

# 2024 Annual Report

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 26, 2025



Holy Trinity is called to recognize, communicate, and celebrate God's presence within, among and around us.

Holy Trinity Church
Southbridge, Massachusetts
Annual Parish Meeting
January 26, 2025

# **Annual Reports: 2024**

# Minutes: Annual Parish Meeting for Year 2024: January 26, 2025

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#### MINUTES OF 2024 ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 28, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 10:21 am.

Roll Call – a quorum was present, there were more than 7 active baptized members present, and two were present on Zoom.

The minutes of the previous year's annual meeting were included in the Annual Report. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting, it was seconded and carried.

The Treasurer's report was included in the Annual Report. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

The slate of Vestry officers and Vestry members was presented on the ballot, there were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made to elect the slate as presented, it was seconded and carried.

The slate of delegates to the Annual Diocesan Convention was presented on the ballot, there were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made to elect the slate as presented, it was seconded and carried.

Lynn Garland, as Senior Warden, gave her report. She discussed partnering with Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and sharing their Pastor. The information we have from BLC indicates they can work with a 40% / 60% sharing of Pastor Dan's time and salary (40% Holy Trinity / 60% Bethlehem). On February 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a Pulpit Swap with Pastor Dan leading the service here and Mother Judith leading the service at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. After the service here the Vestry will meet with Pastor Dan and then will decide if we want to continue with the process. If so, on March 10<sup>th</sup> the Bethlehem Council and Holy Trinity Vestry will meet to hash out details. Pastor Dan will be on Sabbatical from late July through late October.

The newly elected Vestry members and officers, and the newly elected Convention Delegates, along with the current Vestry members were Commissioned.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 am.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Frost, clerk

# 2024 2025 Annual Reports

# I. AN OVERVIEW OF 2024

# **THE PRIEST'S REPORT**

# Pastor's Report for 2024

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43: 16, 18-19

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

What a year it has been! It has been a year full of uncertainty and yet the spirit found a way in the midst of it all. The words from the prophet Isaiah still seem extraordinarily relevant, thousands of years after they were first written. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it! Well, I think we are now beginning to perceive it! Thanks be to God. In the spirit of this partnership, I give thanks for the groundwork that was laid years prior to this moment, that I believe has really proved a benefit in this moment as we come into this new thing, with some familiarity and existing relationships. It was such a joy as we came to the end of this year to have two major opportunities to engage in shared worship and fellowship with one another and those were our Christmas Eve Services and our lessons and carols service. What an absolute joy to gather with almost 100 folks at our 4:00 service and with almost 50 people at our 9:00 service. I would perhaps describe the 4:00PM service as joyfully and unexpectedly chaotic. Thanks for the ability for folks to adapt and pivot on the fly! It was so deeply moving to see folks from both congregations interspersed with one another throughout the sanctuary. What a gift it was to hear the deeply reflective questions coming from the children during the sermon and how incredibly moving it was to stare out at the congregation during silent night and see the light shining in the midst of all those gathered.

Our lessons and carols service of course offered our first opportunity to gather for one shared worship service, which was a huge success. Of course, everyone looked good in their ugly Christmas sweaters and pajamas, but it was again this opportunity for shared worship and fellowship that really hit home. Make a joyful noise to the lord! Well, we surely did that as we embraced the loud echoes of voices caught up in conversation during coffee hour. I continue to look forward to more of those opportunities as we move forward into this new year. I should also say it has been wonderful to share in adult faith formation over the past year as we have taken a deep dive in the streaming series The Chosen. Spending time gathered around a meal, sharing in fellowship and study has been good for the soul. We look forward to continuing with that study at the end of January. We also look forward to the beginning of a shared confirmation group around that same time, with plans in the works for a confirmation retreat in March.

The collaboration team continues to gather monthly to identify new shared ministry opportunities. It has been a joy to share in that work and to explore where the spirit might be leading us next. We will certainly be

looking forward to another shared worship service on March 30<sup>th</sup>, a shared Phat Tuesday Pancake Supper, shared ministry at Cathedral in the Night, continued shared youth events, and more! Stay tuned.

This year, Holy Trinity has continued to become a hub for community ministry as we welcomed Food Share into our building and are preparing to welcome Rosilda's kitchen, and potentially a new AA group that will meet at Holy Trinity seven days a week. The spirit is surely moving!

A word of thanks is in order for the council and vestry whose members both current and past worked extraordinarily hard to bring this partnership together in a relatively short period of time. We are blessed with incredibly gifted leaders in both congregations. I also want to offer words of gratitude for the way you all have welcomed me to Holy Trinity. It's been my greatest joy to begin to be in relationship with you as your priest-in-charge. I'm very much looking forward to the year ahead.

This year has also been one of refreshment and renewal for me as I took a three-month sabbatical that ran from the end of July to the end of October. I'm deeply grateful for the way the sabbatical was supported by folks from both Bethlehem and Holy Trinity. It was a beautiful time away, one that brought me to the shores of Lake Ossipee, to the mountains of Washington, from the shores of Maine to the shores of the Adriatic Sea. It was a beautiful time of rekindled relationships and of spiritual renewal for which I am deeply grateful.

Over the course of this shared partnership, I have come to find a favorite coffee mug which lives on the mug wall at Holy Trinity. It's a beautiful mug, one that is covered with abundant color. It also has two simple yet profound words on it. Choose love. As we continue into the new year, as we travel this journey of shared ministry together, as we continue to work to perceive this new thing that God is doing, my invitation to you is simple, choose love. Choose love in your day-to-day life, choose love in the communities we live in, and choose love as we move forward together to continue to engage our work as disciples, as part of the body of Christ.

Peace and blessings!
Pastor Dan

## THE SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

What a year of transitions this has been! Our sadness in saying good-bye to Mother Judith was offset by our joy in saying hello to Pastor Dan. We have been truly blessed to find an excellent priest who is willing to serve us part-time, and who we already know. This blessing has also come with the new experience of partnering with Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sturbridge, as each parish supports a part of Pastor Dan's full-time ministry.

One immediate effect of this partnership was that we had to change our worship and coffee hour time. As Pastor Dan is now preaching at both churches Sunday morning, we had to find times that worked for each parish and allowed him time to travel. With input from all parish members, we changed our time from 9:30 to 11:00 with coffee hour following. This has been a big adjustment for everyone but seems to be going smoothly now. Unfortunately, one family was unable to accommodate the change in service time and they are no longer worshipping with us. This was a difficult loss.

Another aspect of our partnership is beginning to worship together on occasion. We had our first two experiences of this in December. On Christmas Eve both parishes worshipped at Holy Trinity and the following Sunday at Bethlehem Lutheran for Lessons and Carols. It was amazing to experience a full church on Christmas

Eve and a full noisy, cheerful coffee hour after Lessons and Carols at Bethlehem Lutheran the following Sunday. Our partnership is already strong, even at this early stage.

We have had big transitions in our relationship with our building as well. At the start of the year, we were concerned we might have to give up our building in the near future as we did not have the funds to pay for the significant maintenance needs of our 150+ year-old building. But God had other plans! In August we welcomed the Food Share food pantry into our building. Their monthly rent is a significant help to cover the maintenance costs, and their work is consistent with our mission of feeding hungry people.

Additional outside ministries will be joining us starting in February. One is Rosilda's Kitchen, which provides a free community dinner on Fridays evenings. This has been a ministry of the Methodist Church in Southbridge but as the church is closing, they needed to relocate and asked us to partner with them by allowing them to move their ministry into our kitchen. We will not receive any income from Rosilda's Kitchen' they will cover their own expenses. But we will receive the blessing of being able to support this important ministry to continue.

A second ministry that we anticipate moving into our building is an AA meeting. The Southbridge noon-time meeting has asked for our space as they also need to relocate when the Methodist Church closes. They would like to meet seven days a week, instead of just one day. The membership would contribute a monthly donation that would add to our income. While we are still working out the details, currently it seems they will use our parish hall Monday-Friday and the Undercroft on Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday, their meeting time would change to mid-afternoon, to avoid conflict with our worship time.

These wonderful changes require us to shift our thinking about how we use our space. The lower level of the parish hall had been the classroom wing. While we continue to have a vibrant and active family worship program, programs are now taking place upstairs in the parish hall. And now that we have begun to rent the downstairs space for outside ministries, we need to bring all the children's activities, including the play space, upstairs. Our creative family worship team is actively working on this transition. More information will be coming as the plans unfold. We are considering different names for that hallway now. Instead of "the classroom wing", one suggestion is to rename it "the ministry wing". Other suggestions are welcome.

It is very clear God has been actively at work within and around us this year. This has been possible because of the full participation of every parish member. Each person has contributed in their own unique way to this spirit-led journey we are on together. I continue to be deeply grateful for each and every one of you and the way we support each other to maintain and grow this faith community.

Yours in Christ, Lynn Garland Senior Warden

# THE JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

2024 was like a roller coaster ride: exhilarating, but sometimes breathtaking.

At the end of 2023, after many congregational meetings, and meeting with parishes around the diocese to explore different models of ministry, we announced that the vestry approved the plan to start a conversation with Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sturbridge about sharing clergy.

We started 2024 meeting with Bethlehem Lutheran Church to discuss sharing pastoral leadership. By April 1<sup>st</sup> we signed a Covenant with Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Pastor Dan started serving as our Priest-in-Charge, and we were off on a new adventure.

In May we entered into conversation with Food Share, Inc. about their ministry relocating to Holy Trinity. On August 1<sup>st</sup> they moved into our "Ministry Wing" and opened to the community on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

There were some pivots along the way as Pastor Dan took his Sabbatical in July and Mother Judith was back for three months. Pastor Dan "hit the ground running "when he returned in November and walked us through Advent and Christmas, culminating with a glorious joint Christmas Eve service with 98 people in attendance! In November we were approached by the Methodist Church in Southbridge. They anticipated closing in February and asked if we could continue their weekly dinners, Rosilda's Kitchen, at Holy Trinty if a team of volunteers and monetary support was offered. The vestry said yes.

The Alcoholics Anonymous group meeting leader at the Methodist church asked if they might relocate to Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, offering daily meetings to the community, and the vestry said yes.

As you can imaging, there are lots of details to be worked out, but the Holy Spirit is moving and Holy Trinity is now becoming the "Community Outpost" we prayed for, and the Hands and Feet of Jesus on Hamilton Street.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the commitment of our employees: organist/music minster, sexton, administrative assistant, and all the existing missions and ministries that diligently and steadily continued during 2024: altar guild, ushers, Eucharistic ministers, acolytes, Eucharistic visitors, readers, music ministry, choir, faith formation, youth ministry, Loaves and Fishes, winter coat coset; the COMMITTEES: hospitality, building, landscaping, pastoral relations, Parrettie, finance, endowment, mission and outreach, the collaboration committee, our Daughters of the King Chapter (prayer warriors), and of course our Vestry. It has been an absolute joy to serve with the Holy Trinity Vestry and we are SO appreciative of the support the whole parish has given as we embark on this new adventure and Journey.

In Christ, Susan Howland, Jr. Warden January 9, 2025

# MOTIONS MADE BY THE VESTRY IN 2024

#### <u>January</u>

A motion was made to accept the December minutes, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to send \$2,000 to the trustees for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts to be added to the Dirlam Fund. It was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to send \$240 to the trustees for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts to be added to the Holy Trinity Legacy Fund. It was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to approve the amended 2024 budget, it was seconded and carried.

#### **February**

A motion was made to accept the minutes from January, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to donate the funds collected from the sale of homemade soup for Souper Bowl of Caring, to Food Share, it was seconded and carried.

#### **March**

A motion was made to accept the minutes, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to add Pastor Dan as a signer for the Rector's Discretionary Fund, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to discontinue the practice of locking the narthex door, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to approve and sign the Covenant of Shared Pastoral Leadership, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to accept the members of standing committees as listed; it was seconded and carried.

- **Finance Committee:** Susan Howland, chair; Nancy Waugh, Treasurer; Josh Spooner, Lana Pieczynski Pledge Secretary: John Grant ex-officio member.
- **Endowment Committee:** Susan Howland, Chair; Robin Yates; Ron Texiera; ex-officio members: Priest and Treasurer
- **Parrette Committee:** Lynn Garland, Sr. Warden; Susan Howland, Jr. Warden; Lana Pieczynski, Barbara Kalber, Tamsin Lucey; Priest and Treasurer, ex officio
- Pastoral Relations Committee: Priest, Lynn Garland, Susan Howland, Tamsin Lucey, Robin Yates
- Stewardship Committee: Nancy Waugh & Lynn Garland
- Building and Grounds Committee: Co-chairs: Tamsin Lucey & Jean Frost, Ron Teixeira, David Monroe, Nate Lowery
- **Mission and Outreach Committee:** Susan Grant, Chair; Suzanne Sharp; Rose Reith, Anne Bouvier-Monroe, the Daughters of the King
- Hospitality Committee: Lynn Garland (Chair); Susan Grant; Karron Lacey
- **Communications:** Susan Howland (website), John Grant (technology: virtual communication & meetings), Tamsin Lucey (Facebook administrator); Cat Reith-Lowery (special emails/Mailchimps/evites); Parish Assistant Administrator (Tidings, weekly enews, collection of information)
- Faith formation Steering Committee: Eileen DeMings (chair), Heather Bousquet, Lorraine Brumskine, Cat Reith-Lowery, Rose Reith, Robin Yates, Dave Monroe

#### April

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the March 13th Vestry meeting, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

There was a motion made to accept the results of the audit, it was seconded and carried.

### **May**

A motion was made to accept the minutes from April 10, 2024, it was seconded and carried Susan Howland abstained because she was not present.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

 $\label{lem:condition} A \ motion \ was \ made \ to \ accept \ the \ report \ for \ the \ ministry \ development \ grant \ for \ Cooking \ for \ Life.$ 

#### <u>**Iune**</u>

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting; it was seconded and carried. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made that the Vestry supports Food Share moving into Holy Trinity if their board would like to proceed. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **Iulv**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes from the June 12, 2024, meeting. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

At the end of the presentation, the Vestry voted on the motion made by the sub-committee of Susan, Dave, and Jean to pursue having Food Share sign a Licensing Agreement with Holy Trinity

that would allow them to continue their operation as a Food Pantry in Southbridge. The Vestry were all in favor.

## <u>August</u>

A motion was made to accept the minutes from July 10th, it was seconded and carried. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

A motion to allow Food Share to install a key-code lock box near the undercroft entrance at their expense was made via email and sent to all vestry members, it was seconded and carried. A motion to establish a separate QuickBooks account for Food Share income and to move that

A motion to establish a separate QuickBooks account for Food Share income and to move that income into the building fund had been made and sent to the Vestry via email, it was seconded and carried.

# **September**

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the August Vestry meeting, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to contact a structural engineer to assess the retaining wall and make recommendations for options of how to proceed, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to seek an estimate for upgrading the electrical outlets in the Sanctuary to 3 prong outlets from Garon Electric, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to pursue getting an estimate for repair of bowing stained-glass windows, it was seconded and carried.

#### **October**

A motion was made to accept the minutes from September 11, 2024, it was seconded and carried. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded, and carried.

A motion was made to have Tasse's disable the steam going into the non-functioning radiator. It was seconded, and carried.

#### November

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the September Vestry meeting. It was seconded, and carried.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to approve payment of \$667 for the first year of deacon training for Lorraine Brumskine. It was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to approve a \$9000 gift to the Dirlam fund from the Dirlam Trust, to be transferred to the diocese. It was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to allow Food Share to hold their quarterly board meetings in the Undercroft. It was seconded and carried.

#### December

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the November  $13^{\rm th}$  Vestry meeting, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to accept the 2025 budget as is, it was seconded, and carried.

A motion was made to approve COLA raise for our Parish Administrative Assistant, it was seconded and carried. A motion was made to approve COLA raise for our Sexton and to increase Paid Time Off to 2 weeks, it was seconded and carried. A motion was made to approve recommended COLA increase in salary for Organist/Music Minister, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to approve bonuses for our PAA and Sexton of \$150 and \$250. A motion was made to approve a \$200 bonus to our Organist/Music Minister, it was seconded and carried. A motion was made to approve moving \$240 to the Legacy Fund, it was seconded and carried. A motion was made to recertify those with licenses to be Worship Leader, Eucharistic Minister and Eucharistic Visitor, it was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to set the date for the Annual Meeting as January  $26^{th}$  with a snow date of February  $9^{th}$ , it was seconded and carried. BLC Annual Meeting is set for February  $2^{nd}$ , their snow date is February  $9^{th}$ .

### II. WORSHIP

#### MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT

2024 has been a productive and spiritual year for the music program at Holy Trinity Church of Southbridge.

Thank you to our small, but mighty choir who faithfully supplies us with music for our special services and our Christian seasons, such as Advent and Lent. We are rehearsing on Thursday afternoons at 4:00 when the days are longer and at 3:30 during the winter months so we may travel home in the late afternoon light. The choir takes January off, begins rehearsing in February for the Lent and Easter seasons. The choir sings until Pentecost, takes the summer off, and starts rehearsing at the end of September for All Saints Sunday, Advent, and Christmas.

Many thanks to John Grant and Jean Frost for playing guitar for us on Christmas Eve and other times of the year. I hope to continue using them for some of the newer and older hymns that we use during the coming year. Susan Howland's talents are many and she shares them with Holy Trinity. Thank you for sharing your talents, especially playing the harp during our service. Taizé music is a spiritual gift to us and harp music is a wonderful addition to that setting. Joe DiSalvatore played the clarinet for Holy Trinity and covered for me when I was ill and on vacation along with Susan, Joe, and Lynn Garland. When I am sick, it is often the last minute, and our talented musicians have played for us, so we can sing together as a congregation without the organ and piano. Lynn Garland shares her singing voice with us as needed. I love her solo for Good Friday, "Were you there?" Have you heard it?

Under the tutelage of Mother Judith, we tried hymns that are singable and new for the choir and the congregation. These hymns are singable for children as well as adults and may use more modern and inclusive language.

I use several hymnals that have been sanctioned by the episcopal church, such as "My Heart Sings Out" which is a young person's hymnal. I have also used the hymnal "Voices Found" which is a women's hymnal that has traditional and contemporary hymns. Some of these hymns use "new words for old tunes". There is a website that I use that is from New Zealand that has suggestions for each Sunday. Unfortunately, the website runs only a couple of weeks in advance, so planning is not completed in advance. I have used the Catholic hymnal as a resource for some of our hymns, however they are usually in the hymnals that I mentioned above. Since we do not own enough copies of the hymnals, we need to get copyright permission to use the hymns that are not public domain.

Holy Trinity Church pays for this service by using One License. Every hymn I select I need to report if it is not public domain. I report for permission to reprint and to stream. This guarantees that the composers and writers receive royalties for their musical compositions. This includes any prelude and postludes we stream that I play

on the organ and piano. I report the hymns that are not Public Domain. Most hymns that have composers that have died 75 years ago or more and are public domain and are not reported to One License.

It is my hope that we will make a booklet to be used in the pews, so we do not have to print the hymns for the bulletin. Making a booklet is a time-consuming process but will save us money and trees. Is anyone interested in assisting with this project?

I want to thank Mother Judith for her time and collaboration as we planned the services for the last three years. Mother Judith was easy to work with and was helpful in planning the service music to align with the church season and the lectionary and I learned much from her, since Father Richard selected all the hymns and service music when he was leading Holy Trinity in worship.

Holy Trinity Church had changes in 2024 as we collaborated with Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Sturbridge, though the service music and hymns we use is not affected by this change.

I am looking forward to collaborating with Pastor Dan and creating a meaningful church service for Holy Trinity Church's congregation and the combined congregations of Holy Trinity Church and Bethlehem Lutheran as needed.

God's Peace and Blessings.

Respectfully submitted, Anne Bouvier-Monroe Organist at Holy Trinity Church, Southbridge, MA.

# **ALTAR GUILD REPORT**

The altar guild team has worked behind the scenes all year preparing the table for communion. Altar Guild comes in prior to Sunday and cleans up after communion. Thank you to Lorraine Brumskine, Trisha O'Brien-Briere, Mick and Barbara Kalber and Suzy Sharp. We serve once every five weeks. We are always looking for new team members so, if you are interested, speak to any of the members.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Waugh

#### **USHERS REPORT**

The role of usher continues to be an important ministry in our parish. Ushers provide a warm welcome to everyone who enters the sanctuary. In addition, they make sure newcomers have the information they need to feel comfortable participating in the service. Ushers also collect the offering and guide people to receive the Eucharist.

Our ushers for 2024 were Robin Yates, Trisha O'Brien-Briere, Susan Grant, Nancy Waugh, and Lynn Garland. John Grant also stepped in frequently to assist when needed, especially during the offering when ushers were needed in the choir.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Garland

# III. FELLOWSHIP & PASTORAL CARE

# **EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN REPORT**



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Women is an ad hoc group who keep their ears and eyes open for parish and community needs. There is nothing to report for 2024. We have \$461.44 in our ECW account.

Worshipfully submitted, Susan Howland, January 4, 2024

# **HOSPITALITY REPORT**

"Walk in Love." This statement seems to exemplify who we are as individual Christians and as a mission-filled congregation. Holy Trinity has seen many changes over the past few years. This year one of the biggest changes was the change in time of our worship service from 9:30 am to 11:00 am.

Our first 11:00 am service with Pastor Dan was on April 14, 2024. With flexibility and resiliency, we figured out how to fit in all the beautiful pieces of service and ministry into a new schedule and make it work. Of course, this new schedule included a much later start time to coffee hour. There was much discussion as to whether the "old" coffee hour as we knew it would continue with its hospitality and fellowship as we stayed later into the afternoon. I sincerely feel "His Love" when I see everyone enjoying fellowship and friendships during coffee hour. It is one of the many gifts that unite us as one in the fellowship of His love.

I want to offer my heart-felt thanks to my fellow coffee volunteers for your support and service. It is truly a labor of Christian hospitality and love to provide the food, juice boxes, and hot chocolate, and to do the work of serving the food, cleaning the tables, and the dishwashing. Coffee hour runs smoothly week to week because of these selfless volunteers.

Hospitality volunteers also help to coordinate the food, decorations, and details associated with the special receptions and events held at our church.

On February 11<sup>th</sup>, we held the "Souper Bowl of Caring." Volunteers made several varieties of delicious homemade soups. The soups were readily purchased and delightfully eyed by many parishioners. All this was for a good cause. The proceeds from the sales went to Food Share which certainly helped our many neighbors with food insecurity.

On April 7<sup>th</sup>, the "Daughters of The King" celebrated the installation of new members, Rose Reith and Traci Stuart. It was a joyful and memorable occasion for our Mary and Martha Chapter.

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed Pastor Dan as our new "Priest-in-Charge" with a joyous celebration.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Holy Trinity recognized the high school graduation of Madisynn Segarra and the "moving up" of Jaycee Thompson to junior high school with a special cake in their honor. We are truly blessed with our wonderful youth in this church.

On August 18<sup>th</sup>, the "Daughters of the King" welcomed Judy Reich back into the Order with her reinstatement. I remember how happy Judy was on that day. The events in this church create memories of love and unite us in Christian fellowship.

On September 29<sup>th</sup>, our church hosted Christine Gaze from "New Hope". She spoke during our service, and later entertained questions from the parishioners during coffee hour. The "Daughters of the King" have "adopted" New Hope as its new mission project. "New Hope" aids survivors of abuse and their children.

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, we said goodbye to "Mother Judith" with a reception that was filled with love and gratitude for her years of faithful service to this church.

Lastly, on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we joyously welcomed back Pastor Dan from his sabbatical with a celebratory reception.

It amazes me how much we, as a congregation, do every year in mission and fellowship. We "Walk in Love" through our fellowship, hospitality, and mission work. I feel truly blessed to be a small part of our "God Centered" fellowship.

Respectfully submitted, Susan L. Grant Coordinator of Hospitality

# PRAYING HANDS MINISTRY REPORT

Our Praying Hands Ministry started in June 2022. We make prayer shawls and lap blankets for anyone in need of prayer and comfort. We use the creation of a shawl (or blanket) to focus our prayer as we pray for others with our hands.

We shared a lot of love and comfort in 2024. Twenty-two prayer shawls were blessed for a total of 113 since the beginning of the ministry. Most were given away and there are some left for 2025. Thanks to all who knitted, crocheted, and shared the shawls.



Blessings, Susan Howland, coordinator January 2025

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Jean Frost introduced the theme of the stewardship campaign "Walk in Love." The next stewardship talk was about the generous parishioners that give in addition to their pledge. An example of this is the total of the mission accounts is a tithe of our income. Lorraine Brumskine spoke eloquently about how Mother Judith walked with us in love during her time with us. The final stewardship talk was from Lynn Garland honoring Tamsin Lucey's stewardship of our building.

The Finance Committee initially proposed a deficit budget. Lynn Garland's stewardship letter suggested that if those that could, would give 10% more we could balance the budget. There are 30 pledging families and after the initial in-gathering 19 pledges were increased. After the second week of the stewardship in-gathering there were only 4 pledges from the 2024 pledge list we had not received, which is an unusually high response rate. At the end of our stewardship campaign there was a loss of 3 pledges due to moves and a gain of 2 new pledges. The good news is before Christmas we were able to balance the budget.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Waugh and Lynn Garland Stewardship chairs

#### PLEDGE SECRETARY REPORT

The responsibilities of the church Pledge Secretary include the following:

- Tracked individual's progress toward pledge on a quarterly basis.
- Sent out Pledge Letters quarterly, by the end of the month following the close of the quarter.
- Prepared the annual "Giving Letters", detailing all giving through HTEC Pledge plus all other donations.
- Consulted with the Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair
- Attended Finance Committee meetings.
- Prepared the Pledge Secretary's Annual Report.

Of our active parishioners, 33 members pledged in 2024. The initial pledge total was \$85,622.00. The actual total given by pledging members was \$92,443.93. We made a balanced budget by the generosity of our members. The total amount exceeding pledges was \$6,821.93. These figures were based on pledge numbers as available to the pledge secretary at the time the report was compiled.

Respectfully submitted, John W Grant, Pledge Secretary

#### **DAUGHTERS OF THE KING REPORT**

I am but one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.

The Mary & Martha Chapter of the Daughters of the King has continued to try and live the mission of the Daughters of the King. A life of prayer, service, and evangelism. The year 2024 has been a year of renewal and change. January saw us in study and discernment preparation for the induction of two new members into the Daughters of the King. On April 7, 2024, we welcomed Rose Reith and Traci Stuart into the Mary & Martha chapter of the DOK. They have truly been a blessing to our chapter. Monica Burden, President of the Province 1 Daughters of the King was able to join us in this celebration. As we entered 2024, our mission and outreach with the Sons and Daughters of the King in Buchanan, Liberia was coming to a close. We had been busy with collecting books, books, and more books! We managed to fill five barrels with some school supplies, but mostly books!! The books ranged from toddler to adult, fiction/non-fiction, from learning of the ABCs to medical & dental textbooks. Over the past four years, with the generosity of the Holy Trinity Family, we have sent clothes, along with medical & personal hygiene supplies, Covid supplies, and, most recently, school supplies. These past four years have truly been a mission of Love & Generosity!! A true mission of fellowship.

On August 25, 2024, we were blessed to welcome Judy Reich back into the Mary & Martha Chapter of the DOK. It was a beautiful ceremony with a heartwarming reception for Judy.

As we continued to move forward in ministry, the Daughters voted to adopt "New Hope" as our chapter's mission outreach service ministry. "New Hope" is a non-profit organization serving those affected by domestic & sexual violence. Since domestic & sexual violence are often intertwined, New Hope's clients benefit from a full spectrum of programs offered, allowing them to receive domestic & sexual violence services in one place and also providing counseling for children and families. We were privileged to have Christine Gaze, from New Hope, join us on Sunday, September 29, 2024, to speak to Holy Trinity church members about the outreach mission work of New Hope. She offered us guidance on how individuals can respond to what we believe to be an abusive situation. Her presentation was greatly appreciated. Even though we have only been in partnership with New Hope for a short amount of time, this Christmas we were able to present to New Hope

eleven \$25.00 gift cards to Walmart, along with a very large donation of requested supplies. The Daughters are truly blessed to be able to help, even in small ways.

On a final note, The daughters decided to learn more about their namesakes, Mary & Martha. We chose to read a book called: "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World," by Joanna Weaver. This study has truly been eye opening to each of us. Our discussions have been very interesting and enlightening. Also, life changing! A book that we all would encourage everyone to read.

In closing, on behalf of the Mary & Martha members, I would like to thank all members of Holy Trinity Church for their past and continued support of the Daughters of the King and our mission and outreach programs. Your prayers, donations, and support have been greatly appreciated.

"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" Colossians 3:17

For His Sake Robin Yates

President; Mary & Martha Chapter of the Daughters of the King

# V. FAITH FORMATION

# FAITH FORMATION - CHILDREN & ADULTS REPORT

The Faith Formation Steering Committee is committed to fostering the faith of all ages at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church through worship, study, programming, and special events. Our parish lends itself to both the beauty of inter-generational formation and age/developmental group formation. The committee meets before each liturgical season to outline traditional and new opportunities for our parishioners.

The focus for 2024 was to continue the engagement of our children, youth, and adults, as it always had been, but under the circumstances of upcoming pastoral change. We accomplished this by keeping traditions while bringing back a few "fan" favorites and spending time learning what it means to be Episcopalian. Here is a look at the year.

#### **Adult Formation**

The adults this year were involved in watching and discussing episodes of "The Chosen." Each month they gathered either at Holy Trinity or Bethlehem Lutheran for an evening of study and prayer. There were also diocesan offerings that several adults took part in such as "Sacred Ground." These classes were held on Zoom.

#### Children/Youth/Teen

Family Worship Sundays continued to be held on the first Sunday of each month. This has been truly a faith forming experience for everyone involved. We aim to continue in 2025.

An annual Epiphany play was done in January. Our Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper was cancelled due to snow. During Lent we did an inter-generational Stations of the Cross walk at St. Anne's/St. Patrick's. We followed this by meeting back at Holy Trinity for a retreat. We all had lunch and a scavenger hunt together. The teens met with Mother Judith while the children painted rocks with quiet meditative music playing. We all joined back together in the Undercroft to do "resurrection gardens." This activity was very well received and loved by all. Also, during Lent there was a family night held at Bethlehem Lutheran.

The main objective of the spring was to prepare our hearts for the transition from Mother Judith to Pastor Dan. We didn't want to add anything new to programming during this time.

Preparing for Mother Judith's return in August to cover Pastor Dan's sabbatical found us planning an intergenerational retreat. We introduced "The BIG Way of Love" to the parish on Aug 25 along with Blessing of the Backpacks and an instructed Eucharist. Holy Trinity's goal for faith formation during the sabbatical was to deepen our understanding of the Episcopal Faith. We did this by implementing an intergenerational retreat on August 25. During the retreat, we introduced a faith formation program called "The BIG Way of Love." This program teaches the seven practices of the Episcopal Church: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest. The retreat included an instructed Eucharist, blessing of the backpacks and activities.

Committee members will continue to meet on the third Sunday of each month to discuss the monthly practices. We are in the process of doing a collaborative art project in the form of a pinwheel, the symbol for the seven practices.

Mother Judith met with the group of teens who will be confirmed on May 18, 2025. It was our goal to have them receive their Episcopal education from Mother Judith before her official retirement from Holy Trinity. Mentors were selected and together with their mentees they were offered prayers during worship.

The Faith Formation Committee will continue to provide intergenerational opportunities for our parish. We would also like to provide more adult centered programs, perhaps alongside the Bethlehem Lutheran community. 2024 was a huge year of transition and together we built our faith in wonderful ways.

Respectfully submitted, Eileen DeMings

# **COMBINED YOUTH GROUP REPORT**

In early August, the Combined Youth Group and some parishioners assisted Food Share Southbridge with their move from Catholic Charities to Holy Trinity Church. This involved the preparation of the space, construction of shelving and movement of food into the rooms occupied by Food Share. The Combined Youth Group had a school year kickoff dinner in HTC Fellowship Hall, on August 23, 2024. This potluck dinner brought together the youth and families of most of the youth from the two churches. The takeaway from the meeting was the desire of the youth to have opportunities to engage in volunteer activities within the churches and community. The local missions within the churches the youth can participate in are Food Share Southbridge (HTC) and Bethlehem's Closet (BLC) and St. Luke's Guest House. Youth can volunteer on Saturdays and vacations. The youth can raise funds or make donations during the school year.

We had a very successful apple picking event at Brookfield Orchards on September15th. On a warm and sunny afternoon, we enjoyed apple picking, apple eating, apple dumplings, other tasty treats, and live music as well as great fellowship.

The Combined Youth Groups sponsored a booth/tent at the Sturbridge Harvest Festival, October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> on the Sturbridge Town Common. Youth and parishioners helped to bring clothing to the common, help set up the booth and then work the booth in shifts. Clothing sales, donations to Bethlehem's Closet and Food Share were made during the event.

Our next activity occurred on December 5th to donate and decorate a tree for the Festival of Giving Trees in LaSalle Reception Center, Southbridge. The tree was in awareness and celebration of Bethlehem's

Closet, Food Share and St. Luke's Guest House. A group of youth and parishioners met Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup> to set up and decorate the tree. Donations came from parishioners, Bethlehem's Closet and The Coat Closet at Holy Trinity Church. Decorations consisted of donated hats, scarves, mittens, socks, gift certificates to Bethlehem's Closet, animal crackers, and lighted manger/cabin ornament (each one represented a \$50 donation to St. Luke's Guest House. Many other food items were placed around the base of the tree.

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, the Youth were invited to go Christmas Caroling to the less mobile, secluded, and/or elderly parishioners.

In this age of student activities overwhelming the schedules of our youth and families, especially families with multiple children, it has been difficult to bring everyone together on a regular basis. Our mission is to make opportunities available for the youth as time and schedules allow. In the coming months, we will be having shared services, Rosilda's Kitchen, game night, Cathedral in the Night, and other Christian fellowship opportunities. We wish to thank Heather Miranda of Bethlehem Lutheran Church for her significant assistance in organization, event registrations, booth set up, Christmas tree donation, and running events.

Presented in Christ's Service to our Youth,

David Monroe (HTC), Ryan Bousquet (HTC), Heather Miranda (BLC)

### V. MISSION & OUTREACH

# MISSION AND OUTREACH REPORT

The Mission and Outreach Committee has been charged with identifying 501c3 (not for profit) charities to be recipients of our mission plate donations. In choosing eligible charities, we include those on the local, national, and international levels that we feel reflect the overall mission of our church. Each year, we pray and vote on which charities to fund, choosing from several eligible organizations. We welcome suggestions of eligible charities (501c3) for consideration to receive funds from our mission plate collection. Members of the Daughters of the King are charged with overseeing the Mission and Outreach Committee. However, it is open to all parish members who feel the call to serve.

The following is the list of organizations funded, and the amounts given through our mission plate donations in the year 2024:

#### **Mission Plate Donations for 2024**

Jan/Feb Mar/Apr	Worcester Community Action Council (Fuel Assistance Program) Meals on Wheels America	\$186.40 \$277.95
•		•
May	Church of the Nativity, Northborough, MA Restoration Fund	\$175.77
June	Smile Train	\$133.00
Jul/Aug	Cradles to Crayons	\$357.11
Sept	Episcopal Church in Navajoland	\$203.10
Oct/Nov/Dec	Episcopal Relief and Development (Hurricanes Helene &	\$573.35
	Milton)	

**Total Donations** 

\$1,906.68

Each and every dollar we donate represents a life that has been made a little better by our donations. We want to personally thank everyone who has donated during the past year. It has been an

incredibly challenging and financially difficult year for so many of our brothers and sisters locally and globally. Reaching out in mission is one of the pinnacles of love and hope that exemplifies our parishioners.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan L. Grant

Chairperson of the Mission and Outreach Committee

# **WINTER COAT CLOSET REPORT**

The Ecumenical Winter Coat Closet, in its seventeenth year, was open on Saturday mornings from the end of October to mid-December. With the help of many, we were able to provide approximately 375 free warm winter coats, as well as numerous hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves to people in the community. We are grateful to Holy Trinity Episcopal Church for the use of the space and to area churches, organizations and individuals who donated coats and winter items. Special thanks to Ray & Nancy Fournier, Michelle Nichols and the Nichols Family, Patty Farr, and the Southbridge Knights of Columbus Council 199. We would not have been able to accomplish all that we did without the dedicated volunteers: Lynn, Miriam, Pedro, Dave, Rose & Maria. God has blessed us with a caring community, and we are grateful to all who helped keep people warm.

Chris McTigue, Coordinator, The Winter Coat Closet

#### FOOD SHARE REPORT

We continued our practice of designating the loose change offering on the second Sunday of each month for Food Share, the ministry of Catholic Charities. In 2024 we donated \$1215.89.

# MISSION ACCOUNTS REPORT

Our mission accounts are The Mission Plate, Food Share, Daughter's of the King, United Thank Offering, Mampong babies Home, The Rector's Discretionary account and the Parrettie Fund. These accounts are very close to a tithe of our treasure and are monetary. The income for 2024 is \$176,089. We have very generous parishioners who give to mission in addition to their pledges.

Mission Plate	1906.68
DOK	1487.46
UTO	613.91
Mampong Babies Home	320.00
Rector's Discretionary	5179.99
Parrettie Fund	6694.09
Food Share	1215.89
Episcopal Diocese	
Jerusalem	26.00
	\$17,444.02

Additional donations that are not quantifiable are the food donations given to local food pantries, school supplies for the West Street School, coats for the Winter Coat Closet, donations for shipments to Liberia and the Girl Scout Christmas boxes.

The theme this year was *Walk in Love*, and it calls us to remember that our greatest gift in community is how we come together in purpose and mission. When we walk in the same direction, it is clear we can do so many things.

Submitted by Nancy Waugh

#### VI. ADMINISTRATION

#### **BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT**

With all that the Building Committee undertook in 2024 we are very happy to report that we navigated major and minor hiccups, short notice requests and emergencies with relatively little disruption.

In 2024, Susan Howland stepped down from the Building Committee; serving faithfully and diligently for more years than I can remember. We thank Susan very much and we are blessed and very grateful that she remains a resource to the Building Committee, with a wealth of information both factual and historical. Knowing that Tamsin Lucey had tendered her resignation effective December 31, 2024, Jean Frost kindly agreed to co-chair with Tamsin during 2024 and take over as chair on January 1, 2025. Jean and Tamsin worked closely throughout the year, particularly the last 4 months. Dave Monroe joyfully accepted our invitation to join the Building Committee. Sincere and grateful thanks to Jean Frost and Dave Munroe for accepting calls of service.

The Building Committee oversaw several projects: starting with the installation of two above ground oil storage tanks, necessary feed pipes, the removal of oil from the underground tank, (by law the underground oil tank will need to be removed by October 2029 at the latest); addressing the non-functioning of a circulator/radiator in the Undercroft and a split pipe from the steam boiler; exploring options for replacing part of the retaining wall at the back and on the side of the property; working with Southbridge Food Share, The Executive Committee, and the Sexton in preparation for Food Share to move into classrooms, using closet space and the undercroft. National Grid confirmed that the Gas meter was inspected in February 2023, would be done again in 2025, and replaced in 2030.

Additionally the usual: installation/removal of fans & a/c units; facilitating the positioning of window screens and storms windows; general cleaning; weekly checking of oil levels; weekly water drainage from the steam boiler; changing batteries in thermostats and emergency lights etc.; repairs to emergency exit signs; monthly checks of fire extinguishers and emergency lights; monitoring thermostats; yearly boiler cleanings, associated repairs and yearly boiler inspections; plumbing issues involving the repair of faucets, toilet tank mechanisms and stop values; repairs to locks in the sacristy; putting up a notice board in the undercroft; fire extinguisher, food service, building and fire inspections; installing a fan in the classroom wing hallway; repairs to spot lights in the sanctuary; re-finishing the top of the organ. These things and more were all aptly taken care of.

The Green Thumb team tended the area under the church sign, and the Memorial and Prayer gardens with plantings, watering, and weeding. Their work came into its own in the fall when the front of the building looked particularly splendid – thank you for your hard work.

We are truly blessed to have Greg Nikolla as our church sexton, he willingly and gladly accepts all the "can you please...." requests; some not in his original job description. This year he facilitated mowing grass and leaf blowing and helped John Grant with clearing leaf debris and vegetation from the flat roof over the hallway between the undercroft and the "classroom wing."

We invite you to contact any of the building committee if you have questions, suggestions, or comments, and especially if you feel called to serve on the Building Committee.

In closing it has been my pleasure and joy to serve (over the years) as both Jr Warden responsible for the building and on the Building Committee. I am confident and believe that Jean and the current Building Committee members will serve faithfully, diligently and do an excellent job maintaining our historic building. Respectfully submitted,

Tamsin Lucey & Jean Frost - Building Committee Co-Chairs Nate Lowery, Ron Teixeira, Dave Monroe – Committee Members

# LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE REPORT

The landscape committee continues its task of ensuring the grounds in front of the church provide a visual blessing and welcome to everyone passing by or coming in.

This was our first full year with our new garden inside the ramp area and our flowers provided a beautiful display beginning in the spring and continuing throughout the fall.

Our work continued to be supported by a generous donation from a parish member. This covered the expense of all our supplies as our church finances still do not allow for this expense to be part of the church budget.

The landscape crew continues to be Dave Monroe, Chris Briere and Lynn Garland

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Garland

# **COMMUNICATIONS AND WEBSITE REPORT**



The communication goal is to keep the parish connected and information flowing. The communications "team" is Chris McTigue, our parish administrative assistant, John Grant, Cat Reith-Lowery, and Susan Howland.

We use various digital platforms for communication: our monthly "Tidings" newsletter, MailChimp E-Newsletters, all parish emails, Weekly e-news, Website and Facebook, both public page and private groups. All are ways

that we communicate with the parish and the wider community.

Holy Trinity has continued its commitment to streaming the Sunday service to Facebook Live. Zoom is used routinely for meetings and hybrid meetings are becoming routine. We are continuing to investigate obtaining a new camera for streaming.

Electronic communication has become the norm, but we still send postal mail to those who do not have email. And let's not forget the phone and person-to-person conversation.

Please feel free to contact the church (508-765-9559) if you are not getting parish communications or have ideas about how to improve communication.

Susan Howland, for the Communications "Team" January 4, 2025

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The mission and purpose of the Finance Committee is to serve as stewards of the financial resources of the parish. While the Vestry has ultimate responsibility for all the resources of the parish, the Finance Committee can share this responsibility, and that of the treasurer, by bringing its knowledge and experience to bear on parish financial matters.

The Finance Committee is a committee of advice to the Vestry. The Vestry approves its members yearly in February. The responsibilities of the Finance Committee are to provide the Treasurer with a group of

thoughtful, committed members of the parish with whom the treasurer can discuss ideas and parish financial matters, and assist in the development of the annual parish budget.

To assist the treasurer who also does the bookkeeping, and for best financial practices and separation of duties, the Finance Committee Chair provides oversight of the books and accounts, a 2nd signature on checks, when necessary, reconciles the bank statements, and assists with the budget. Currently the chair oversees employee payroll, communicating with the diocese and filling out required forms.

The Finance Committee met twice in 2024 and shared emails for further discussion between meetings. A draft budget was presented to the vestry in October. At that time, we had a significant budget deficit. When the pledge cards were received, we were able to present a balanced budget to the vestry for 2025, which included a 2% cost of living raise for our 3 employees.

I am grateful for our dedicated treasurer and dedicated finance committee: Nancy Waugh, treasurer, Josh Spooner, and Lana Pieczynski. We are also grateful for our Pledge Secretary, John Grant.

We pray for the needs and ongoing work of the church and ask for your prayers as well, In thanksgiving,

Susan Howland, chair for the committee: Nancy Waugh, treasurer, Josh Spooner, and Lana Pieczynski January 7, 2025

#### **ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

On January 7, 2013, the vestry adopted Endowment Fund Policies and Guidelines formally establishing a General Endowment Fund for Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. The Mission and Purpose reads as follows:

**WHEREAS** Christian stewardship involves the faithful management of all of God's gifts – time, talent, the created world, and money, including accumulated, inherited, and appreciated assets; and

WHEREAS Christians can give to the work of the Church through a variety of gift vehicles, in addition to cash, including bequests in wills, life income gifts, annuities, trusts, life insurance policies, real estate, securities and other assets; and

**WHEREAS** it is the desire of this parish to encourage, receive and administer these gifts in a manner faithful to the loyalty and devotion to God expressed by the donors and in accord with the canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Western Massachusetts and the policies of this Parish:

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that this Parish, through action of its Vestry, establishes a new and separate fund to be known as "The Endowment Fund" (hereafter called the "FUND") of Holy Trinity Church of Southbridge, 446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the purpose of the FUND is to enable the PARISH to fulfill its mission more completely by developing its ministries beyond what is possible through its annual operating funds. Distributions from the fund therefore shall be limited to: (i) capital improvements of the PARISH; (ii) outreach ministries and grants; (iii) seed money for new ministries and special one-time projects; and (iv) such other purposes as are specifically designated by donors to the PARISH whose gifts are included in the FUND.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the distributions from the FUND shall not be made to the operating budget of the PARISH except to fulfill the purposes described above.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that an ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE (hereafter called the "COMMITTEE") is hereby established. The COMMITTEE shall have oversight responsibility of the FUND, and its composition and duties are described in the following "Plan of Operation," which may be amended from time to time.

The preexisting endowment funds are now included in this Endowment Fund keeping their original intention and restrictions. Using part of a gift from Gertrude Brennan we established the Holy Trinity Legacy Fund. The Legacy Fund now receives all unrestricted bequests and additions.

Our Endowment Fund Policy restricts us to only invest with the Trustee for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, which operates essentially a Mutual Fund for parishes in the diocese.

The Endowment Fund Policy calls for a 3-member committee to oversee the Fund. The terms are for 3 years with a maximum of 3 consecutive terms. Members can be re-appointed after one year. The vestry appointed the following committee in 2024: Susan Howland, Chair, 3<sup>rd</sup> year 1<sup>st</sup> 3-year term expiring January 2025, and Robin Yates, 2<sup>nd</sup> year of 1<sup>st</sup> 3-year term expiring January 2026. Ron Teixeira, 1<sup>st</sup> year, 1<sup>st</sup> term expiring 2027.

The Endowment fund principal on 9/30/2024 was \$726,759.50. There has been significant capital appreciation in 2024, appreciating \$81,753.27 from the 9/30/23 balance of \$645,006.23. after the 5% distribution for our use. \$9,000 was added to the Dirlam Fund in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2024, so the principal will increase in 2025. \$240, was added to the Legacy Fund in 2024. See the Statement of Financial Position report for the value of the endowments in the Fund. Also see the Budget vs Actual for the income from each fund.

The income we receive from the Endowment funds, is protected because the diocese pays a set figure based on a 20 quarter "rolling" average, cushioning any dramatic rise and falls in the stock market.

The Endowment Committee met once in 2024 to review the history of the Fund. And discuss our responsibility. There were no pressing issues to address. We will meet in early 2025. If you have questions or would like information about the Holy Trinity Endowment Fund don't hesitate to contact us.

Gratefully submitted, Susan Howland, Chair for the committee: Robin Yates and Ron Teixeira, January 7, 2025

# TREASURER'S REPORT

The good news is there is a balanced budget for 2025.

The Budget Reserve account is zero at the end of the year. This means we did not need to use any savings to balance the 2024 budget vs actual. There is a balance at the end of the year available for the budget of \$12,689 which is one month's budget reserved for 2025.

A suggestion to move \$4,000 from the Sabbatical Account to Savings from the finance committee to vestry resulted in a motion. This accounts balance was because Fr. Richard Signore did not take a sabbatical. We will continue to budget this account for the next five years for Pastor Dan's next sabbatical. Increasing the savings will help with large capital building expenses. The two anticipated expenses are repairing a failing retaining wall and stain glass window repair.

The income is over \$52,512. This overage includes the credit for the oil of \$14,670 and 2025 prepaid pledges of \$18,000. We have received \$6,103 in excess of parishioner's pledges. I have posted the additions to the account All Other Donations, so the pledge line is a realistic number. In addition, there was a donation of \$500 designated for Landscaping. The Rental Income from Food Share of \$5,000 contributes to the income overage. The Food Share income, by a vestry motion, is designated to Building expenses. Pledges have caught up and are over \$5,761. Interest Income is over budget by \$509.

Expenses are overbudget \$11,992. Tasse has finished the process of extracting the oil from the underground tank. The invoice for the new tanks and pad was paid in full \$12,895 and there is a credit on the account of \$2,538. With the credit on account the oil budget is underbudget \$1,197. Total Clergy expenses are overbudget \$2,931. The partnership with BLC was not negotiated till after the 2024 budget was accepted. The building capital improvement is overbudget due to the new oil tanks \$12,895. The building insurance was overbudget \$1,106. The underground oil tank will need to be removed within five years. This will be a large expense we hope we can start saving for.

I would like to thank the finance committee, Susan Howland, Josh Spooner, and Lana Pieczynski, for their support in 2024. Please let me know if you have any questions I can answer.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Waugh Treasurer

# Holy Trinity Church 2023 Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2024

Dac	24	24

17,154.89 3,046.03 811.00 7.96 461.44 1,310.99 626.61 9,308.12 3,176.68

1,947.56

	_	Dec
ASSETS	_	
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Checking/Sa	vings	
1003 · H	ГС Main Checking	
Tem	porarily Restricted Funds	
	Building Fund	
	ChristianFormation Extra Budget	
	Clergy sabbatical & CE	
	Daughters of the King Chapter	
	ECW Funds	
	Family Worship - VBS	
	Flower Fund	
	Legacy Fund Income	

Memorials Fund

Mission and Outreach

**Equipment Fund** 

Mission Donations	2,473.58
<b>Total Mission and Outreach</b>	2,473.58
Organ Maintenance Fund	1,065.39
Pre-paid pledges	18,000.00
Total Temporarily Restricted Funds	57,442.69
Vestry Designated Funds	
Altar Guild Fund	1,518.78

Fuel Fund	14,060.91
Holy Trinity Savings Fund	35,595.76
<b>Total Vestry Designated Funds</b>	53,123.01
1003 · HTC Main Checking - Other	12,689.12
Total 1003 · HTC Main Checking	123,254.82
1004 · HTC Parrettie Checking	12.01
1005 · Petty Cash	3.81
1025 · Clergy Discretionary Fund	28.65
Total Checking/Savings	123,299.29

<b>Total Current Assets</b>	•	123,299.29
Other Assets		
Trust Funds	As of 9.30.2024	

Other Assets		
Trust Funds	As of 9.30.2024	
1101 · Par	rettie Fund	180,284.28
1104 - Sto	rey Fund	13,045.58
1105 - Bud	kley Fund	68,215.04
1106 · Wel	ls Fund	188,987.33
1108 - Hob	obs Fund	3,850.06
1109 · She	pherd Fund	2,422.91
1110 · Fan	nie Wall Fund	5,500.82
1111 - Fitz	patrick Fund	10,740.40
1112 · Em	eline & George Watson Fund	1,831.02
1114 - Hol	y Trinity Legacy Fund	64,519.50
1115 · HT0	C Clergy Housing Fund	117,840.96
1116 - Joh	n C. Dirlam Fund	69,761.63
Total Trust Fu	nds	726,999.53
<b>Total Other Assets</b>		726,999.53
TAL ASSETS		850,298.82

TOTAL ASSETS

Nancy Waugh 1/6/2025

	Jan - Dec 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Flowers			
4087 · Flowers-Weekly	373.42	050.00	04.04
4088 · Flowers-Christmas 4089 · Flowers- Easter	274.01 290.00	250.00 250.00	24.01 40.00
Total Flowers	937.43	500.00	437.43
Fundraising- Operating Budget	337.40	500.00	407.40
4085 · Fundraising			
4989 · Coffee Donations	178.00	100.00	78.00
4085 · Fundraising - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 4085 · Fundraising	178.00	100.00	78.00
<b>Total Fundraising- Operating Budget</b>	178.00	100.00	78.00
Income All Other			
4040 ⋅ Checking Interest	55.47	45.00	10.47
4086 · Online giving fees (Tithe.ly)	-188.79	-150.00	-38.79
4099 · All Other Donations	6,102.83	500.00	5,602.83
4201 · Fuel Refund	14,669.53 20,639.04	205.00	20.244.04
Total Income All Other  Plate Offering	20,639.04	395.00	20,244.04
4001 · Loose Plate	1,517.45	1,000.00	517.45
4002 · Initial Offering	39.00	30.00	9.00
4003 · Easter Offering	963.32	1,000.00	-36.68
4004 · Christmas Offering	1,635.44	600.00	1,035.44
4009 · Plate Offering - Regular/ Other	2,182.99	2,000.00	182.99
Total Plate Offering	6,338.20	4,630.00	1,708.20
Pledge Offering			
4013 · Pledge - Last Year	225.00		
4014 · Pledge - Current Year	96,302.96	90,542.00	5,760.96
4015 · Pledge - Next Year	18,000.00		
Total Pledge Offering	114,527.96	90,542.00	23,985.96
Rental Income 4090 · Rental Income	2 550 00	2 500 00	50.00
4302 · Rental Income Foodshare	3,550.00 5,000.00	3,500.00	50.00
Total Rental Income	8,550.00	3,500.00	5,050.00
Trust Income	0,000.00	0,000.00	0,000.00
4043 · Storey Interest	606.15	600.00	6.15
4044 · Hobbs Interest	178.89	178.00	0.89
4046 ⋅ Wells Interest	8,781.05	8,760.00	21.05
4047 · Shepherd Interest	112.58	112.00	0.58
4048 · Watson Fund Interest	85.07	85.00	0.07
4053 · Fannie Wall Interest	255.60	255.00	0.60
4054 ⋅ Clergy Housing Interest	5,475.32	5,463.00	12.32
4055 - Buckley Interest	3,169.51	3,162.00	7.51
4060 · Legacy Fund Interest 4061 · Dirlam Fund Interest	2,980.72 2,773.65	2,627.00 2,668.00	353.72 105.65
Total Trust Income	24,418.54	23,910.00	508.54
4301 · Church Maint/Repair Income	24,410.04	20,010.00	300.54
4301A · Landscaping	500.00		
Total 4301 · Church Maint/Repair Income	500.00		
Total Income	176,089.17	123,577.00	52,512.17
Gross Profit	176,089.17	123,577.00	52,512.17
Expense			
Christian Formation-Adult			
5195 · Leadership Development	390.00	300.00	90.00
5236 · Christian Education	461.35	500.00	-38.65
5290 · Stewardship	0.00	50.00	-50.00
5296 · Hospitality		400.0-	20.5-
5295 - Coffee	138.00	160.00	-22.00 173.59
5296 ⋅ Hospitality - Other Total 5296 ⋅ Hospitality	323.58 461.58	150.00 310.00	173.58 151.58
Total Christian Formation-Adult	1,312.93	1,160.00	152.93
Christian Formation-Youth	1,012.00	.,100.00	102.33
5235 · Christian Ed, Family Worship	390.33	500.00	-109.67

	Jan - Dec 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Christian Formation-Youth - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Christian Formation-Youth	390.33	500.00	-109.67
Church  5201 · Utilities - Oil Church	12,802.73	14,000.00	-1,197.27
5202 · Utilities - Gas Church	1,131.31	1,220.00	-1,197.27
5203 · Utilities - Electric Church	3,950.53	4,200.00	-249.47
5204 · Utilities- Water/Sewer Church	1,086.54	1,000.00	86.54
5206 · Trash/Recycle	496.40	501.00	-4.60
5252 · Telephone/Internet Church	1,944.64	1,945.00	-0.36
5278 · Organ and Piano Maintenance			
Organ major repairs	440.00		
5278 · Organ and Piano Maintenance - Other	981.00	1,075.00	-94.00
Total 5278 · Organ and Piano Maintenance	1,421.00	1,075.00	346.00
5301 · Church Repair/Maintenance			
5301A · Landscaping	322.06	200.00	122.06
5301 · Church Repair/Maintenance - Other	5,504.99	5,000.00	504.99
Total 5301 · Church Repair/Maintenance	5,827.05	5,200.00	627.05
5302 · Church, Capital Improvement	12,895.00	6,000.00	6,895.00
5317 · Building/Liability Insurance	11,164.00	10,058.00	1,106.00
Total Church	52,719.20	45,199.00	7,520.20
Clergy			
5101 · Clergy Salary	900.00		
5101b · Clergy Bonus 5120 · Clergy Medical/Dental/Life	800.00 2,380.02		
5101 · Clergy Salary - Other	30,376.67	30,920.00	-543.33
Total 5101 · Clergy Salary	33,556.69	30,920.00	2,636.69
5115 · Clergy FICA	2,342.44	2,309.00	33.44
5117 · Clergy Pension	1,430.40	2,000.00	00.11
5127 · Clergy Reimbursables	529.98	1,200.00	-670.02
5242 ⋅ Clergy Continuing Ed	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total Clergy	37,859.51	34,929.00	2,930.51
Diocesan Assessment	9,388.00	9,388.00	0.00
Evangelism			
5001 · Parish Visibility	159.90	250.00	-90.10
Total Evangelism	159.90	250.00	-90.10
Flower Expense			
5087 · Flowers weekly	611.67		
5088 · Christmas Flowers	328.00	250.00	78.00
5089 · Easter Flowers	484.00	250.00	234.00
Total Flower Expense	1,423.67	500.00	923.67
Liturgical			
5266 · Altar Supplies	639.50	650.00	-10.50
5267 · Wine	75.55	80.00	-4.45
Total Liturgical	715.05	730.00	-14.95
Music Program 5105 · Organist Salary			
5105a · Organist FICA	850.63	838.00	12.63
5105c · Organist Bonus	200.00	200.00	0.00
5105 · Organist Salary - Other	10,712.00	10,712.00	0.00
Total 5105 · Organist Salary	11,762.63	11,750.00	12.63
5277 · Music	349.00	350.00	-1.00
Total Music Program	12,111.63	12,100.00	11.63
Program			
5221 · Office Supplies	417.38	360.00	57.38
5222 · Postage	490.25	415.00	75.25
5224 · Copier Expense	1,684.04	1,560.00	124.04
5299 · All Other Program Expense	594.00	500.00	94.00
5303 · Sexton Supplies	704.22	350.00	354.22
Total Program	3,889.89	3,185.00	704.89
Staff			
5103 · Administrative Asst. Salary			
5103a · Administrative Asst. FICA	413.12	429.00	-15.88
5103b · Administrative Asst. bonus	150.00	150.00	0.00
5103 - Administrative Asst. Salary - Other	5,460.00	5,460.00	0.00

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1/6/2025

# Holy Trinity Church 2024 Budget vs. Actual 2024 January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Total 5103 · Administrative Asst. Salary	6,023.12	6,039.00	-15.88
5107 · Sexton Salary			
5107a · Sexton's FICA	655.60	652.00	3.60
5707b ⋅ Sextons bonus	250.00	200.00	50.00
5107 · Sexton Salary - Other	8,320.00	8,320.00	0.00
Total 5107 ⋅ Sexton Salary	9,225.60	9,172.00	53.60
5118 · Workers Comp	350.00	425.00	-75.00
Total Staff	15,598.72	15,636.00	-37.28
Total Expense	135,568.83	123,577.00	11,991.83
Net Ordinary Income	40,520.34	0.00	40,520.34
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Designated Income			
4911 · Other designated income	775.00		
4922 · Food Share& 2nd Sun Loose Plate	1,215.89		
Total Designated Income	1,990.89		
Restricted Income	1,000.00		
4400 · Mission & Outreach	1,906.78		
4404 · Organ Fund	350.00		
4405 · Daughters of the King - in	418.00		
4406 · Mampong Babies Home	320.00		
4900 · Fitzpatrick Interest	486.00		
4906 · UTO	613.91		
4912 · Good Friday Offering	25.00		
4942 · Parrettie Income	8,376.67		
4960 · Endowment Additions	9,240.00		
Total Restricted Income	21,736.36		
Total Other Income			
	23,727.25		
Other Expense			
Designated Expense	775.00		
5911 · Other designated expense	775.00		
5922 · Food Share - Out	1,215.89		
Total Designated Expense	1,990.89		
Restricted Expense			
5400 · Mission and Outreach	1,906.68		
5405 · Daughters of the King- out	1,487.46		
5406 · Mampong Babies Home Out	320.00		
5900 · Fitzpatrick Scholarship	486.00		
5906 · UTO - Expense	613.91		
5910 ⋅ Rector's Discretionary Expense	5,179.99		
5912 · Good Friday Offering-Out	26.00		
5920 ⋅ Memorial Gifts Spent	667.00		
5942 · Parrettie Disbursements	6,694.09		
Total Restricted Expense	17,381.13		
Total Other Expense	19,372.02		
Net Other Income	4,355.23		
Net Income	44,875.57	0.00	44,875.57

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# Holy Trinity Church 2025 Budget

	2025 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Flowers	
4087 · Flowers-Weekly	0.00
4088 · Flowers-Christmas	250.00
4089 · Flowers- Easter	250.00
Total Flowers	500.00
Total Fundraising- Operating Budget	100.00
Total Income All Other	395.00
Plate Offering	
4001 · Loose Plate	1,000.00
4002 ⋅ Initial Offering	30.00
4003 · Easter Offering	1,000.00
4004 ⋅ Christmas Offering	600.00
4009 · Plate Offering - Regular/ Other	2,000.00
Total Plate Offering	4,630.00
Pledge Offering	
4013 ⋅ Pledge - Last Year	
4014 ⋅ Pledge - Current Year	90,844.00
Pledge Offering - Other	
Total Pledge Offering	102,324.00
Rental Income	
4090 ⋅ Rental Income	12,000.00
4302 ⋅ Rental Income Foodshare	`
Total Rental Income	12,000.00
Trust Income	
4043 ⋅ Storey Interest	606.00
4044 ⋅ Hobbs Interest	179.00
4046 · Wells Interest	8,781.00
4047 ⋅ Shepherd Interest	113.00
4048 · Watson Fund Interest	85.00
4053 · Fannie Wall Interest	256.00
4054 ⋅ Clergy Housing Interest	5,475.00
4055 · Buckley Interest	3,170.00
4060 · Legacy Fund Interest	2,980.00
4061 ⋅ Dirlam Fund Interest	2,773.00
Total Trust Income	24,418.00
Total Income	144,367.00
Expense	
Christian Formation-Adult	
5195 · Leadership Development	500.00
5236 · Christian Education	700.00
5290 ⋅ Stewardship	50.00
5296 · Hospitality	
5295 · Coffee	160.00

# Holy Trinity Church 2025 Budget

		2025 Budget
	5296 · Hospitality - Other	150.00
	Total 5296 · Hospitality	250.00
	Total Christian Formation-Adult	1,500.00
	Total Christian Formation-Youth	700.00
	Church	
	5201 · Utilities - Oil Church	14,000.00
	5202 · Utilities - Gas Church	1,000.00
	5203 · Utilities- Electric Church	4,200.00
	5204 · Utilities- Water/Sewer Church	1,582.00
	5206 · Trash/Recycle	501.00
	5252 · Telephone/Internet Church	1,950.00
	5278 · Organ and Piano Maintenance	1,255.00
	Total 5301 · Church Repair/Maintenance	6,200.00
	5302 · Church, Capital Improvement	17,000.00
	5317 · Building/Liability Insurance	11,164.00
	Total Church	58,852.00
	Total Clergy	40,489.00
	Diocesan Assessment	9,851.00
	Total Evangelism	250.00
	Flower Expense	200.00
	5087 · Flowers weekly	0.00
	5088 · Christmas Flowers	250.00
	5089 · Easter Flowers	250.00
	Total Humainal	500.00
	Total Liturgical	730.00
	Music Program	44.074.00
	Total 5105 · Organist Salary 5277 · Music	11,971.00
	<b>V</b> =1.1 <b></b>	350.00
	Total Music Program	12,321.00
	Program	
	5221 · Office Supplies	400.00
	5222 · Postage	415.00
	5224 · Copier Expense	1,760.00
	5299 · All Other Program Expense	300.00
	5303 · Sexton Supplies	350.00
	Total Program	3,225.00
	Staff	
	Total 5103 · Administrative Asst. Salary	6,157.00
	Total 5107 · Sexton Salary	9,367.00
	5118 · Workers Comp	425.00
	Total Staff	15,949.00
Total Expense	•	144,367.00
linary Income		\$0.00

Approved 1.8.2025

**Net Ordinary Income**