese Clarke, Nina McIntyre, Myra Kinnebrew, Lee Kinnebrew, Michael McNeely, Karen Johnson, DiAnn Phillips, Michelle Milland, Melissa McDaniel, and Linda Pnueman.

We look forward to welcoming new members.

Acolyte Report

by Otis Howe, Acolyte Master

2021 was another challenging year for the Acolyte Guild, just like it has been for all of us. The fire in the Dean's Hall required in all our acolyte vestments being sent out to be cleaned and it seemed to take forever to get them back. Acolytes served in their Sunday clothes when we worshipped in Chancellor's Hall and the first couple of months we were back in the Cathedral. Trinity Cathedral has 18 young people, in grades 6 to 12 participating. This number is down from a year ago. We were able to train 9 new acolytes in August. We should all commend our acolytes for their willingness to serve and their flexibility as we worked through having services under these challenging circumstances. I would like to thank the acolytes and their parents for their faithful participation in the life of Trinity. We welcome all young people 6th grade and older to participate. I continue to pray that this pandemic will be under control soon.



Verger Report

by Michael A. Kea' aloha McNeely

There are six members of the Verger's Guild at Trinity Cathedral. We serve at the pleasure and direction of the Dean. We work closely with the Dean and Cathedral Clergy in assisting, organizing, and training those involved in the regular Sunday services and other services at the Cathedral. This includes working with acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, the Altar Guild, Ushers, Intercessors, Lectors, and the Choir. The Daily Office at the Cathedral is another area in which we participate. We also work with Bishop Benfield and the Diocesan Office in planning and organizing services for the Diocese of Arkansas that occur at the Cathedral. Our diocesan presence is also felt in our role as an educational and training resource for other vergers and clergy. We are also apart of the planning and implementation of other services at the cathedral which bring the larger community to the Cathedral, such as Episcopal Collegiate School's Baccalaureate Service. This rich life grounded in Scripture, the Prayer Book, and the Anglican tradition carries out Trinity Cathedral's place as "the liturgical center" of the diocese. We are humbled to be a part of such a great witness for Christ and his Church.

All Saints' Guild

by Coralie Maxwell

All Saints' Guild's ministry of compassion and service to grieving families and friends continued during 2021 as we assisted with the planning and conduct of seven funerals.

These funerals brought 1241 people to our Cathedral. We strove to establish a climate of welcome for those not familiar with our church or its funeral liturgies. Usually, there is a very short time between a death and the funeral service, and a short time to enlist guild members to assist. Not every member is available to help with every service. We are always eager to add new people to our guild. We welcome anyone interested in becoming a part of this important and most rewarding ministry.

1884 Legacy Society

by Jane McMullin, President

The 1884 Legacy Society Board was able to meet only twice during 2021. Almost all our members attended the November meeting, so were able to make some very positive moves. We added three strong new members: Dr. George Morledge; David Mitchell, Jr.; and Brooks Wolfe Trantum, PhD.

After much discussion, we decided on a new and improved Mission Statement and updated the Requirements for Membership in the Society.

We plan to begin again with plans that we made in 2020 to Inspire, Educate, and Celebrate new and present members. We will make Commitment Forms readily available to all Parishioners and will be ready and able to talk about our Mission to all that will listen.

One of our members, Jim Hathaway, wrote an excellent summary of all our discussions and included a plan of action to:

1. Increase membership (by calling on present and prospective members)
2. Increase Trinity's Endowment (by updating brochures and training callers)
3. Communicate our reason for being to the Parish, the importance of Planned Giving, and our view of the future
4. Place our primary focus on validating prior commitments and seeking new ones from those who are most likely to commit

We hope to put all of this into action in the 2022 year. We will choose our new officers at our next meeting, hopefully on February 15, 2022.

Board Members As Of 11/24/2021

Beth Hathaway Barnes	beth.hathaway@comcast.net
Tom Clark	tclark728@sbcglobal.net
Sub-Dean Lisa Corry	lisa@trinitylittlerock.org
Jack Dowling	jack@trinitylittlerock.org
Jack Harvey	jharvey@myefgroup.com
Jim Hathaway	jayhogjim@gmail.com
Mary Hodges	mhodges@trinitylittlerock.org
Dean Amy Meaux	amy@trinitylittlerock.org
Jane McMullin	janes21@swbell.net
Lisa McNeir	lmcneir@mac.com
David Mitchell, Jr	dmitch3520@gmail.com
Dr. George Morledge	gbmorledge@sbcglobal.net
Brooks Wolfe Trantum, PhD	brooksgw1957@icloud.com

Mission And Membership

1884 Legacy Society Mission:

To sustain and grow the 1884 Society which was formed to encourage planned giving by Trinity Cathedral Parish members. The goal is to raise long term dollars for the Endowment Fund which ensures a strong future for our parish.

To educate the Parish about the need for Planned Giving, which is distinct from pledging (or annual giving), and Capital Gifts which are for a specific purpose. We want to encourage members to include Trinity in their Estate Plans.

To honor those who become members of the Society.

To become a member:

Commit to making a planned gift, either by making an endowment gift during your lifetime or through Estate Planning. There are many ways to accomplish this, and information is available to assist everyone who needs it. The size of the gift is incidental; it is the commitment to our future that matters.

Turn in a completed and signed form: a Declaration of Intent to make a gift to the church (in your will, in a trust, with insurance, etc. sometime between now and the time of your death). This informs the church of your intentions and it includes contact information if needed.

Members will be invited to an annual thank-you event to recognize your generosity and honor your vision.

*Trinity Episcopal
Cathedral*



*1884
Legacy Society*

Flower Guild

This ministry of beauty lends itself well to a pictorial report.



Fellowship and Formation

Children, Family, and Youth Ministry

2021 was another year of tests for our programs.

We started our Sunday morning formation in fall 2020 on Zoom and continued that until May 2021. Our thanks to the dedicated catechists and families who logged in every week to assist our children in the development of their relationship with God. We are grateful also for the parents and youth that hung on through a hard pause before being able to gather in person last spring.

Children & Families

Last June we teamed up with Christ Church for Vacation Bible School (VBS). After missing a year due to the pandemic, it was wonderful to be together! We still followed protocols – outdoors with masks - but we also had so much fun. Our theme was “Won’t you be my neighbor?” It was great to be with a group of children and faithful adults in person.

As the year continued, we gained momentum for in-person COVID safe gatherings and were able to do a Halloween Trunk-or-Treat and hold our Advent Event where Dean Meaux presented the Godly Play Advent lesson.

Fall 2021 brought us an attempt at hybrid classes – attendance simultaneously in person and online. Unfortunately, Catechesis (Montessori based curriculum) does not translate well to a hybrid presentation. In person, the children can experience the presentations and activities much better than on Zoom. Internet issues, lack of online participation, and the increased vaccination levels in children caused us to drop Zoom and proceed in-person only. While our in-person classes are small, we are doing what we do best – sharing our spiritual life with the children.



Children at VBS walking to visit the garden



Trinity youth cheering on marathon runners

Catechesis continues for three-year-olds to 3rd grade and grades 4 to 12 are meeting as a group with a team of teachers. We want to thank our faithful catechists: Sarah Bennings, Jineen Dobbins, Otis Howe, Jerry Shurgar, Toga Tuite, and Melissa Whitfield. Many thanks to Susan Payne, John Milwee, and Denise Albert who finished their time in Level 3 last May.

Youth Ministry

As we walked through this year, we were limited by our lack of a youth ministry person who can focus all their energy on youth and bring an energy to the youth program toward which youth might gravitate. It is our hope in the next year to have someone, feet on the ground, with this focus.

In the midst of this constraint, we did have some highlights. Lisa met with youth for confirmation preparation through the spring. This took place outdoors and in person. It was refreshing to be together after such pandemic limitations.

Another highlight was to begin in-person youth formation meetings on Sunday mornings. Nine adults help make this happen. These people have been faithful and

committed, and I am grateful for their ministries with our youth: Meghan and Alan Pittman, Lisa McNeir, Mary Margaret and Eric Wippo, Grant Wallace, Marcia Wayland, Denise Albert, and John Milwee.

Some youth activities last year included supporting Vacation Bible School, a Central Convocation trip to the State Fair, cheering on marathoners at 16th and Center Streets, playing soccer and other games with the Afghan boys, and taking part in the assembly of Advent baskets.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Howe and Lisa Corry

Christian Formation for Adults

by Susan Payne

In spite of COVID protocols - no breakfast for Dean's Forum! - Trinity adults were increasingly interested in knowing more about the Bible and in deepening their faith and life as Christians. Clergy and lay people responded with a variety of offerings in several formats including small groups, text-based studies, online, and lectures with dialogue.

Speaking of the Dean's Forum, Dean Meaux led an exploration of God's presence as we navigate the pandemic in our life together in fellowship. She continued with a conversation on the ins, outs, and all the in-betweens in worship. A study of the Gospel according to Luke followed as a new church year began in Advent. Following Dean Meaux's introduction, the group chose to read the entire gospel with her.

Studies which would fit under the broad heading of "loving our neighbors" included Deb Cooper's personal reflections and rich resources on "Unlearning Racism," Lisa Corry's film-based series "Sacred Ground," which continues in 2022; and a lecture and dialogue series on Isabel Wilkerson's book *CASTE* led by Stuart Hoke.

A fascinating scripture topic was Women of the Bible, led by Randy Irwin. In the text by the same name, Episcopal priest Lindsay Hardin Freeman identifies every woman who speaks in the Bible, explaining their words, context, and historical background. Through these women, God spoke, intervened, changed, illustrated, and proclaimed the story of redemption. Another scripture series was "Can God Set a Table in the Wilderness?" based on Psalm 78 led by Stuart Hoke.

A dozen members participated in an experimental exercise with Susan Payne, Penny Fox, and Kaki Roberts from St. Michael's, adapting Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for adults. Participants explored ways to deepen their faith by listening to scripture, and discerning connections with the gospels, sacraments, and their own experience.

Lisa Thorpe led two workshops integrating art and spirituality. One focused on the life of Mary and the other on All Souls and All Saints.

All in all, we studied the Bible and other resources to discover more about our sometimes invisible brothers and sisters, and through prayer and reflection hoped to come closer to St Paul's admonition to learn to pray without ceasing.

Men's Breakfast Group

by Bert Parker

Carrying on a long and valued tradition, the Trinity Men's Breakfast group continues to meet at 8:00 AM on the third Thursday of the month, and weekly during lent. This group of 10 to 15 regular members gathers primarily for fellowship, but often to support projects of the Cathedral, such as raising money to help remodel Harrison House, and to purchase a new truck for Saint Francis House, keeping the Little Pantry stocked, and volunteering to help transport the Afghanistan refugee family that Trinity is hosting.

Balancing COVID restrictions, the group normally meets at a member's house. The goal is to meet outside around a fireplace, weather permitting, to satisfy social distancing and just enjoy being outside. Not to be thwarted by cold or damp weather, the group moves indoors and the conversation continues. In the past, Morning Prayer during the Lenten season has been transmitted virtually from the group's meetings.

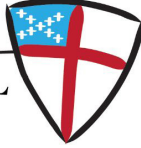
The Trinity Men's Group is always looking to expand our numbers and to hear presentations important to the Trinity community. If anyone wants to add their name to the group or suggest topics that need discussion, don't hesitate to call or email Bert Parker, 501-352-8886, hjparkerlr@gmail.com, or George Morledge, gbmorledge@sbcglobal.net.



Men's Breakfast Group in Bert Parker's backyard

Community Outreach

THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL



“We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps.” - Proverbs 16:9

A big part of my position as Director of the Early Childhood Education Program includes coaching and mentoring our staff. For those of you lucky enough to know any of the ECEP staff, you might understand when I say that sometimes this is a challenge—they are amazing at their craft. I mean seriously, how do you mentor/coach a staff with an average of 18 years of experience in their field of expertise? What tends to happen is that I get to support a teacher taking a pause, allowing space for a different perspective, and time for introspection.

Every weekday on Trinity’s campus, 18 teachers arrive bright and early, ready to positively impact the lives of the little ones whose families entrust us with their care and education. These teachers have a plan. A plan in a classroom setting means a teacher has spent time and energy creating lessons (books, songs, activities, art projects, etc.) and making changes in the classroom environment (adding and taking away manipulatives - often created by the teacher), all to teach specific concepts and reinforce developmental milestones in a way that is full of play. Yes, we do this everyday with children from 6 weeks old through PreK4.

We live in a real world where there is always a ‘wild card.’ For early education teachers, the ‘wildcard’ often

comes in the form of an occasionally smelly, sometimes boundary-pushing, always adorable little person. In case you weren’t aware, these little people have all the feelings and hard days we adults have, but without the ability to express or understand any of it.

What happens when you throw a wildcard at a plan? A little process known as ‘Adjust-and-Flow.’ Adjust-and-flow seems easy; you are just shifting from what you were going to do to something else, but wait! We have poured time and love into these glorious plans that meet goals in an appropriate way. Now, in addition to a child with big feelings, we have a teacher with big feelings trying

to figure out if this is just a small bump in the road or time to change directions completely.

Once in a blue moon, monthly, weekly, daily, hourly?—when does adjust-and-flow become just trying to survive? This is when I get to stand in the gap with the teachers. I give them space to pause, time to reflect, and help them remember they are strong and capable. With our knowledge and experience our plan may be the best, but sometimes adjust-and-

flow brings us the lessons we really need to teach and receive in this time and space.

I am not going to lie: 2021 has been a year of adjust-and-flow with non-stop wildcards. I am sure many of you have had the same year. It is hard to even find the time to sit and write the annual report. But stopping to pause and reflect does take me out of the fear, frustration, and disappointment of the little moments that weren’t the plan and allows me to see the big picture. And that perspective is amazing. Even with all the adjust-and-flow, the goals of 2021 were met and exceeded and we are better for it.



teacher Natasha with the Tadpoles

Goals we met last year:

- The few illnesses we had were normal childhood illnesses.
- We ended the year with 105 children enrolled in our program. 10% of those children identify Trinity as their church home.
- We had income that allowed us to fully meet all financial obligations and a bit more to do a few extras.
- We added some new faces to our staff that have quickly become invaluable to the team.
- We safely hosted ECEP Easels, two school parades, and Trunk-or-Treat in person.
- We brought chickens and garden beds back to the block.
- We laughed, learned, and loved well!

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you hope and a future.” - Jeremiah 29:11

I am thankful for another year of holding hands with Trinity as we serve our community in the name of our Lord and Savior. We are abundantly blessed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Poindexter
Director, ECEP at Trinity Cathedral



A thankful class



Meeting Little Rock's mounted patrol



Meeting the chickens behind Harrison House



Blessing of the stuffed animals

Matthew 25 Committee

by Jerry Shurger

This committee has been charged with helping Trinity fulfill the challenge of the gospel to feed the hungry, comfort the lonely, and clothe the naked. Three organizations have been selected to receive assistance. Saint Francis House, The Stewpot, and Dorcas House have each been chosen due to their respective missions. The restrictions of the virus have severely restricted the amount of hands-on work that could be accomplished. The committee sought ways to help in spite of restrictions.

Saint Francis House

Saint Francis House is the outreach ministry of the diocese and works to provide many needed services in the community. This past year, Trinity has been able to provide money to help needy people with medical copays to secure needed medicines. Because the facilities appearance had been neglected for many years, professional landscaping was secured to transform the appearance into a welcoming sight. This overhaul complements past efforts, such as awning-replacement and client comfort projects, as well as drainage and water diversions. Through joint work with Stewpot, additional food for clients has been provided on a regular basis. This has consisted of individual size cans of food, milk, butter, cheese, and more.

The Stewpot

The virus forced The Stewpot to suspend in-house dining but they continue to provide lunch five days a week to over 125 diners in the form of sack lunches consisting of sandwiches, hot food in containers, and more. Committee members assist with the pick-up of supplies from the Food Bank every month. This assures a continual supply of needed food items. In keeping with the plan to assist with capital expenses, Trinity has helped replace equipment with new commercial-grade items.

Dorcas House

Dorcas House received assistance with replacement of flooring on the second floor and much needed replacement of washers and dryers. The tradition of Thanksgiving, Easter, and Christmas dinners has continued. The residents look forward to these meals, and young people from the parish assist with the delivery of these meals. Hands-on projects continue to be on hold at this time.

Refugee Project

In September, the committee was given the assignment of preparing Harrison House to receive the Afghan family. The house was bare bones and needed painting, plaster repairs, cleaning, and furniture. In less than a month, the committee marshalled efforts that harnessed the generosity of the parish and citizens of Little Rock, and the house was completely furnished and decorated. After



the resettlement ends, the house can easily be converted to guest-housing for visitors to Trinity.

Mothers Day Purses

The success of this program continues to expand. Well over 150 beautiful, filled purses were collected and distributed. Our House requested and received one hundred purses and the balance went to Dorcas House and Arkansas Children's Hospital. This has become an ongoing tradition for Trinity.

Warm Fuzzy Tree

Each year, the parishioners open their hearts to this needed ministry. In 2021, over 116 coats and sweaters

were collected along with gloves and hats. These were distributed to Dorcas House and El Zocalo immigrant center.

Bliss Fund Expenditures

The report on the next page details how the funds have been spent in 2020-21. The committee will run out of money in 2022 without an additional Bliss event.

Plans for 2022

In spite of restrictions, the committee is working to develop plans for 2022, including the continuation of traditional projects and the addition of needed areas of service. More to follow.

Bliss fund expenditures 2020-21

Starting balance \$60,000

Saint Francis House \$30,000

Entrance awning to prevent flooding	\$ 4,054.96
Side awning for social services	\$ 2,052.14
Medical copay match with St. Marks	\$ 14,000.00
Weekend meals /COVID	\$ 500.00
Landscaping	\$ 5,000.00
	<u>\$ 15,607.10</u>

Stewpot \$15,000

Freezer replacement	\$ 2,626.90
Repair to power lift	\$ 37.50
Food processor and skillets	\$ 250.65
Sink replacement	\$ 860.22
Commercial meat and cheese slicer	\$ 119.88
Floor covering for new clothing room	\$ 681.01
Plexiglass for clothing room	\$ 523.20
Clothing room equipment	\$ 493.51
Laptop computer	\$ 1,050.99
Freezer replacement	\$ 2,502.00
	<u>\$ 9,145.86</u>

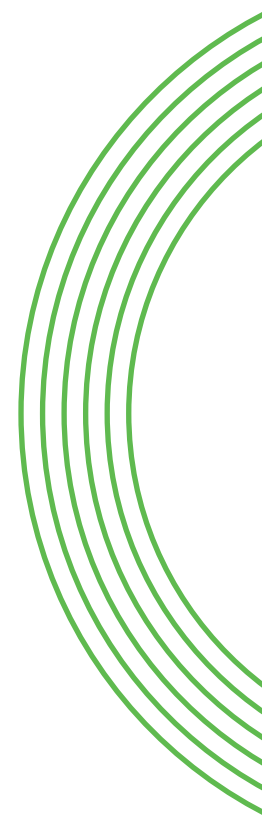
Dorcas House \$10,000

Washer and dryers	\$ 3,595.71
Second story floor covering	\$ 1,000.00
	<u>\$ 4,595.71</u>

Disaster Response \$5,000

Meals for hospital staffs during covid peak	\$ 8,000.00
Four hundred dollars of meals per week for 20 weeks	

Total expenditures equal \$42,348.67. Current balance is \$20,186.53. These figures give a total more than the initial funds raised in Bliss. It was reported that \$60,000 had been raised but more funds came in. There were also funds remaining from earlier Bliss events.



Afghan Refugee Project - Helping New Neighbors

Which of these do you think was a neighbor? -- Luke 10:36

by Jack Dowling

When the Mission and Vision Committee chose the parable of the Good Samaritan as their guiding principle, they could not have known that the opportunity to live that out would come so quickly.

When presented with the possibility of hosting a family from Afghanistan in partnership with Congregation B’Nai Israel, members of Trinity, led by Deb Cooper with assistance by the Matthew 25 Committee, jumped into action to turn Harrison House from a shabby schoolhouse into a welcoming family home. After a good paint job, lots of volunteers came forward to provide furniture and household items to make a family of eight comfortable.

In mid-October the Nooristani family arrived. The parents and six boys, ranging in age from 7 to 21, each found a comfortable bed and a stocked kitchen waiting for them. But the intricate job of hosting a family from a very different culture and language had just begun.

The Afghan family Sponsor Team from Trinity and Congregation B’Nai Israel faithfully provided hospitality and support for our Afghan family as soon as they arrived.

Formal orientations were completed to acclimate the family to their new environment. A shopping team provided transportation to shop for clothing and groceries, educating the family about staying within their budget as they shop. A transportation team provides transportation to medical appointments, weekly visits to the mosque, fellowship gatherings with other Afghan families in Little Rock, and much more. A school team has enrolled the children in school and even provides a daily ride to Central High. The ESL Team has coordinated English Learning opportunities for five days per week. An activities team has consistently been available for Sunday Soccer with players from Muslim, Christian, and Jewish faith traditions. Mountains of complicated paperwork were required for Social Security Numbers, health benefits, and other official documents.

This has been a wonderful opportunity for us to put our faith in action. The Sponsor Team is being restructured as the needs of the Nooristanis are changing. They will be across the street for a little while longer, but when they have settled in their own home, we will have learned truly what it means to be a good neighbor.





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Trinity's Mission

The mission of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral is to proclaim the Word of God by sharing our gifts, ourselves, and our properties through ministry to each other, our neighbors, and our community as we serve God and represent the Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas.