



**Trinity Episcopal Church  
Annual Report  
for the calendar year 2015  
January 24, 2016**

## THE VESTRY OF TRINITY CHURCH

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Robin Chambers-Dixon, <i>Rector's Warden</i><br><i>Human Resources</i> | <a href="mailto:chambersconsult9@comcast.net"><u>chambersconsult9@comcast.net</u></a> |
| Rob Gergen, <i>Accounting Warden</i><br><i>Finance Committee</i>       | <a href="mailto:lgergen@comcast.net"><u>lgergen@comcast.net</u></a>                   |
| Jill Marsceill, <i>New Members</i>                                     | <a href="mailto:marsceill@verizon.net"><u>marsceill@verizon.net</u></a>               |
| Martha Arnold, <i>Planned Giving</i>                                   | <a href="mailto:mvarnold@comcast.net"><u>mvarnold@comcast.net</u></a>                 |
| Ben Powley, <i>Worship and the Arts</i>                                | <a href="mailto:benjamin.powley@yahoo.com"><u>benjamin.powley@yahoo.com</u></a>       |
| Dan Citrone, <i>Stewardship</i>  | <a href="mailto:dc13923@yahoo.com"><u>dc13923@yahoo.com</u></a>                       |
| Jocelyn Tenney, <i>Clerk of the Vestry</i>                             | <a href="mailto:jtenney3@verizon.net"><u>jtenney3@verizon.net</u></a>                 |
| Jane Saunders, <i>Mission and Outreach</i>                             | <a href="mailto:jhsbono@aol.com"><u>jhsbono@aol.com</u></a>                           |
| Kristin Woods, <i>Communications</i>                                   | <a href="mailto:k4waskowicz@mac.com"><u>k4waskowicz@mac.com</u></a>                   |
| Sue Bofinger, <i>Hospitality</i>                                       | <a href="mailto:sbofinger@comcast.net"><u>sbofinger@comcast.net</u></a>               |
| Walt Bunting, <i>Property</i>  | <a href="mailto:walbun3@comcast.net"><u>walbun3@comcast.net</u></a>                   |
| Ellen McCaffrey, <i>Property</i>                                       | <a href="mailto:elmhayes@juno.com"><u>elmhayes@juno.com</u></a>                       |

## THE STAFF OF TRINITY CHURCH

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The Rev. David A. Canan, <i>Rector</i><br><i>215-646-0416 Opt #2</i>                                  | <a href="mailto:rector@trinityambler.com"><u>rector@trinityambler.com</u></a>         |
| The Rev. Mary McCullough, <i>Associate Rector</i><br><i>215-646-0416 Opt #4</i>                       | <a href="mailto:mary@trinityambler.com"><u>mary@trinityambler.com</u></a>             |
| Stephen Schreiber, <i>Director of Music</i><br><i>215-646-0416 Opt #1</i>                             | <a href="mailto:rns89@aol.com"><u>rns89@aol.com</u></a>                               |
| John Dziel, <i>Financial &amp; IT Administrator</i><br><i>Webmaster</i><br><i>215-646-0416 Opt #1</i> | <a href="mailto:accounting@trinityambler.com"><u>accounting@trinityambler.com</u></a> |
| Karen Richter, <i>Office Administrator</i><br><i>215-646-0416 Opt #1</i>                              | <a href="mailto:office@trinityambler.com"><u>office@trinityambler.com</u></a>         |
| Kristin Woods, <i>Education</i><br><i>215-646-0416 Opt #1</i>   | <a href="mailto:k4waskowicz@mac.com"><u>k4waskowicz@mac.com</u></a>                   |
| Kelly Moylan, <i>Treasurer</i>  | <a href="mailto:kmoylan@talamoregroup.com"><u>kmoylan@talamoregroup.com</u></a>       |
| Evelyn Carpenter, <i>Altar Flowers</i>  | <a href="mailto:ecarp1001@gmail.com"><u>ecarp1001@gmail.com</u></a>                   |

## AGENDA

### **The 2015 Annual Meeting of Trinity Church Sunday, January 24, 2016**

- I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
- II. Review of Minutes from the Annual Meeting held on February 8, 2015
- III. Voting
- IV. Financial Presentation
- V. Planned Giving Video
- VI. Closing Prayer

Remembering those who died since our last meeting in 2015

Roberta L. Kenkelen

Margaret Elizabeth Fitch

Robert T. Johnson

M. Carolyn Boggs

# THE RECTOR'S REPORT

## Matthew 10:16-22

**Jesus said to the twelve, "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."**

This Gospel, appointed for the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, which is observed on January 25, was read at my ordination 25 years and six days ago at St. Thomas' Church in Whitmarsh. It's kind of startling to hear "*see I am sending you out like sheep in the midst of wolves*" as you are being set apart for special ministry in the church!

Over these 25 years, 16 of them here at Trinity, there have been good days and bad days, times of celebration and times of grief, times of tears and laughter, successes and failures. Thankfully I have never felt like a sheep in the midst of wolves! But I do feel like a priest in the midst of a changing church! (When I speak of a changing church, I mean the church, not just Trinity Church.)

Our total number of members in 2004 was 406, last year it was 513; and this year it is 520. That number is calculated by adding all baptisms and transfers in to last year's total and subtracting all burials and transfers out. So our membership increased a wee bit!

Our average Sunday attendance was 196 in 2004, it was 202 last year, and this year it was 186. Membership is up, attendance is down. The lowest it has been in a decade.

I wrote this in my 2012 Annual Report: *Bob Dylan once crooned: "the times they're a-changing." I have been singing those words off and on for a few days as I have thought, prayed, and talked about what to write in this annual report. The times are changing. At clergy conference several weeks ago, author and church historian Diana Butler Bass said to us: "please know that the **Episcopal Church is not in decline. It has collapsed.**" In his State of the Diocese letter Bishop Bennison noted that: "60 of our 141 churches (or 43%) are, or are soon to become, "non-traditional," i.e. unable to sustain a traditional ministry with a full-time priest, property, and program." Trinity Church is not sitting on the verge of collapse.*

It is still true that Trinity Church is not on the edge of collapse. It is still true that regular attendance at church is now about once per month compared to every Sunday. It's still true that there is a whole generation that sees themselves as spiritual but not religious. It is still true that here at Trinity we spend more than we take in.

That passage read at my ordination 25 years ago that warned Jesus' followers of being sent out as sheep in the midst of wolves it also reminded them not to worry. I am not worried but I am challenged. It is clear that the church is changing; not just Trinity, the whole church. It's clear by the financials that that we are going to need to do things differently. What's not clear is what "doing things differently" looks like.

I find myself praying the motto of the Order of the Daughters of the King which says:

*"For His Sake...  
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.  
Lord, what will you have me do?"*

Lord, what will you have us do?

*Ft. Dove*

## AN UPDATE ON OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH GRACE CHURCH AND THE INCARNATION

Last year at the Annual Meeting we were discussing the possibility of merger with Grace Church and the Incarnation. After a series of meeting with members of Trinity Church we learned that Trinity folk were against merger but were enthusiastic about partnering with GCI in their mission and ministry in the Port Richmond neighborhood of Philadelphia.

Things are good at Grace Church.

The After School Program and the Summer Camp continue to thrive. The Boy Scouts are strong and Girl's Friendly continues to roll along. The Annual Backpack Festival was bigger and better than ever!

Deacon Donna has begun a Sunday School program and two 12 Step Programs have begun meeting at GCI.

The Family Friday program has been changed a bit. Now called First Fridays because its only meeting once a month. Kids come play games, share a healthy meal and pray together.

A new outreach program was added; a community meal served on the third Saturday of the month. A number of people from Trinity have served and many provided baked goods for desserts. The last dinner served over 100 folks including guests and servers!

The Guiding Coalition which is made up of clergy from both churches and 3 members for each church (our 3 members are Jane Saunders, Dennis Reid, and Robin Dixon) continue to work with consultant Wally Fletcher and a team of consultants from Episcopal Community Services to discover the real needs in Port Richmond and develop ministries to address them. (ECS can also help us with grant work to fund some projects.)

Probably the biggest challenge facing GCI is that Fr. John Atkins, is presently full time and that cannot continue. His enthusiasm, his love for the people, and his musical gifts cannot be over-estimated. So in the year ahead the Guiding Coalition will be looking at how to make that change and how that will affect our partnership and GCI's ministries.

My favorite verse from Paul's Letter to the Romans is this: *Glory to God whose power working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, glory to God from generation to generation in the church and in Christ Jesus forever.*

I am looking forward to see what infinitely more God has in store for this partnership.

XOXO,  
FD

# BISHOP DISCERNMENT PROCESS

## Key Upcoming Dates

**January 28** — Slate of Candidates was announced. See below for the biographical information. Photos and further statements from each candidate are available on the Diocese's website:

<http://www.diopa.org/>

**Friday, February 19** — Trinity, Ambler, 6pm – 10pm

**March 12** — Call Convention, Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral

**April 30** — Celebration of Bishop Dan's ministry, Church of the Good Samaritan, Paoli, 4pm

**July 16** — Consecration of the new bishop, New Covenant Church, Germantown

## THE CANDIDATES

The Rev. W. Frank Allen, *Rector, St David's Church, Wayne, Diocese of Pennsylvania*

The Rev. **W. Frank Allen**, a priest of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, is rector of St. David's Church in Wayne, a 3,300-member parish with an annual budget of \$3.1 million. During his 18 years as rector, Allen has led the parish in two long-range planning exercises and two capital campaigns, and he has developed partnerships with nearby parishes in Norristown and Newtown Square. Under his leadership St. David's has also helped build schools and a health clinic in Uganda as well as churches and a water project in Guatemala. In the Diocese of Pennsylvania, he was dean of the Merion Deanery from 2003 to 2006 and was a member of the Standing Committee from 2011 to 2015. Before being named rector of St. David's, Allen was associate rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Roanoke, Virginia, between 1995 and 1997. Ordained to the diaconate in 1995 and to the priesthood in 1996, both in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, Allen was named an honorary canon of the church in Guatemala in 2012. Before being called to ordained ministry, he was for 11 years the director of business development at Shoemaker Construction Company in West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania. Allen earned a bachelor of arts degree from Duke University in 1981. He graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1995, where he served as president of the student body during his senior year. Allen has been married to Amy Joanne Waldo, M.D., since 1983, and they have three sons, William Jr., Robert, and Benjamin.

The Rev. Canon **Daniel G. P. Gutierrez**, *Canon to the Ordinary, The Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande*

The Rev. Canon **Daniel G. P. Gutierrez**, a priest of the Diocese of the Rio Grande, is canon to the ordinary, chief operating officer, and chief of staff for the diocese, which is based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. As part of his role in diocesan leadership, he also serves as executive director of the diocesan conference and retreat centers, and he oversees all aspects of ministry, human resources, budgeting, funds and investments, and capital campaigns within the diocese. He also serves the Episcopal Church through administrative and budgetary oversight of the Navajoland Area Mission and is vice president of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland Economic Development Corporation.

Before Gutierrez was named to his current position in 2011, he had an extensive career in public service — including serving as chief of staff to the mayor of Albuquerque and as director of the Bernalillo County Economic Development Department. He also was president of a strategy and media firm whose clients included state and local political leaders. Gutierrez was ordained to the diaconate and the priesthood in 2008, both in the Diocese of the Rio Grande, and subsequently he served at the Cathedral Church of St. John and at St. Michael and All Angels Church in Albuquerque. After joining the diocesan staff, he was called to rebuild two struggling parishes, serving them as vicar and rector. Gutierrez is a graduate of the University of New Mexico, where he earned bachelor's degrees in history and political science in 1987 and a master of arts in public administration in 1992. In 2007, he earned a diocesan certificate in Anglican studies through the Trinity School for Ministry, and in 2011, he was awarded a master of

theological studies degree from St. Norbert's University. Gutierrez has been married since 1991 to Suzanne Fletcher Gutierrez, and they have one son, Jude, a junior at The Bosque School, a college preparatory high school.

### **The Rev. Canon John T. W. Harmon, Rector, Trinity Church, Washington D.C., Diocese of Washington**

The Rev. Canon **John T. W. Harmon**, a priest of the Diocese of Washington, is rector of Trinity Church, a predominantly African American parish in Washington, D.C. While serving there, he founded TEAMM (Trinity Education Arts Music Ministry), an outreach to children focusing on education and the arts. He is also a cofounder of the Episcopal Service Corps (ESC), a federation of programs across the United States that help young adults discern the "inner voice" that is calling them to their life's work. Harmon has also served as a spiritual director and member of the faculty of CREDO, the clergy renewal program of the Episcopal Church.

Before moving to Washington in 2000, Harmon was for seven years the rector of St. Stephen's Church in Petersburg, Virginia, where he founded a parish-based HIV/AIDS education and prevention program for local youth. Harmon was ordained to the diaconate in 1991 and to the priesthood in 1992, both in the Diocese of Southern Virginia. He was named an honorary canon of St. Alban's Cathedral in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in 2004. In 1988, Harmon earned a bachelor of arts degree *cum laude* from St. Paul's College. He graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1991 and earned a master of theology degree from Union Presbyterian Seminary in 1998. He was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from St. Paul's College in 2012. Harmon has been married to Keeva Idella Patterson since 1992, and they are the parents of three young adults, Joshua, Jarena, and Justin.

### **The Rev. Martha N. Macgill, Rector, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Cumberland, Diocese of Maryland**

The Rev. **Martha N. Macgill**, a priest of the Diocese of Maryland, is rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Cumberland, Maryland, and founder of Kaleo Inc., a nonprofit organization that helps people live authentic lives for the common good through vocational discernment groups, podcasts, retreats, and pilgrimages. Before moving to Emmanuel Church in 2014, she was for 14 years the rector of Memorial Episcopal Church in Baltimore, a 400-member parish known for justice and peace ministries. While there, she helped to bring the Episcopal Service Corps to the diocese, chaired the diocesan Commission on Ministry, and led a capital funds drive to restore and renovate the historic church's physical plant. From 1997 to 2000, Macgill was priest-in-charge at St. Francis Anglican Church in Walkerville, South Africa, a multicultural parish south of Johannesburg, and also helped to found the diocesan camp for the Diocese of Christ the King. Macgill was ordained to the diaconate in 1995 and to the priesthood in 1996, both in the Diocese of Virginia. Before being called to ordained ministry, she worked as a corporate attorney in Hartford, Connecticut, and subsequently as a clerk for Judge Lapsley W. Hamblen of the U.S. Tax Court. Macgill earned a bachelor of arts degree *cum laude* from Davidson College in 1980. She was awarded the juris doctor degree from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1984, and she earned a master of laws in taxation from New York University School of Law in 1986. She graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1995. Macgill has been married to R. Bryan Kelleher since 1981, and they have two grown children, Jack and Anna.

### **The Right Rev. Dean E. Wolfe, Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas**

The Right Rev. **Dean E. Wolfe** is the ninth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, where he serves as the spiritual head for 11,000 lay members in 44 parishes and missions in the eastern part of the state. As bishop, he shares collaborative ministry with the diocesan staff and the Council of Trustees, serves as chief pastor for 150 clergy, and manages a \$1.8 million annual budget. He is also serving a third term as vice president of the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church. From 1998 to 2003, Wolfe was vice rector of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, which was at the time the largest Episcopal parish in the United States. From 1994 to 1998, he was associate rector for community life at Trinity Church in the City of Boston. Wolfe was ordained to the diaconate in 1992 and to the priesthood in 1993, both in the Diocese of California. Before joining the Episcopal Church, he ministered in the Church of the Brethren between 1977 and 1981 and attended Bethany Theological Seminary between 1981 and 1983. Moving to California, Wolfe worked in wholesale sales and marketing in San Francisco and joined the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in nearby San Carlos as a lay member. Wolfe earned a bachelor of arts degree from Miami University of Ohio in 1987. He graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1992 and was awarded a doctor of divinity degree, *honoris causa*, in 2004. He has been married to Ellen Marie Frantz-Wolfe since 1980. They have one son, William.

## ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S REPORT

Trinity Church holds its Annual Parish meeting in January every year. The report you receive is kind of like a "state of the union" address. The Rector, the Associate Rector, the Rector's Warden, the Accounting Warden along with various groups are charged with providing a written report on how we are faring at Trinity Church.

You may not remember this, but in the Chimes Newsletter for Lent in 2015, Fr. Dave gave us the following invitation:

"I am inviting you to join me in a Lenten discipline of beginning each day asking, "Lord, what would you have me do?" Set aside a few minutes each morning in Lent to ask that question of God. You might hear an answer right then and there; you might not. *Often I only see what God has called me to do by looking back.* So I invite you to also set aside a few minutes each evening reviewing the day to see what God invited you into that day." *(Italics and bold print are mine)*

Our Annual Report is a time for looking back and so in response to the question: "Lord - what would you have us do?" Here are some of the ways Trinity Church has responded. And this, my friends, by no means, is an exhaustive list.

- 176 Saturday evening, Sunday morning, and Sacramental worship services.
- 102 Weekday Eucharists
- 72 Eucharists in homes
- 7 Funerals
- 12 Baptisms
- 10 Confirmations
- 5 Receptions into the Episcopal Church
- Witnessed and celebrated the Ordinations to the Priesthood of our own Jay Walton and Dennis Reid in Jan. 2015
- Women's Bible Study
- Education for Ministry (EfM)
- Spiritual Practices in Lent
- Ministries Fair in May
- Vacation Bible School for a week in July - Saints R Us
- Institution of Children's Chapel before Church School
- Icon Writing
- Women's Retreat
- Seniors Luncheon prepared by Clergy
- Lessons & Carols
- Passion Play on Palm Sunday
- St. Nicholas Christmas Pageant
- Continued discerning God's will for Trinity Church and Grace and the Incarnation Adoption Merger
- Middle School Service Camp
- High School Mission trip to Boston
- Girls' Friendly Spaghetti dinner at Trinity with Grace and the Incarnation
- Community Meals at Grace and the Incarnation
- Hosted Interfaith Housing Alliance Families for the month of April
- Christmas Caroling

Along with these faithful endeavors, there have been a multitude of outreach efforts - gathering school supplies for the backpack festival, Christmas presents to Episcopal Community Services, Coats, hats and gloves to the Seaman's Institute, ongoing donations to the Ambler Food Cupboard, Real Men Cook meals prepared regularly, a variety of Mission Trip fundraising efforts including a car wash and those delicious Fisher Pot Pies, Operation Christmas Child Shoebox donations and more.

As I said, this is only *some* of the great work that the Lord has given us to do in this place.

As we enter 2016 - I pray that our life and our work here at Trinity continues to reflect God's love in this world. And keep asking yourself every single day, "Lord, what would you have me do?" And then go do it!!

With a grateful heart,

Mary +

## RECTOR'S WARDEN REPORT

This has been a year of witness where groups working together support the mission of Trinity Episcopal Church, Ambler. This report takes a look forward and a look in retrospect of fulfilling our mission.

Looking forward, in February 2016, the Vestry will participate in a Mutual Ministry Review (MMR). The Review will afford the opportunity to reflect on how we are doing as a leadership body and a parish overall. The primary focus of a MMR is to:

1. Clarify objectives and goals of the parish and,
2. Consider how the parish can make changes to move us toward productive activities that support the goals of the parish.

Fr. Dave will be on sabbatical leave this summer. We wish him well during this period of spiritual renewal and growth. Our parish will be in the capable, wise and loving hands of Rev. Mary.

David Allen Canan became ordained as Rev. David Allen Canan 25 years ago and we celebrate this ordination anniversary with you. A reason to rejoice!

Ours is a vibrant parish which seeks to live out the creed: *We are a community of Christian people seeking to love God with all of our hearts, souls, minds and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.* During the past year, specific highlights of the power of this creed include:

- Girls' Friendly Spaghetti Dinner with Trinity and Grace Church and the Incarnation for building faith and experience fellowship at Holiday House in New Jersey.
- Hosting four families through Interfaith Housing. All families have children under 4 years old. Our Youth Group assembled "Nighty-Night Bags," which contained new toothbrushes, toothpaste and notes of encouragement for children in the Interfaith program and must travel from one church to the next.
- Trinity parish donations of school supplies for 150 children for Backpack Sunday. This is the second year of this ministry in partnership with Grace Church and the Incarnation.

As we look to the year ahead, may we all give thanks for the ministries of Fr. Dave and Rev. Mary. May we continue to be kind, generous, loving and forgiving to each other so we can flourish in God's kingdom, spread His words and encourage others to join our faith community.

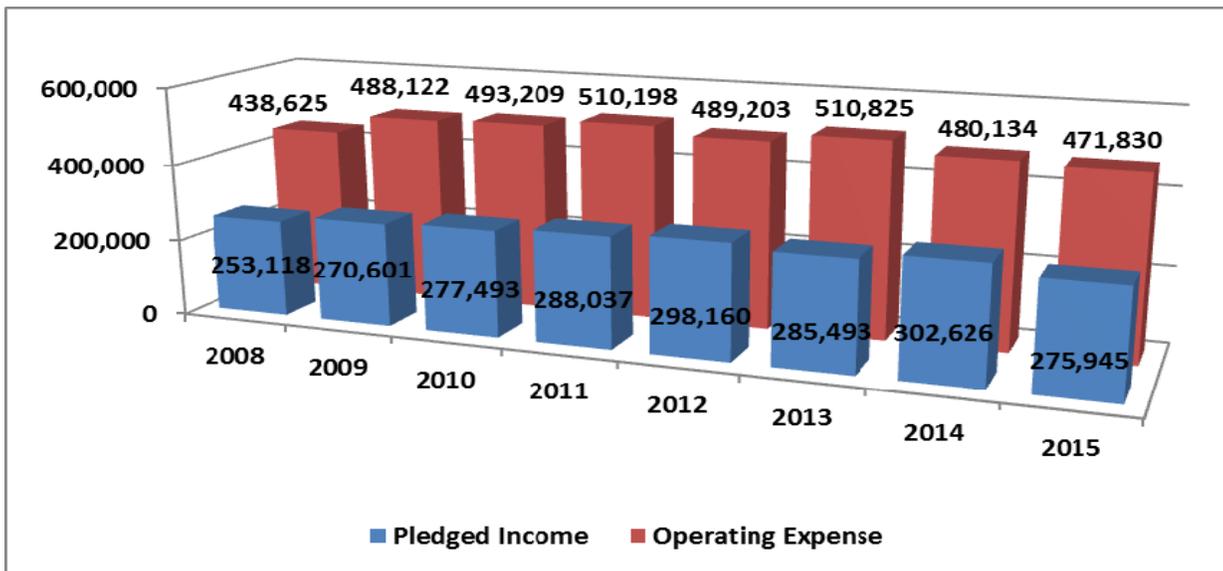
With love and gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your Rector's Warden,  
*Robin Chambers Dixon*  
Rector's Warden

# ACCOUNTING WARDEN REPORT

## 2015

Trinity Ambler continues the trend of slight growth year-on-year. Our membership increased to 520 congregants from 515 at this same time last year. This total change incorporates 15 new members and 10 departures. This growth is qualified by a slip in average Sunday attendance from 202 parishioners in 2014 to 185 in 2015.

Pledge income for 2015 was \$275,945 which is off from the prior year when income was the highest over the 8-year period depicted below at just over \$300,000. Operating expenses were also down and so while the deficit between the two measures grew somewhat, expenses were controlled to a degree. Other sources of income were used to cover the difference with the principal source being withdrawal from the Endowment Fund in the amount of \$131,500.

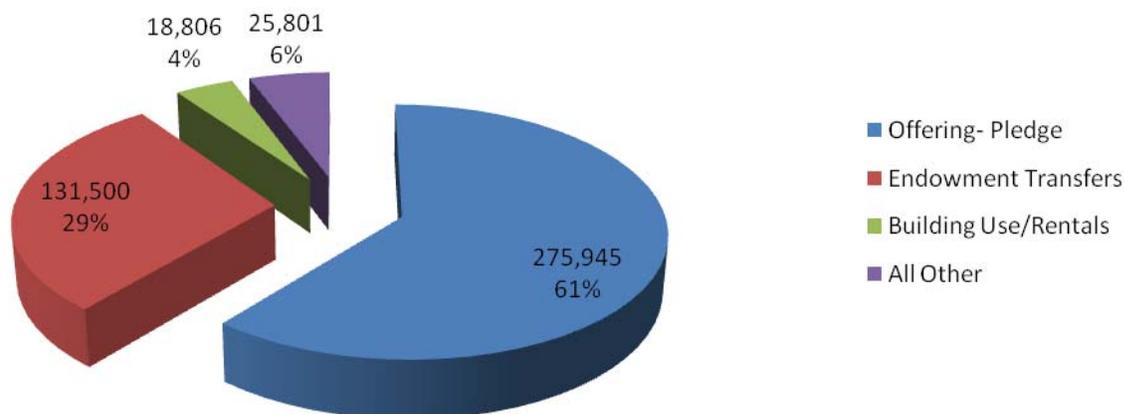


As a proportion of total expense, pledged income did cover 59% in 2015 as compared to 63% in the year prior. This percentage is in line with historic ratios over the 8-year period in the range of 55-63%. This proportion is an important benchmark to bear in mind in terms of how well our pledge commitments are offsetting parish expenses and, consequently, how much we have to draw on other sources of income to balance the accounts.

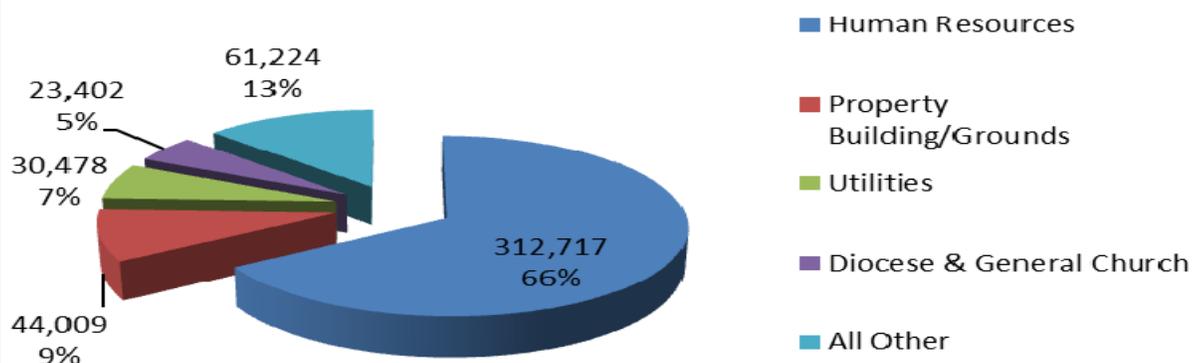
With regard to other sources of income, as mentioned Endowment Fund transfers amounted to \$131,500 of income used or 29% of the total. In terms of percentage of total, this is consistent with the prior year. In fact, there was no change in terms of proportions for the major categories shown in the graph below. All category contributions were down slightly since the total expenses to be covered were also lower in 2015.

Our actual expenses for 2015 of \$471,830 came in well under our budget of \$511,255 or roughly 92% of the expected amount. The main reasons for this were 1) lower Human Resource expense associated with combining the Youth Group and Sunday School coordinator roles, 2) less Property Building costs due to self-performance of some projects plus deferring other work and 3) lower Utility costs owing to a milder winter than expected. The difference between income and expense for the year was covered by a draw down on the Church's checking account since the funds were higher than normal to start 2015. Mostly as a result of this, we only transferred \$131,500 from the Endowment Fund during the year as compared to a budget of \$162,650.

**Trinity 2015 Actual Income - \$452,052**



**Trinity 2015 Actual Expense - \$471,830**



Still, we continue to rely on transfers from our endowment funds to cover the operating deficit in our accounts. This year was no exception. In addition to our withdrawals, the S&P 500 benchmark index was down slightly for the year (~1%) so we did not get any boost in funding from an appreciating stock market. As a result, our total investment holdings have dropped below the \$1,000,000 mark for the first time in a number of years.

**Fund Investment Summary**

| Fund            | Balance as of 31 December 2015 | Balance as of 31 December 2014 | Balance as of 31 December 2013 | Difference 2015 to 2013 |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Endowment       | \$ 907,721                     | \$ 1,073,161                   | \$ 1,124,321                   | \$ (216,600)            |
| Scholarship     | \$ 22,869                      | \$ 23,367                      | \$ 21,844                      | \$ 1,025                |
| Sylvan Handley  | \$ 37,641                      | \$ 42,221                      | \$ 41,073                      | \$ (3,432)              |
| Boyer Operating | \$ -                           | \$ -                           | \$ 38,745                      | \$ (38,745)             |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>\$ 968,232</b>              | <b>\$ 1,138,749</b>            | <b>\$ 1,225,983</b>            | <b>\$ (257,751)</b>     |

For the 2016 budget, we expect a slight increase in expense over 2015 actual figure (\$471,830) to \$486,100. Most of this increase is attributable to inclusion of certain Property Building activity that was postponed from last year's budget and from a lesser increase Utilities costs since we are presuming a normal year in terms of weather and related expense.

On the income side, the assumption for pledge contributions is a slight rise from 2015 actual (\$275,900) to \$285,000. In addition, we have an expectation to require \$152,000 of Endowment Fund transfers to fully meet our expenses in 2015.

In order to protect our investments from further erosion, we have discussed the need to pursue certain initiative during Vestry meetings this past year to both bolster our income and control expenses. Among the recommendations from the Finance Committee that are currently being considered are 1) enhancing income from Building Use and Rentals, 2) meeting major capital costs by separate fund-raising events and 3) limiting utility expense by engaging energy service companies to improve our infrastructure.

*It is important to note that these measures should help reduce, but will not eliminate, our annual transfers from the endowment. As a congregation, it is time to renew our efforts to build our Endowment Fund through bequests and other forms of planned giving. Our goal should be to increase the use of income provided by the fund in form of appreciating value and dividends rather than rely on the principle already invested to help meet our expenses.*

Please let me know if you have any questions about the current state of Trinity finances.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Gergen  
215 542-7997  
[robert.gergen@pfizer.com](mailto:robert.gergen@pfizer.com)

|  |                   |                | 2015              |                | 2016           |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | Actual            | Budget         | \$ Over<br>Budget | % of<br>Budget | Budget         |
| <b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>             |                   |                |                   |                |                |
| <b>Income</b>                              |                   |                |                   |                |                |
| <b>Building Use</b>                        | 7,206.00          | 10,000         | -2,794.00         | 72.06%         | 10,000         |
| <b>Endowment Transfers</b>                 | 131,500.00        | 162,650        | -31,150.00        | 80.85%         | 152,000        |
| <b>Flowers Income</b>                      | 4,885.00          | 5,500          | -615.00           | 88.82%         | 5,500          |
| <b>Miscellaneous Income</b>                | 4,000.00          | 5,000          | -1,000.00         | 80.0%          | 5,000          |
| <b>Offering- Plate</b>                     | 9,328.12          | 9,500          | -171.88           | 98.19%         | 9,500          |
| <b>Offering- Pledge</b>                    | 275,945.20        | 300,000        | -24,054.80        | 91.98%         | 285,000        |
| <b>Parish Events</b>                       | 750.29            | 405            | 345.79            | 185.49%        | 1,000          |
| <b>Rentals</b>                             | 11,600.00         | 13,200         | -1,600.00         | 87.88%         | 13,200         |
| <b>Special Offerings</b>                   | 3,864.00          | 5,000          | -1,136.00         | 77.28%         | 4904           |
| <b>Total Income</b>                        | <u>449,078.61</u> | <u>511,255</u> | <u>-62,175.89</u> | <u>87.84%</u>  | <u>486,104</u> |
| <b>Expense</b>                             |                   |                |                   |                |                |
| <b>Administration</b>                      | 9,315.24          | 11,282         | -1,966.76         | 82.57%         | 10,926         |
| <b>Adult Formation *</b>                   | 1,066.10          | 1,225          | -158.90           | 87.03%         | 1,225          |
| <b>Advertising &amp;<br/>Communication</b> | 1,918.91          | 1,900          | 18.91             | 101.0%         | 1,900          |
| <b>Altar Supplies &amp;<br/>Equipment</b>  | 1,738.42          | 2,000          | -261.58           | 86.92%         | 1,560          |
| <b>Clergy</b>                              | 3,589.87          | 4,650          | -1,060.13         | 77.2%          | 4,000          |
| <b>Diocese &amp; General<br/>Church</b>    | 23,402.00         | 23,777         | -375.00           | 98.42%         | 24,500         |
| <b>Education</b>                           | 1,010.24          | 1,075          | -64.76            | 93.98%         | 1,675          |
| <b>Flowers</b>                             | 7,003.00          | 6,500          | 503.00            | 107.74%        | 6,125          |
| <b>Grace Church</b>                        | 1,065.59          | 2,500          | -1,434.41         | 42.62%         | 0              |
| <b>Hospitality</b>                         | 1,245.62          | 2,000          | -754.38           | 62.28%         | 1,500          |
| <b>Human Resources</b>                     | 312,717.38        | 323,925        | -11,207.12        | 96.54%         | 311,856        |
| <b>Insurance</b>                           | 13,912.00         | 13,750         | 162.00            | 101.18%        | 13,650         |
| <b>Mission and Outreach<br/>Expenses</b>   | 9,999.96          | 10,000         | -0.04             | 100.0%         | 10,000         |
| <b>Music</b>                               | 3,247.12          | 4,600          | -1,352.88         | 70.59%         | 3,800          |
| <b>Pastoral Care</b>                       | 196.11            | 150            | 46.11             | 130.74%        | 150            |
| <b>Property Building</b>                   | 33,478.50         | 52,600         | -19,121.50        | 63.65%         | 44,300         |
| <b>Property Grounds</b>                    | 10,530.80         | 11,836         | -1,305.20         | 88.97%         | 11,550         |
| <b>Stewardship Committee</b>               | 723.88            | 1,015          | -291.12           | 71.32%         | 1,067          |
| <b>Utilities</b>                           | 30,477.88         | 33,500         | -3,022.12         | 90.98%         | 33,700         |
| <b>Vestry Expenditures</b>                 | 14.48             | 400            | -385.52           | 3.62%          | 300            |
| <b>Worship Ministries</b>                  | 511.14            | 1,070          | -558.86           | 47.77%         | 820            |
| <b>Youth Group</b>                         | 737.95            | 1,500          | -762.05           | 49.2%          | 1,500          |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                       | <u>467,902.19</u> | <u>511,255</u> | <u>-43,352.31</u> | <u>91.52%</u>  | <u>486,104</u> |

## CHILDREN'S FORMATION

2015 has been a year of change and renewal for Trinity's Church School program. Special thanks to Kelly Rupprecht for her work with our children, youth and adults thru September. Kelly Rupprecht resigned from her position in August to take on employment in a new role outside Trinity.

### "WHAT HAPPENS EACH SUNDAY?"

#### NURSERY

Our fabulous Nursery Team made up of high school students, work weekly with children 0-4 each Sunday and designate special events:

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Fiyi Adebukan    | Alison Kohne   |
| Jolade Adebukan  | Megan Otto     |
| Jeff Cutcher     | Adam Prater    |
| Erica Davis      | Julian Woods   |
| Anneliese Gergen | Kingsley Stroh |
| Christie Irvin   |                |

#### CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children, youth, parents, and teachers gather together in the Children's Chapel located downstairs at 9:45 a.m. for song and prayer. Then all go to their respective classrooms at 10:00 a.m. All return to the Sanctuary at the exchange of the peace.

#### CHURCH SCHOOL

Our classes are set up as follows: Godly Play I (Pre-K & K); Godly Play II (Grades 1 & 2); Faith Foundations (Grades 3 - 5); Weaving God's Promises (Grades 6 - 8). This could not happen without the unending dedication, energy, and vision from our teachers and doorkeepers:

##### Godly Play Teachers

Cheryl Bayard  
Becky Curlett  
Stephanie Gold  
Leigh Irvin  
Sarah Mooers  
Virginia Nissen  
Jocelyn Tenney

Christie Irvin  
Norlaine Romano

##### Teachers

John Bayard  
Bernadette Baird  
Dan Citrone  
Catherine Derbyshire  
Melissa Garretson  
Elaine Perry  
Kelly Rupprecht  
Wendy Wezner

##### Godly Play Doorkeepers

LaTanya Barkley  
Debby Frankensfield  
Liz Wendt

#### CHILDREN'S CHOIR:

Our children (pre-k - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) meet with Al Tenney each Sunday in the sanctuary immediately following the 10 a.m. service. The children's choir will continue to share their talents with the congregation in 2016. Thank you, Al Tenney.

#### YOUTH CHOIR:

Our youth (3<sup>rd</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade) meet with Stephen Schreiber each Sunday in the parish hall immediately following the 10 a.m. service. The youth choir will also be sharing their beautiful voices with the congregation in 2016.

## **CONFIRMATION:**

Bishop Lee visited Trinity Church on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> to perform the sacramental rite in which the candidates "express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop". We thank all adult mentors, confirmands, and teachers who took part in this six month journey:

### **Teachers:**

The Rev. Mary McCullough  
John Bayard

Dan Citrone  
Liz Wendt  
Kelly Rupprecht

### **Confirmands**

Fiyi Abebekun  
Erica Davis  
Anneliese Gergen  
Alison Gouveia  
Anna Gouveia  
Olivia Hauser  
Ryan Wilson  
Ronnie Wilson  
Kingsley Stroh  
Joseph Wilenzik  
Francis Woods

### **Mentors**

Emmanuel Okolo  
Jessica Fields  
John Bayard  
Connie Stephens  
Andrea Barlow  
Sue Bofinger  
William Davis  
Leigh Irvin  
Elizabeth Wendt  
Kelly Rupprecht  
Joy Kohne

## **CLEARANCES:**

All volunteers in the church school program and nursery have completed/filed their mandated clearances according to state law.

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2015:**

Trinity rocked and rolled with 'Saints R Us' in July 12 - 17, opening our doors for all children age 4 - 12. Our dedicated volunteer team (56+ strong) was made up of team leaders, group leaders, storytellers, artisans, musicians, chefs, food servers, gamers, photographers, administrators, clergy, and staff . . . there are no words to express our deep gratitude for their talents, time and commitment. We also thank the overwhelming generosity of our parishioners who donated items needed to make this event the success it was.

## **PAGEANTS:**

Each year our parishioners come together to create two very diverse pageants: 'The Passion According to St. Matthew' and 'Christmas with St. Nicholas'. Each pageant is made possible through the committed talents of actors, singers, musicians, theologians, costumers, designers, artisans, directors, stage managers, light board operators, sound technicians, and parents. Prayer is our thread.

## **WEEKLY COMMUNICATION:**

We began sending a weekly newsletter in October to all families of Trinity via Constant Contact, highlighting the goings-on of our program as well as upcoming events! We are finetuning the e-mail addresses on an ongoing basis so that no one falls through the cracks in this electronic age.

The children and youth are blessing to our community. May we continue to lift them up in prayer, Christian formation and above all, grace.

*"Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So... be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us be with you now and forever."* - Henri Frederic Amiel

Grace and peace,  
*Kristin W. Woods*  
(Interim) Director of Christian Formation

## ALTAR GUILD

On any given Friday or Saturday morning you will find the Altar Guild ladies bustling about the Sanctuary dusting, changing linens, and setting up the Chapels and the main Altar for weekly services, Weddings and for Funerals. We work in Teams of 3 or 4 so the adage of 'many hands make light work' holds true!



Our Altar Guild budget covers wine and wafers, the oil for Altar and Acolyte Torch candles, Chapel votive candles and some linens. In an effort to save money and wear on the Altar Fair Linens (due to wax dripping from candles) we are now using oil candles on two of the three Altars and in the Acolyte Torches. In the coming year, we will replace some wine/water cruets, Altar fair linens and some smaller linens that have seen years of weekly use and wear. If you would like to remember a loved one who has died, or perhaps honor someone who is still by your side, please talk to myself, Dave or Mary about contributing money as a memorial.

Thank you to the wonderful women who work behind the scenes each week:

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Team 1 | Sue Bofinger, Jill Hayes, Yolán Giczi, Veronica Grogan         |
| Team 2 | Adele Butler, Evelyn Carpenter, Nancy McGarvey                 |
| Team 3 | Ellen McCaffrey, Pat Pfeifer, Connie Stephens                  |
| Team 4 | Cheryl Bayard, Veronica Gallwey, Annette Irvin, Marge Maloney. |

A special thank you to Pat Pfeiffer who retired from the Altar Guild after many years of devoted service. Thank you also to Evelyn Carpenter, Cheryl Bayard and Connie Stephens who are responsible for ironing linens each week - it is an important job that takes a lot of time, skill and patience.

*Submitted by Karen Reid*

## MINISTERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Trinity is so very fortunate to have a dedicated corps of servers who assist in the worship services by reading, leading and offering prayers, bearing the chalice at communion, singing, carrying the cross, serving and bearing torches.

In addition, there is another corps of volunteers who assist in making everyone feel welcome through greeting at the front door, ushering, individuals who deliver baskets to our visitors, teams who count the offering, hosts who talk to visitors during hospitality and Lay Eucharistic Ministers to take communion to those who cannot be with us.

Apologies if anyone has been inadvertently omitted but this list demonstrates how many parishioners are involved in our liturgical services and the other functions that make our church a friendly, inviting one that runs smoothly! Thanks to each and every one of you for giving your time, talent, and for making Trinity the truly unique place that it is.

The coordinators of each ministry are in bold type.

**8 am Chalice Bearers and Lectors** - **Martha Arnold**, Helen Mirkil, Pam Olshefski, Jan Jones, and a welcome back to Hans DeViso.

**Chalice Bearers** - Tim Bauder, Cheryl Bayard, Ernie Dixon, Paul and Joy Greenlee, Bill Hecker, Addie Johnson, Gina Kapusnick, Berit Lakey, Al Mathis, **Marjorie Parsons**, Connie Stephens

**Acolytes and Crucifers** - Olivia, Julia and Madeline Hauser; Alison and Colin Kohne; Jacob and William Curlett; Christie Irvin; Doug Brown; Alex and Jesse Staas; Jane and Jeff Cutcher; Natalie Bauder; Francis and Julian Woods; Fiyi, Feyi and Jolade Adebekun; Abby Olshefski; Annaliese Gergen; Bridgette and Emma Gold and Lauren Jackson coordinated by **Roger Clarke**.

**Adult Choir Members:** Maureen McCauley, Sue Adair, John Guerin, Barb Davis, Brian Phillips, Anne Canan, Christine Smith, Meaghan Heath, Nancy Dixon, Joy Kohne, Stephanie Reid, Al Tenney, Bill Davis, Megan Phillips, Shannon Guerin, Christie Irvin, Herb Ruzann, Sue Bofinger, Jane Mathis, Mike Connelly, Ned Fawcett under the direction of **Steve Schreiber**.

**Readers and Prayer Leaders** - Sue Adair, John Bayard, LaTanya Barkley, Sue Bofinger, Mindy Cutcher, Bill Davis, Joe and Leigh DeTato, **Nancy Dixon**, Diana Evans, Ned Fawcett, Laura Gergen, Judy Grieve, Joe Grogan, John Guerin, Christie Irvin, Addie Johnson, Joy Kohne, Berit Lakey, Ed Mahler, Al Mathis, Sarah Mooers, Marjorie Parsons, Diane Powell, Stephanie Reid, Elizabeth Self, Donnette Staas, Christine Smith, Brian and Megan Phillips, and Liz Wendt.

**Healing Prayers** - Sue Adair, Lynn Baird, Ellen McCaffrey, Al Mathis, Ben Powley, Barbara Shields, Carol Szwakjos, **Terry Tschopp**, Kristin Woods.

**Lay Eucharistic Visitors** - Andrea Barlow, Maureen McCauley, Al Mathis, Ben Powley, Mary Tralie under the direction of **Father Dave**.

**Ushers** - Andrea Barlow, **Clyde Basham**, John Bayard, Evelyn Carpenter, Hans and Mary DeViso, Ernie Dixon, Ed Doyle, Rogers Frassenei, Laura and Rob Gergen, Anne Getty, Judy Grieve, Ryan Irvin, Ed Mahler, Jill and Michael Marsceill, Pat Pfeifer, Karen and Dennis Reid, and Liz Wendt.

**Greeters** - Eddie and Beverly Black, Ken Bofinger, Evelyn Carpenter, Ed Doyle, Diana Evans, Jane Frassenei, Rob and Laura Gergen, Anne Getty, Ellen McCaffrey, Nancy Militello, Piers Prater, Sheila Ridgeway, Carol Szwajkos, **Jocelyn Tenney**.

**Basket Delivery** - Members of the Daughters of the King.

**Tellers** - John Bayard, Nancy Dixon, Ernie Dixon, Katharine Driggs, **Rob Gergen**, Annette Irvin, Janet Lineberger, Nancy McGarvey, Jane Mathis, Nancy Militello, Marjorie Parsons, Brian Phillips, Christine Smith, Don Tippet, Liz Wendt.

**After Worship Hosts** - Sue Adair, Laura Bauder, **Eddie Black**, Sue Bofinger, Gerry Bunting, Dan Citrone, Bill Davis, Ernie Dixon, Laura Gergen, Al Mathis, Jane Mathis, Marjorie Parsons, Megan Phillips, Ben Powley.

**Flowers** - a special shout-out to Evelyn Carpenter who gathers the weekly attributions for altar flowers and arranges them after services to be distributed. And profuse thanks to Jim and Amanda Hayden, who work tirelessly before Christmas and Easter, to beautify our worship space for the special days/seasons of our liturgical year.

*Compiled by Karen Richter, Office Administrator*

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Over the past year approximately fifteen new families have attended services at Trinity. Several of these families have young children which have added to our growing Church School attendance.

Every six weeks the team of Father Dave, Mary, Eddie Black, Kristin Woods and I meet to review any visitor information sheets that have been filled out and to follow up and make sure any requested information or services are fulfilled. These meetings help us keep up to date not only on our newest attendees but also to make sure all members of our church family are accounted for.

In November, a New Member's Reception was hosted at the Rectory. The reception was well attended and gave Kristin the opportunity to recruit some new folks into the Pageant! We are fortunate to have new members and hope that everyone will reach out and introduce themselves welcoming new folks into the Trinity Family.

Thanks to All!  
*Jill Marsceill*

## **DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

The Daughters of the King (Anam Cara Chapter) continue to live out their vows of prayer, service, and evangelism in the context of parish life at Trinity. Our prayer list is distributed to all our members, who pray it daily, and then we all pray it together at our monthly meetings. This past fall we collected cleaning supplies on behalf of Inter-Faith Housing Alliance, and we also coordinated the collection of shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. We were pleased to welcome 4 new members into our order: Becky Curlett, Karen Reid, Leigh Irvin, and Liz Wendt. Along with hosting coffee hour occasionally, we will be resuming our collection of cleaning supplies during the spring. A ministry that we have done since the beginning of our chapter is the delivery of welcome baskets to visitors. The baskets contain information about Trinity, a copy of the latest issue of The Chimes, and a few inspirational tracts from our tract rack. A homemade treat completes the basket, and from the times we've met and talked to visitors, all have been very pleased to receive the basket. Our other important ministry is the hosting of receptions for funerals when families ask for that after the funeral service. Going forward, we are always looking for new ministries, and new ways we can serve the parishioners and clergy of Trinity.

*Submitted by Anne Canan, President, Anam Cara Chapter*

## COMMUNICATIONS REPORT 2015

We have been working diligently to execute Trinity's Mission Statement using the following communication technologies to extend our reach: print, internet, and digital recording. Each area mentioned below is overseen by amazing teams of dedicated parishioners, with the generous support from clergy and staff. This is truly a group effort and we are grateful to those who bring their time and talents to the scene each and every day. We welcome all who have an interest in connecting with others through the technologies listed and those who would simply like to learn how to use them.

**Print: Information (Bulletin) Boards** - a source of information to share with the diverse communities who gather weekly at Trinity. This includes, but not limited to: Upcoming Event/Sign-Ups, 'Slices of Life', Trinity Ministries, Youth Programs, Community Programs, and Business Cards. Many thanks to Lynda Basham and Pam Hawthorne for their monthly background vigilance.

**Narthex Photo Wall & Pictorial Directory** - As our parish grows and changes, so does our narthex photo wall & pictorial directory. Please contact Jill Marsceill if you would like to add your photo to the wall or update! Photos taken will be added to the pictorial directory. Special Thanks to our photographer, Ed Doyle, and his assistant Janice.

**Accent Wall and Basement Hallway Enhancement** - In collaboration with the Church School program, canvas photos are being placed on the accent wall, leading down to the church school classrooms. Photos have been chosen to line the hallway way across from the beautiful murals created by the VBS.

**The Chimes Newsletter** - The Chimes is published 4-5 times a year, September thru June. Our summer issue covers June thru August. The newsletter is printed on a limited basis, as well as posted on-line via Trinity's website and Facebook. A special thanks to our layout editor, Nicole Skinner; proofreaders (Joe Grogan, Veronica Grogan, and Sue Bofinger) and photo hounds (Liz Wendt, Katherine Driggs, Catherine Derbyshire, Melissa Garretson, Jen Crea, Nicole Skinner, Piers Prater, Anne Canan, Karen Reid, and Mary McCullough). Please send all submissions directly to the Editor at [chimes@trinityambler.com](mailto:chimes@trinityambler.com).

**Internet** - Trinity has successfully branched out in the social media through Facebook. We hope to expand our reach to other social media including but not limited to Twitter, Google+ and Instagram.

Our **Facebook** page has 265 known followers with a weekly reach between 300 - 900 and potential reach of 60,000. FB is used for Trinity events, weekly announcements, photos, and theological discussion. Find us on FB at *Trinity Episcopal Church, Ambler, PA*.

The Vestry and the Communications Committee continue to use **Wiggio**. **Wiggio** allows for 'running' discussion board, much like the news feed in facebook, document (word and excel) sharing in a wiki-style (meaning you can collaborate on the same document without having to download, save and re-import with changes), audio and video chatting, calendar scheduling (much like doodle where you indicate available times and participants sign-up for slots), group email distribution, link sharing, plus a whole lot more. Using Wiggio also cuts down paper consumption as all documentation can be created and/or found on-line.

**Trinity's website**, [www.trinityambler.com](http://www.trinityambler.com), has been going through minor modifications and will continue to do so through 2016.

Our weekly **Jingle** serves a dual purpose in print and on-line. Please send announcements to Karen Richter at [office@trinityambler.com](mailto:office@trinityambler.com). Deadlines: Monday morning.

**Wi-Fi** continues to be accessible in the narthex, parish hall, and library! One exciting new feature is that we now have Wi-Fi capability in the Church School classrooms. Thank you, John Dziel!

**Sound System Support** - we purchased sound equipment, through the guidance of John Dziel, to support and enhance our sanctuary experience, including both services and special events, i.e. pageants. Special thanks to

John Dziel for his continued support and expertise in this area.

A **Podcast** is a multimedia digital file made available on the Internet for downloading to a portable media player, computer, etc. A goal for 2016 is to record services/events taking place in the sanctuary and upload onto the website.

**Public Relations/Marketing:** The public relations/marketing time was busy working **with** Trinity's Vacation Bible School 2015 "Saints Are Us".

**Road Signs:** Property produced an additional Trinity roadside sign that is to be hung in 2016 - replacing the rusty sign. A **roadside sandwich board** was purchased to be used outside our walls to help advertise ongoing special events, i.e. organ recitals, etc.

The Communications Committee is constantly evolving to meet the demands of the times and the everchanging Church as we know it typos included. We are constantly looking into ways to enhance our social media in both print and online. In 2015, we hope to fine tune what was started in 2014, and to continue to explore our options as we grow in community and Spirit.

Grace and Peace,  
*Kristin W. Woods*

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

Mission and Outreach is thriving here at Trinity Church! There truly is a mission for everyone to choose and to help out with, and if there is not, start an outreach program yourself.

Here are just a few of Trinity's Mission and Outreach programs.

Trinity Ambler is walking alongside Grace Church and the Incarnation in Port Richmond, helping them discern and help in their mission. What a joy it is to help them! Currently there are several projects to volunteer for at GCI.

The Backpack Festival which provides the neighborhood children with backpacks and school supplies was a huge success with many people from Trinity helping to supply what was needed for the children. We had a fun community picnic during which the backpacks were given out.

GCI also has a monthly Community Dinner, and we need people to help cook for this growing event. Many things can be made in advance and someone can take it down to the church if you cannot go on that day.

For the children in the neighborhood there is "First Fridays" held in the evening of the first Friday of the month. There are fun games, food, music and prayers for children. Volunteers for this are always appreciated.

Every year in April, Trinity hosts the Inter Faith Housing Alliance. Our Parish Hall is transformed into rooms for the families that are in this program to stay in for the month. Trinity volunteers work at providing meals, transportation, and overnight supervision during these weeks. This is a very rewarding experience for all involved.

Each month on a Saturday, Real Men Cook gathers to cook meals for Aid For Friends which provides meals to those who are elderly and possibly homebound. If you like to cook and enjoy fun fellowship at the same time, this is a great program for you! Our congregation continues to every week to provide food for the Community Cupboard in Ambler.

During the Christmas season, Trinity Ambler has several outreach programs. There is the annual Christmas tree gift program for children sponsored by Episcopal Community Services, and the very successful Operation Christmas Child where shoeboxes are filled with goodies for those children in need. Both programs are very successful here at Trinity. We also collected winter coats for the Seamen's Church Institute. And every Advent season we have the wonderful Christmas Table filled with donated holiday items with the sales going to Mission and Outreach.

Thank you for all your contributions of your time, and talents, and treasure to the various Mission and Outreach programs. We have many others, I just mentioned a few. Trinity is thankful for all of you.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Jane Saunders*

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT REPORT 2015**

The music department at Trinity continues to be reflective of the parish at large; people's lives change, and they move in and out of our own lives. Change is constant, yet things are at the same time cyclical. The music program provides evidence of the health and vitality of the parish.

### **The Choirs:**

The choir system at Trinity is currently comprised of three choirs, the Youth Choir, which includes those who are at least in third grade or eight years and older; the Trinity Choir, which is the adult choir, and the Children's Choir. Their presentation of anthems and other music enhances the services and, hopefully, inspires the congregation.

The Children's Choir, which is comprised largely of enthusiastic children in Godly Play, has been supervised by Trinity Choir member Al Tenney. Al's philosophy is that when the children are ready they will sing. Formerly, this choir had been directed by women and mothers in the parish.

The Youth Choir membership reflects the cyclical nature of volunteer choirs. Membership had been decreasing in past seasons, but now numbers ten, the same for the last two seasons. The overall age of choir members is older than in past years. In fact, a couple members have decided they would enjoy the challenge of singing music done by the Trinity Choir, and they now sing in both choirs. Meetings have been sporadic this season, but they usually rehearse for a brief time on Sundays following the Eucharist. This choir is indicative of what is happening in society outside of Trinity Parish: the older youth become increasingly active young adults, and there is just no time in their schedules during the week for rehearsing. It is my feeling that perhaps the Sunday rehearsal schedule is not working, either, and we need to find a more dedicated time.

The Trinity Choir, likewise, reflects a cyclical nature found with volunteer organizations. This, in simple terms, is due to life in general - people's lives change. They retire and move out of the area, they move out of the area to take a new job, they experience illness, they want to "take a break." There are now 21 members when all are present. Yet, this choir is sizable for a volunteer Episcopal choir in a parish the size of Trinity. The commitment and dedication to weekly rehearsals and participation in the worship service easily make this group in my opinion the most dedicated one in the parish. Additionally, very few volunteer choirs are able to sing music of this caliber. For me, this is gratifying as well as exciting. It continually amazes me that this choir is able to maintain both its quality of tone and repertoire. Looking into the future, one never knows what will happen, but the people of Trinity need to realize that this choir, in all frankness, is aging. If we want to maintain a choir with quality, we need more people to join us, in order to relieve what some see is a demanding schedule. In keeping with the philosophy of the Director of Music, no auditions are necessary and everyone is welcome regardless of musical ability. In other words, if you can carry a tune, you are welcome to join us. In the past the choir rehearsed on Thursday evenings. We decided to try something new this season, given the fact that people are busy, tired or do not wish to drive at night. Therefore, this choir now rehearses on Sundays after the Eucharist. It was also hoped that perhaps more members would join, given the convenience of already being on-site, but this hasn't occurred. There is exceptional talent in this choir, and their offerings of solos add much to the worship service. Special thanks go to Barb and Bill Davis and Al Tenney. The Trinity Choir currently has two section leaders: Herb Ruzann, Bass, and Meaghan Heath, Alto.

My heartfelt thanks are extended to each and every member, with special thanks to Maureen McCauley, who handles the robe inventory.

### **Instrumentalists:**

Trinity is blessed with much talent within the parish and further blessed in that its members so voluntarily offer their talents to the worship service. Some are actual music professionals and others are eager volunteers who just play or sing beautifully. There are so many people to thank that one risks omitting a name, but our thanks are extended to Anne Canan, Mindy Cutcher, Jane Cutcher, Kingsley Stroh and Maureen McCauley. This year we were graced with beautiful string music provided by Fiyi, Jolade and Feyi Adebekun, three young members of Trinity. Their talent is remarkable.

### **Musical Instruments:**

Trinity's Schantz pipe organ continues to attract attention both locally and nationally because of its unique and successful design, as well as its magnificent sound. Occasionally, requests are made from organizations outside of Trinity who wish to utilize it. Pipe organs are complicated mechanisms, and Trinity's is no exception. Trinity's organ is tuned only twice a year compared to the usual three or four times other churches' organs require. This is largely due to the stability in temperature in the sanctuary. The organ is maintained by Emery Brothers. Trinity's three pianos (two grand pianos and one spinet) are maintained by Lawrence Fornaci.

### **Conclusion:**

The Music Department, in conclusion, had an active year. Trinity's annual Service of Advent Lessons and Carols on December 6. The Christmas Pageant, *Christmas with Saint Nicholas*, was presented on December 20. The choir assisted in the annual presentation of The Passion. All of this music was in addition to the other Sundays and commemorative events of the Church Year, such as Ash Wednesday and the Holy Week services.

The success of the Trinity Choir and the accomplishments of Trinity Parish in its vibrant life in the community come from the same source. It is because the people here at Trinity live out their ministries in their organizations, care for one another and wish to help one another as a way of spreading Christ's gospel. One can trace this directly to Father Canan's own philosophy and his ministry with the assistance and support of the Rev. Mary McCullough. I am honored and yet grateful to be a part of this organization.

The Grace of Our Lord be with you.

*Steve*

Stephen Schreiber, Director of Music

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

Thank you, Boy Scouts! This summer Trinity has two incredible gifts from the Boy Scouts. The kitchen grease trap problem was repaired for one Eagle Project and the Children's chapel was built (converting 2 rooms into 1 large meeting) for another Eagle Project. Both projects saved the church thousands of dollars.

Thank you, John Dziel, for converting the Parish Hall lights from fluorescent to LED.

Thank you, Bill Hecker, who is ever-handy behind the scenes doing repairs to the Rectory dishwasher, replaced a gas stove and hot water heater at the Sexton's cottage. As well as many unnoticed jobs but tremendously appreciated in the church including adding new hand rails to the choir loft and repairing the altar rail which was beginning to pull apart at the corners.

Thank you, Ed Doyle for repairing the locks at the Sexton's cottage.

Thank you, Michael and Jill Marsceill for donating the gas stove for the Sexton's cottage.

Thank you, Skip and Scotti Kershner for hosting two days (spring and fall) for property grounds clean up. We are also grateful for the leaf removal from the Boy Scouts.

Thank you, David McCullough who repaired the breezeway roof which began leaking during the Big children's consignment sale weekend. Thank you, John Dziel, who cleverly rigged a conduit to keep the leak out of the customers' way.

Thank you, Leigh Irvin and family and John and Sandi Dziel who stopped the massive leak from the heating pipe in the vesting room that broke the first Sunday that the heat was turned on.

Thank you, Kristin Woods, who has been cleaning closets, and "prettifying" Trinity especially the Sunday School! And also for helping with mold remediation in the Sexton's cottage.

Thank you, Vestry for always listening and for helping solve problems as effectively and economically as possible.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Ellen McCaffrey*

## TRIPS

Every year excursions to various locations of interest are planned. On Wednesday, October 28, 2015, forty-two Trinity church members and friends went by Perkiomen Bus to New York City. Our first stop was the 9/11 Memorial & Museum where we had a self-guided tour and film. We left the museum by noon and enjoyed a bag lunch on the bus en route to the theatre district. We had front mezzanine seats at the historic Lunt-Fontanne Theatre for matinee performance of "Finding Neverland." We are always open to suggestions for future excursions.

Submitted by *Jane Frassenei*, Trinity Trip coordinator

## VESTRY NOMINATIONS

**Incumbent Members standing to be elected to a second full term:**

Martha Arnold, Ben Powley

**Incumbent Member elected to complete a term for an outgoing Vestry member, now eligible to be elected to his first full term:**

Dan Citrone

**Nominated to be elected to a first term on the Vestry ( 1 opening)**

Liz Wendt

**Nominated to replace Kristin Woods on the Vestry (because Kristin is now on staff and therefore cannot be on the Vestry) for the coming year and then will be eligible for election to 2 full terms: (1 opening)**

Bill Davis

**Deanery and Convention Delegates**

Barb Davis, Liz Wendt, Piers Prater, no alternates

## PARISH STATISTICS

### *Membership*

|                             | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total # of Baptized Persons | 495  | 507  | 499  | 513  | 465  | 506  | 515  | 520  |

### *Worship Attendance*

|                           | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Easter Day Attendance     | 348  | 366  | 459  | 465  | 458  | 407  | 438  | 392  |
| Average Sunday Attendance | 198  | 199  | 204  | 211  | 195  | 209  | 202  | 186  |

### *Church School*

|                           | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Children in Church School | 65   | 60   | 61   | 69   | 76   | 76   | 98   | 108  |

### *Plate Offerings and Pledge Contributions*

|  | 2008      | 2009      | 2010      | 2011      | 2012      | 2013      |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Plate Offerings and Pledge Contributions | \$262,242 | \$283,503 | \$292,232 | \$303,407 | \$308,445 | \$303,200 |

*continued*

|  | 2014      | 2015      |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Plate Offerings and Pledge Contributions | \$317,248 | \$285,273 |

### *Pledges -*

|                      | 2009    | 2010    | 2011    | 2012    | 2013    | 2014    | 2015    | 2016     |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Number of Pledges    | 139     | 136     | 136     | 118     | 122     | 141     | 132     | 119      |
| Total Amount Pledged | 240,870 | 278,378 | 278,658 | 257,832 | 260,918 | 275,090 | 252,462 | 228,000* |

\*as of Jan. 28, 2016