



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



14088 Clayton Road  
Chesterfield, MO 63017  
636-227-5432

JoinUs@tlc-stl.org  
www.YouMatterToGod.org



**MEMBER OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**



# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY

Confident in God's generosity and gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us praise God and give thanks ...

God, we praise you and give you thanks.

**You are good, and your mercy endures forever.**

You gave us a garden with good food to eat.

**We praise you for food that nourishes us.**

You rescued your people from slavery.

**We praise you for freedom.**

You gave us prophets to correct, rebuke and encourage us.

**We bless you for your justice and mercy.**

You gave us your Son, Jesus, to love, redeem and save us.

**We praise you for his death and resurrection.**

You gave us your Holy Spirit to be our Advocate and Comforter.

**We bless you for the gifts of every tribe and nation.**

Strengthen your church with every spiritual gift

**and commission us again to be your servant people.**

Multiply in us the fruit of the spirit:

**love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**

Send us in your love and mercy,

**that the world may know you and praise you.**

### Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voice - es,  
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa-ther now be giv-en,



who won-drous things has done, in whom this world re-joice - es;  
with ev-er joy-ful hearts and bless-ed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and Spir-it blest, who reign in high-est heav-en,



who, from our moth-ers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per-plexed,  
the one e-ter-nal God, whom earth and heav'n a-dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev-er-more.

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 840*

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Cathering Winkworth, 1827-1878

Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you are the giver of every good gift. Bless us with all that we need for ministry in your name, that we might be a blessing to others. In the name of the one who broke bread and fed the multitudes, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

2024

# Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church February 2, 2025



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## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

All around us, we see signs of God’s love and goodness. A person who has stepped away from church for many years steps back into a congregation, feeling the call of the Holy Spirit. Young adults feeling isolated in a digital-first world start gathering in person in a small group, enjoying the warmth of a hug and a new friend asking about their week. A mother plants a garden, and it yields fruits and vegetables, giving her nutritious food for her kids and extra produce to sell at the local market. Everywhere we look, we see signs of Christ’s love. In Psalm 93, we read: “More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord! Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore” (4-5).

God’s love is a majestic thing, and it moves us to share it in word and deed. The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the ELCA churchwide organization are all working together to share God’s love with people in our neighborhoods, across our country and around the world.

I am so grateful for you, dear church. Your generosity to each of these three expressions of the church — your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization — has bolstered the church’s ability to share the message of God’s love to people who are longing for it. Through your

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“More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord! Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.”

—Psalm 93:4-5

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financial resources, your time volunteering and accompanying others, and your voices, you’ve helped carry this message of God’s majestic love. Thank you, dear church. As we look ahead to the coming year, I encourage you to stand steadfast in God’s promises, sure of God’s love and goodness.



The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This annual report is, simultaneously, absolutely ordinary and quite extraordinary. Puzzled? Curious? Read on!

Yes, this annual report is absolutely ordinary in that it bears a pretty strong resemblance to other annual reports, sharing news of various events happening in our congregation, offering brief reports on the impact of our giving, and sharing devotions and reflections meant to inspire and strengthen your faith life. You see, ordinary.

And yet... when you read through the issue with care, you'll soon recognize that the "ordinary" work of this congregation is really quite extraordinary! As I've shared before, each of us can do many wonderful things as individuals and, together, we can achieve things that are simply remarkable.

For instance, check out the Music Ministry Report, what a profound impact this ministry and concert series brings us. It is true that through music we express our deepest joys, our hopes, and our faith.

Facilities Report, did you know the impact our building alone has for west county? The bible studies, AA and Al-Anon meetings, nonprofits fundraisers darn near every Saturday night. We average 1200 people though our building every week. That's a lot to keep up, let alone toilet paper.

Missions report is where you will read about the impact several of our core mission have. Gateway 180, Preschool, Meals do Matter, Lantern Hill, Circle of Concern, God's Work Our Hands, extraordinary! Your outreach to others is regularly powerful.

Further on you will read about our Children's Ministry, Youth Leading Youth and the Adult Forums. These ministries and the ways in which Trinity members are supporting that incredible work.

And then we get to the finances, titled budget, yet I prefer to call it Trinity's mission plan. All of these efforts afford us the opportunity to extend God's love in tangible ways. And to top it all off, look at the endowment report; where we give to missions above and beyond.

Trinity is one of the great exceptions to national church trends, as we continue to grow, both in membership and in attendance at worship and events, while so many churches are struggling. Part of the reason is that we take seriously the importance of connecting our faith to everyday life and, in this way, try to make our faith both more relevant and applicable.

Do you see what I mean? In so many ways, this congregation is ordinarily extraordinary. So read this years annual report with care... and then gratitude for all we accomplish. And as you do, please remember that we couldn't do any of this without your support – your attendance at worship and events; your generous gifts, and offering; your time in volunteering and outreach; and your prayers for our staff and congregation.



*continued on page 5*

# PASTOR EMERITUS' REPORT

*continued from page 6*



As we've been saying, "In Christ, we aspire to journey with on another in grace faith love and service." And, together, We are Trinity Lutheran, a family of faith that helps us believe the good news of Christ, belong to a servant congregation, and become the people and church God needs us to be.

Thank you. Even more, thank God for you! See you at Church!

Pastor Chris

## Welcome Pastor Roy!!

The first good thing about an Emeritus Pastor report is that it isn't very long! I am blessed (Terry and I are blessed) to be part of the Trinity Church family. Thank you for welcoming and enfolding us as you have since we arrived.

I have been doubly blessed to work with the staff of Trinity. What gifted and committed people they are. I have been triply blessed to work with the volunteer leaders of Trinity. It is a joy to walk together as we follow Jesus. Thanks be to God!

Looking back, since September I have preached, taught, visited, participated in worship through music, listened, shared and imagined. A list of future plans, both imagined and scheduled in which I have participated are as follows:

- Editing and the distribution of Trinity's Funeral "Planning" materials.
- Development of a "Conversation" Evangelism equipping process.
- A two week Adult Forum presentation on the "Great De-Churching" and how our congregation might engage with "De-Churched" people.
- Planning and development of a series of Outreach Videos for Trinity to use in various "online" formats.
- Good Friday Tenebrae Worship outline and planning.
- Continued development of ministry with youth and families.

God is Good – All the Time & I'm glad to be here!

Pastor Roy Christell



# CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Congregation,

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to serve on the Church Council over the last 4 years and to serve as the President of the Council over this past year. Trinity is in a great place in its commitment of being the hands and feet of our savior Jesus Christ. Our five core missions are growing and allowing us to have a positive impact on the community both locally and internationally. The Preschool has increased its enrollment over the past year, thus more members of our community are hearing and experiencing the love of Christ demonstrated by our outstanding Preschool staff.

We are blessed by the continued work of Pastor Chris and have been additionally blessed by having Pastor Roy join us this September. Their message of the love of Jesus and their patient kindness is an example for us all. The excellent work of Brian, Jonathan and the choir has made our worship services wonderful and inspiring.

I want to thank Paul Ogier for all his hard work as Treasurer. With everyone's generosity we had an outstanding financial year and have a budget surplus. We have been blessed and looking forward to continued resources assisting us in our missions and devotion.

We continue to add to the beauty and functionality of Trinity. The remodeling of the atrium, conference room, offices, and the banners added to the gym have all made our physical plant warmer and more inviting. The recent approval of a columbarium by a special meeting of the congregation in November will increase the functionality and beauty of the cemetery for decades to come. I would like to thank all those members of the committee that did outstanding work to make the columbarium a reality.

I believe that Larry Tietjen will be an outstanding President for the council and Jeff Haferkamp will make a great Vice President, thus Trinity will be in terrific hands and continue its mission.

Sincerely,

Mike Herrmann



# MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT

## Music Ministry at Trinity

As we look back on 2024, I am filled with gratitude and joy for the wonderful year we've had in the music ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church. Music continues to be a powerful way for us to worship and connect with one another. As the psalmist says in Psalm 100:1-2, *"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!"* This spirit of joy and togetherness has been at the heart of our ministry this year.

First and foremost, I want to express my deep thanks to all of the volunteer singers and instrumentalists who have shared their time and talents with us. Whether you're in the choir, playing an instrument, or helping in any other way, your contributions are invaluable. It's truly humbling to witness all the time and energy you all put into making our services and events so meaningful.

This year, we were blessed with four amazing concerts as part of the Trinity Lutheran Concert Series. Each of these events brought something special to our community:

- "The Easter Story" by Tom Fettke featuring the Trinity Choir and Bell Choir - This concert brought the passion and resurrection of Christ to life in a powerful way.
- Kórmenn, a Men's Choir Concert - We were thrilled to welcome back Kórmenn under the direction of our very own Jonathan Owen.
- Daniel Henderson and James Nacy, Cello Duo - The sound of these two fantastic cellists filled our sanctuary with beauty and reverence, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.
- "The Star Arising" by Joseph Martin - A Christmas concert featuring the Trinity Choir, Bell Choir, and the Marshall String Quartet. This performance beautifully told the story of Christ's birth, preparing the way for the Birth of our Lord and Savior.

I also want to give special thanks to Graeme Allen and Stacy Drake for their incredible work with the Trinity Children's Choir in preparing the Christmas program, His Name is Jesus. They put so much care and effort into teaching and guiding the children, and it showed in their amazing performance.

Finally, I can't express enough gratitude for Jonathan Owen, our exceptional organist and pianist. Jonathan's skill and passion for music make such a difference in our worship services. He has a way of leading us with both excellence and humility, and I'm so thankful for his dedication.

As we move into the new year, I'm excited to see how we continue to grow and serve together through music. I am often reminded of the words from Colossians 3:16: *"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."* Let's continue to make joyful noise and serve with gladness in the year ahead!

With gratitude,  
Brian Parrish  
Director of Music Ministries



## Facilities Report

The year 2024 was very busy for the Trinity Facility. Many upgrades and repairs have taken place. We have installed a new VoIP phone system allowing us to easily relocate phones as needed. The system has been working well with just a small learning curve.

The 4th and last of the large roof top HVAC systems was replaced. This was the last of the major units that has had an average cost of almost \$38k a piece. There are still several smaller A/C units and furnaces that may require replacement in the coming years but at much less expense.

After a year, the remodeling of the Atrium is complete!!! We started with the addition of the welcome area, painting and new welcome lettering. Adding the Meals Do matter freezer, coffee cupboard, more painting and finally new furniture and a few accents on the wall. Thanks to all those that have helped, but especially to Amy Jones for her design efforts and keeping us on track for completion.

A need was identified to have a designated meeting area. We rearranged office space and created a conference room. This has been a well used space for small team meetings, staff meetings and council meetings. It was equipped with computer connections and large screen television with the capability of having remote participation as well. A new large conference table and chairs were also added.

We had issues with Wifi stability and determined the old system was no longer supported by the manufacturer and considered obsolete. A new system was identified and was installed. The new system is more stable and is considered commercial (enterprise) level equipment. This system will be supported for a much longer time and provide a more stable and consistent Wifi environment. The cost was \$3500, which is about what we paid to install the original system six years ago.

We continue our work on maintaining the trees on the property. Thanks to Fred Meyland-Smith and D's tree service for identifying 20 trees that needed to be removed and the trimming of several more. In addition we mulched all the medians and planting areas thanks to the Naig brothers landscaping company.

Prior to Preschool, all the classroom windows and main entrance windows were cleaned inside and out by Fish Window Cleaning. They did a great job. Each year this activity will be done repeated and every other year all windows in the building will be cleaned inside and out.

Eight banners were hung on the north wall in the Gym depicting the life of Trinity. The banners and new lettering on the walls are intending to help make the Gym represent that the space as part of a church and show many activities that take place at Trinity.

In mid year, we started a project to update the office space. Three new desks were custom built to replace the old cubicles. (Mike did not want to give up his. Reminds him of his days in IBM). Build in IKEA cabinets were installed giving us significant storage space and additional workspace. The space still needs painting and a few other slight changes. Hopefully soon it will be complete.

Each year Fred Bussman spends many late nights stripping and waxing all the floors in the building. All have been done except the Sanctuary, which will be done before Easter. We are truly blessed to have Fred, who takes great pride in keeping our facility looking good. Please say thanks to Fred when you see him.



# FACILITIES REPORT

This year we continue to rejoice in the joy of having flat roofs. They will always keep us guessing. Every once in a while we spring a leak and this year was no exception. We continued to address them as quickly as we can.

During the year we replaced all of the thermostats in the building with wifi enabled remotely managed thermostats. Schedules have been set to turn on and off the heat and air condition to match the times the building is being used. This resulted in several thousand dollars of savings in our gas bill for 2024.

We also replaced our aging fire alarm and monitoring system. The old system was over 25 years old and had begun to intermittently fail. We also added door magnets to the center hall doors to meet fire regulation so those doors close automatically in case of fire.

All and all a very busy but productive year!

Mike Sharitz  
Trinity Facilities Manager

# RENTAL REPORT

## Rentals at Trinity are a HOT ITEM!

Fundraiser events that take place in the gym book around a year plus in advance – currently the gym is booked every Friday and Saturday night January, February, March and April 2025!! We will have a break over the summer months and then they start back up again the fall months.

Team practices in the gym and on the ballfield book about 6 to 9 months in advance of the sport season.

For the gym - every weeknight (excluding Wednesdays which are reserved for Trinity's use only) are scheduled with teams between 4:30pm to 10:00pm. Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons/evenings also host team activities.

On the ballfield – if it is light out, there is a team on the field.

Al-Anon, AA , ACA and a small swing dance group are a few of our community programs that meet weekly at Trinity.

Amy Jones, Rental Coordinator

# SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT



## Report from the 2024 Central States Synod Assembly

Trinity is one of approximately 150 congregations in Missouri and Kansas that comprise the Central States Synod of the ELCA. 65 synods across the US make up the ELCA. The 2024 assembly of our synod was held June 6 -8 in Olathe, Kansas with approximately 300 people in attendance. Attending from Trinity were Vicar Gail and Mike Kenny, Mikki and Rick Lee and Lisa and Ken Hardebeck. The theme was Spirit Breathed, Spirit Blown. The assembly

was a mix of worship, song, Bible study with table discussions, business, and fellowship around great meals. An off-site dinner and worship service at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, a short distance from the hotel and conference center, kicked off the assembly.

# SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT

The next day The Rev. Susan Candea, Bishop, gave a report that highlighted the challenges of declining membership and shuttering churches, resulting in a sharp decline in financial support of the synod.

Business matters included approval of the synod budget of \$1,291,575.00 and passage of the six resolutions proposed. The resolution on Pastoral Leadership Transitions calls congregations to note the changing circumstances of the call process i.e. a longer period to call a new pastor due to a shrinking pool of pastoral candidates. The Resolution to Become a Reconciling in Christ Synod adopts a statement of welcome to “people of every race, background, age, political affiliation, economic and social status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and mental and physical ability.” The Reconciling in Christ designation pertains to the synod, not congregations. Individual congregations may decide to pursue the RIC designation. Bishop Candea’s presentation “Can We Talk About This?” explores this topic in depth and can be viewed on the synod website, [css-elca.org](http://css-elca.org).

Gaining an understanding of and participating in the business of the church and being a part of the discernment of the spiritual direction of our synod is a meaningful experience and one we’d recommend to any member of Trinity who gets the opportunity to attend a future synod assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Hardebeck, Lisa Hardebeck, Vicar Gail Kenny, Mike Kenny, Mikki Lee, Rick Lee

## MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS REPORT

You may be wondering what this new MomCo group is and why you never hear about MOPS anymore. In Fall of 2023, MOPS leadership announced that they would be rebranding the organization as MomCo for three reasons. First, they wanted to honor the generational place each mother has in the community and end the idea that mothers were no longer part of the community simply because their children grew up. Second, they wanted to show respect to other cultures, where MOPS is a bad word or has negative connotations. And third, they wanted to end the association that the name had in the United States with domestic chores (as well as the number of calls they got from people wanting to order mops!).

In keeping with the new inclusive nature of the group, our group is experimenting with having evening meetups to accommodate mothers who are unable to make it to our normal Friday morning meetings due to other obligations. While the nighttime meetings are less structured than the morning meetups, they provide a welcome break from everyday responsibilities and a chance to meet up with other mom friends.

This year’s MomCo theme is “Wild Hope.” At our morning meetups this fall, we had two speakers: Tara Smith, mom blogger and author of “Best Mom St. Louis,” who talked to us about taking opportunities to find joy and adventures with our kids; and Eric McPherson, Counselor and Director of Christian Family Services, about making intentional connections with our spouses. We had group discussions about being open to receive grace and help from God and from others around us, about building a community (including a fun speed-friending activity), about intentional hospitality and creating in our homes the feeling we want others to remember of us, and about self care and ways to simplify our lives. We have shared brunches, including a recipe exchange before Thanksgiving and a cookie exchange before Christmas, and enjoyed making ornaments (see inspiration picture) and having a white elephant gift exchange at our December meetings.

This coming semester, we look forward to discussions on topics like Digital Detox, Getting Outside, Restoring Our Body Image, and Teaching Our Kids to Wildly Hope, as well as game nights, evening outings, our annual cookie making service for the preschool, and our annual Tea & Treasures celebration. We thank Trinity Lutheran Church and all its members for supporting our ministry and making a place for this community of moms in your church.



# MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

## Mission Committee Report



On behalf of the Trinity family, the Mission Committee works to fulfill Trinity's vision "You Matter to God: You Matter to Us" and to show the love of Christ through service to the church, the world and those in need by being the hands and feet of Christ. We are grateful for the opportunity to support this vision through both hands-on and financial support and look forward to continuing this work. We are also grateful for all the individual missional work members of the Trinity family continue to do to share God's love. If you have any questions, please reach out to any member of the Mission Committee (Genie Mueller, Deb Palmer, Aruna Nadar, Lynn Sapp, Leslie Steinmeyer, Christie Tietjen, Rob Harper and Pastor Chris).



In 2024, the Committee worked to uplift Trinity's five Core Missions with the Mission of the Month. This allowed each of the core missions, Circle of Concern, Gateway180, Lantern Hill, Meals Do Matter and Trinity Preschool to be the focus of our efforts twice a year. Additionally, God's Work. Our Hands. Service Sunday was one time in 2024, and we uplifted Circle of Concern during VBS in July.



Our focus in 2024 was to find more ways to provide in-person service opportunities. We are pleased with the creative ideas of the Mission Committee and hope our Trinity family enjoys the new in-person service opportunities. With support from the Mission Endowment Committee, we were able to continue to partner with many organizations and groups and to share God's love and support. This support is detailed later in the Annual Report.

## Circle of Concern



Circle of Concern is a food pantry located in Valley Park that serves approximately 2,000 individuals in west St. Louis County each month. More than a third of these are children. Circle's mission is to feed the hungry and provide assistance to low-income families living in our community.

In February 2024, the Trinity Mission Committee hosted a cereal drive. Trinity Preschool joined us in collecting boxes of cereal. Working together, we were able to collect over 200 boxes of cereal for Circle of Concern.

For the third year, a dedicated group of Trinity gardeners led by Rebecca Henderson and Jenny Larsen worked with our preschoolers to plant herbs, flowers and vegetables. All summer long, we made weekly deliveries of vegetables and herbs to Circle.



Our VBS picked Circle of Concern as the recipient of their VBS service project. During the month of July 2024, our VBS campers, along with our Trinity family, collected over 400 personal care items for Circle.

On May 19, 2024, the Trinity Concert series hosted the Cello Duo Concert. A total of \$5,910 in donations was collected at the concert.

## Lantern Hill

It has been an incredible 12 months at Lantern Hill. We continue to support 100 students in grades from kindergarten through university through the tutoring and nutrition program. There are 9 students in different universities as well as 14 students in high school. The hope that students from this community will continue their education beyond middle school is now a reality!

With the addition of the new building, the old program building has received a facelift and is being used as a recreational space and large gathering space. Plans are in the preliminary stages to try to purchase the old program building so necessary repairs can be made.

Last year, a new piece of property was identified and acquired for an expansion of the programs at Lantern Hill. Plans are for a new gym area as well as 4 new, larger classrooms. Work on the Gym area started and Lantern Hill is beginning the fundraising for this new building. It will be a long road and all donations as well as prayers are appreciated. We are looking forward to the progress that can be made in 2025.

Finally, several Trinity members and friends took part in a multi-generational trip to Lantern Hill this summer. Trinity's next multi-generational trip to Lantern Hill will be in the summer of 2025 but other trips are possible. If you would be interested in forming a small group of friends and family to visit Lantern Hill, please speak with Rob Harper.



# MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

## Gateway180



2024 marked the 17th year of Trinity's relationship with Gateway180. Through the continued support of the Trinity family and friends, we are able to be the hands and feet of Christ by serving this organization and its clients and positively impacting the lives of some of the struggling families in the St. Louis area.



Gateway180 remains Missouri's largest 24-hour emergency housing organization for women, children and families, providing services to empower clients to move their families beyond homelessness into stable, permanent housing as quickly as possible. There are approximately 2,100 individuals experiencing homelessness in St. Louis, twenty-five per cent of whom are senior citizens and twenty per cent of whom are children. Gateway provides roughly 40,000 bed nights of shelter per year to help these vulnerable groups. More importantly, Gateway ends the experience of homelessness for over sixty per cent of the households they serve.



Thanks to the generous support of the Trinity congregation, we were able to contribute to the many resources offered by Gateway. Residents will find housing-focused case management, employment and education support and services, physical and mental health services, and both on-site parenting classes and on-site counseling. For the children who temporarily call Gateway180 home, there are tutoring and mentoring sessions; Girl Scout meetings; monthly birthday parties and organized events and activities that offer enjoyment and fun. Gateway180's support is innovative, nimble, often endless and without limitations, as they remain with a family until the household is able to thrive. Trinity's family and friends have continued to provide support in many ways. In addition to the funds budgeted for this mission, funding available through the Thrivent Action Teams program assisted in supporting Gateway180's needs. On your behalf, the Gateway Action Team gave thoughtful consideration to the use of this funding, targeting both ongoing and special needs. Gateway180 and the Gateway Action Team express sincere gratitude to all that have supported this mission spiritually, financially, in-kind and hands-on.



Throughout 2024, Trinity was the hands and feet of Christ for Gateway180 in many ways:

- Providing food and preparing about 960 sandwiches for Brown Bag lunches.
- Preparing monthly meals of Sloppy Joe sandwiches for the residents.
- Providing school supplies for the children living at Gateway180.
- Preparing and donating intake bags to provide Gateway180's new clients with needed personal care items.
- Providing over 20 buckets of cleaning supplies for the clients thanks to the April Mission of the Month.
- Planning and providing funds for the Gateway Gala.
- Providing small Christmas gifts as a "thank you" to Gateway180's staff.
- Collecting over \$800 in gift cards through Trinity's Season of Sharing.
- Sorting donations at Gateway180.
- Providing over \$1,700 for transportation expenses.



# MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

We look forward to continued support of Trinity's mission to be the hands and feet of Christ by partnering with Gateway180. We value and appreciate the support of the Trinity family in this endeavor. Please contact any member of the Gateway Action Team for more information about how you can be engaged. The current Gateway Action Team members are Ken Hardebeck, Peggy Miller, Jon and Barb Trettel and Kathy Gaal. More members and volunteers are always welcome.

## Trinity Preschool

Trinity Preschool continues to benefit from the generosity of the Mission Committee and Trinity Lutheran Church. Earlier this year, thanks to the support of the Trinity's Mission Committee, our 2-year-old classroom was able to add 2 new tables and 12 new child-sized chairs to their classroom- the students' feet can now touch the floor when they sit!

The Preschool Outdoor Garden continues to benefit Circle of Concern. Working with the preschool children and staff, Rebecca Henderson and Jenny Larsen continue to bring new life to the garden. We were able to plant tomatoes, sunflowers and several spices to share with those in need. In addition, both a butterfly garden and a sensory garden were added for the children to enjoy. The Trinity preschoolers and teachers enjoyed helping plant seeds during the month of May. When many of the students returned in the fall, they were excited to see how large the garden had grown throughout the summer.

In the Fall, the Mission Committee purchased and delivered over 140 pie pumpkins for the 4th Annual Trinity Preschool Pumpkin Patch. Each child chose their own pumpkin, decorated it during the Halloween party, and were able to take it home for their families to enjoy.

The Mission Committee also funded the purchase of 52 Children's Bibles for our 3's Classes and for our new students. The Bibles were presented to the students, along with their parents, by Pastor Chris during Chapel in November. The students were very excited to be able to have a Bible of their very own to take home and share with their families.

Most recently, thanks to the generosity of the Mission Committee, each classroom was granted classroom toys/supplies from their "wish lists" for gifts under the Christmas tree - what a fun surprise for the students right before the Christmas break! The Trinity Staff was also blessed with generous gifts for the end of the school year and for Christmas to show our great appreciation for their time, talent and all the wonderful work they do sharing God's message of Jesus's love. We are so grateful for your generosity and support!



# MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

## Meals Do Matter



Meals Do Matter is a ministry of preparing and providing meals to those in need—blessing friends, family, and total strangers with meals during their times of need. MDM makes home-cooked meals, packages them, and freezes them for our church members to deliver to people in their communities who need extra comfort, compassion, consolation, and care.

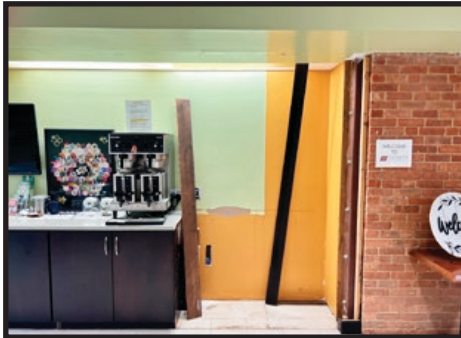
Meals Do Matter is a natural extension of our church's mission, "You Matter to God. You Matter to Us." MDM lives out the mission from God for us to be the hands & feet of Christ. The words that make up our name demonstrate "action" along with empowering people to serve. The gift of a delicious meal really does matter to people who are hurting or struggling. The act of being cared for reaches to the heart and soul of those in need.

In 2024, Meals Do Matter partnered with students from Washington University to cook and assemble meals. We hosted 8 cooking assembly sessions and made over 800 meals for our MDM freezers. Meals Do Matter also hosted smaller cooking sessions to make meals for the freezer.

Trinity hosted 2 Service Sundays in 2024 for our members to help assemble soup kits. Thanks to your efforts, we made over 400 soup kits and kept our freezers full in 2024. In addition to our preschool and Trinity families taking our meals, Lutheran Senior Services, came by almost every Tuesday to take meals and soup kits for their clients. We continued to distribute an average of 80 meals a month in 2024.

On December 8, the Trinity Concert series hosted the Christmas Cantata, which collected over \$6,500 in donations for Meals Do Matter. Thanks to your generosity, our committee has been making plans for more in-person service opportunities in 2025.

Our website, launched in 2015, ([www.mealsdomatter.org](http://www.mealsdomatter.org)) allows for a national presence for this ministry, as well as encouraging and supporting other organizations by sharing in detail how we provide this ministry and how others can be the hands and feet of Christ in their world. Thank you to all who helped fund this ministry: Trinity's Mission Budget, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans (and those who applied for Action Team cards), individual donors of dollars, food, and supplies, and all the hands that have helped.



# MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

## God's Work. Our Hands. Service Sunday God's Work.

The Trinity Mission Committee hosted God's Work. Our Hands. Service Sunday on September 8. At this event, our Trinity family celebrated who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Over 80 members of our Trinity Family gathered to participate in different service projects to benefit Trinity and its five core missions:

- Assembled 100 Thanksgiving boxes for Circle of Concern
- Assembled Intake Kits for Gateway180
- Assembled 170 Soup kits for Meals Do Matter
- Cut out over 120 shapes for the Trinity Preschool Fall Festival
- Wrote out messages in Spanish in 50 encouragement cards for Lantern Hill



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPORT



2024 was a fun and busy year for our children here at Trinity!

Our Vacation Bible School theme this year was “Start the Party”. The children had fun and grew in their faith as they enjoyed our large and small group Bible sessions as well as our music, snack, craft and game stations. Our VBS families were so generous with numerous donations of personal hygiene products donated to Circle of Concern.



We kicked off our Sunday School year with our Rally Day in September. We had fun with our “Creation” theme as we went on a treasure hunt and enjoyed our themed snack mix, games and a craft. Age appropriate Bibles were distributed.

Our Sunday School classes are held every Sunday from 9:00-10:00 am upstairs in rooms 262 and 263. Following the Faith Five curriculum the children spend 30 minutes each Sunday morning learning our weekly Bible story through conversation, crafts and games. The children also spend 30 minutes in music class led by Graeme Allen.



Our Children's Christmas Program this year was “His Name is Jesus”. Our preschool and elementary children put on a beautiful performance and our middle schoolers added a special touch reciting our opening and closing prayers as well as Bible verses throughout the program.

We have twelve seventh and eighth graders in our Confirmation class. Our class is led by Pastor Chris in our conference room at 7:00 on Wednesday nights.

Thank you all for another wonderful year here at Trinity as your Children's Ministry Coordinator!

Stacey Drake  
Children's Ministry Coordinator



# TRINITY PRESCHOOL REPORT

*The purpose of Trinity Lutheran Preschool is to make Christ known to preschoolers and their parents and to provide a developmentally appropriate educational experience that recognizes the spiritual, mental, motional, social and physical needs of the child.*

***“To make Christ known...To help them grow.”***

2024 was a wonderful year at Trinity Preschool! Our program continues to maintain an excellent reputation in the community as a quality Christian preschool. While the school provides a Christian education to the preschoolers of our member families, it is also a valuable outreach into the community. Many families, both from Trinity Church and from our current preschool families, share with their neighbors, family and friends the positive impact that Trinity Preschool has had on their lives. Through the preschool, Trinity students learn of Jesus’s love for them and experience this love daily. Our mission for Trinity Preschool is that our ministry to these children may help lead them and the families towards a relationship with Christ.

Our Christ-centered philosophy, developmental programming, and most of all, our dedicated, highly educated staff are some of the reasons why our preschool is recommended by parents and professionals. We continue to utilize the “Living the Word” Bible Curriculum, which coordinates with what the church is teaching each Sunday. The children are introduced to a new Bible story each week and do an activity to share at home with their family.

Our experienced and talented teachers implement a developmentally appropriate Christian curriculum through our STREAM-Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art and Math, along with our Handwriting Without Tears Programs. This year we have 123 students filling 205 slots in both our morning and afternoon classes...God has certainly blessed us! In addition, we have added an additional 2-year-old class on Tuesdays & Thursdays, an additional MWF 3-year-old class, and an afternoon Tuesday & Thursday Enrichment Class.

Thank you to Trinity Lutheran Church for your continued prayers and support for our Staff and Preschool Families. The Mission Committee has blessed both the teachers and students alike~donating 52 Children’s Bibles for our 3’s Classes, supplying crafts and games for our Fall Festival, granting classroom “wish lists” for gifts under the Christmas tree and blessing our teachers with Christmas gift cards to show their appreciation. We are so grateful for your generosity and support!

It has been a great joy to work with such a dedicated and educated staff of teachers, as well as a supportive and inspirational church. It is my daily privilege and joy to share in ministry with you.

In Him,  
Christy Cole  
Director, Trinity Preschool



## Trinity Youth LEADing Youth (YLY)

I'm so grateful for how connected Youth Leading Youth keeps me to Trinity, and to my faith. The trips I take from Mizzou give me a break from the college lifestyle, and that in itself is such a blessing!

This past year has brought a lot of positive change for YLY. We've had a lot more consistency with events, and that's helped to draw a bigger crowd of youth! Recently, I've made the decision to allow middle school students to attend YLY events. I've encouraged them to bring friends along to events as well!

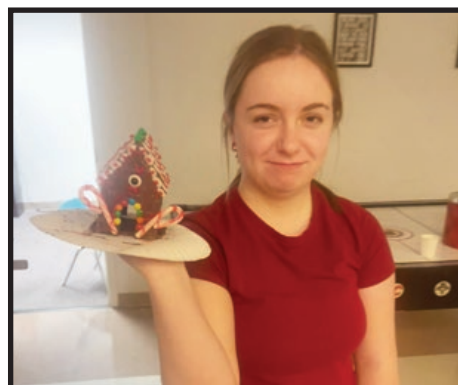
One of my favorite things is watching how the youth interact. God made each individual unique, yet despite differences, there's such kindness and thoughtfulness that surrounds the group. I notice it as the youth ask each other questions about their lives, share a laugh, or work on a gingerbread house together :)

YLY has hosted many events, we're really making use of the youth room! We picked up in attendance during the Crafts, Crumbl, and Christ event on July 28. A "mocktail" and painting night on September 7 was followed by a Fall Festival on October 19, where the youth enjoyed pumpkin painting and Charlie Brown classics. The most recent YLY event was a Christmas party on December 14, where youth were able to create gingerbread houses, eat cookies, and watch *The Grinch*.

Future plans for YLY include a Valentine's event in February, and I'd like to plan an event outside of the youth room - a trampoline park, pottery painting class, etc.

Perhaps the most rewarding part about being a part of YLY is to help the youth feel seen and heard. What a blessing it is to be part of someone's faith journey, I hope to lead each of these individuals further along so that they may grow in Christ's love. May the Lord continue to guide me and YLY. I'm so encouraged by Trinity's congregation and I cannot wait to see what He has in store for us!

Paige Halter, Youth LEADing Youth Coordinator



## Trinity Book Group

We are a group of avid book readers that meet at church on the fourth Monday of the month at 11:30am. We enjoy a wide variety of books that are selected by the group. We bring our own lunches and share some fellowship before we jump into our discussions that are led by different members. In December, we end our year with a potluck lunch and a movie. Everyone is welcome and we would love to have you join us.



## Adult Forum

The Adult Forum had another successful year in 2024. We had a wonderful list of speakers/discussions for our January through May and September through December sessions this past year. We had various “outside” speakers (such as Dr. Fred Niedner, Dr. Warren Crews & Dr. Mark Elting) and “inside” speakers (such as Dr. Richard Johnson, Larry Tietjen, Jerry Partlow, Tom Janicik, and recently Dr. Gerhild Williams), presenting various religious and current event topics.

A quick preview of some of our upcoming sessions from February thru May 2025 is as follows:

A final session on our recent discussions on key events and aspects of the Reformation, a thorough review of the key Missions supported by TLC, a very interesting session on “Essentials of a Happy, Healthy, and Holy Marriage”, understanding what “De-Churching” is all about (lead by Pastor Roy), reviewing “Fitness” as we age, and a deeper discussion on the book of Luke & where is the risen Jesus today. Finally, we wrap up our Spring sessions with Pastor Chris, and his discussion on aspects of the book call Generations.

You can always find the week-by-week Adult Forum schedule of our current semester posted on the white board in Room 123.

The Adult Forum Committee is made up of Mary Hepperly, Jerry Partlow, and Jeff Haferkamp. We would like to say “thank you” to all the attendees and speakers throughout the year. We’re always looking for more help on the committee and welcome your suggestions of relevant speakers/topics to be presented.

2023



## Financial Summary for Trinity for 2024 and 2025 Budget



The following pages summarize the key financial information for the results for 2024 and the budget for 2025.



The first page presents the 2024 budget compared to the actual results for 2024. We ended the year ahead of revenue by \$94,000 and expenses over budget by \$25,000. Envelope giving was \$30,000 over budget! Preschool revenue was over budget by \$75,000 due to increased enrollment. Church staff did an excellent job of managing expenses. The only area that was significantly over budget was administration. The largest areas creating this variance were computers, credit card charges and telephone and internet.



The second page presents the balance sheet as of December 31, 2024, compared to 2023. Our overall cash balance increased by approximately \$206,000. The four primary contributors to this increase were the 2024 surplus of \$69,000 and the increase in the designated funds for the columbarium (included in cemetery), Council Designated Fund, and the Endowment Fund. The surplus from 2024 of approximately \$69,000 will be moved to the Council Discretionary Fund.

The third page presents the 2025 Budget as proposed and compares it to the 2024 Budget. There are a few changes worth pointing out in the proposed budget.

- We are proposing a small increase in Envelope Giving. This is only \$8,000 less than the actual received in 2024.
- We are proposing a significant increase in revenue from the Preschool. The budgeted amount is based upon current enrollment.
- Preschool expenses are projected to increase due to increased enrollment and higher salaries.
- Administrative budgeted expenses were increased based upon 2024's experience.



Trinity had a very strong year financially and is well positioned for 2025 and beyond. We are excited to see where this continued momentum will take Trinity's mission!



## 2024 Budget vs. 2024 Actuals

	2024 Budget	2024 Projected	Variance
<b>Receipts</b>			
Envelope Giving	638,000	668,126	30,126
Fund Raisers and Loose Basket	10,000	3,457	(6,543)
Preschool	372,300	447,771	75,471
Rental and Other	49,500	44,533	(4,967)
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>1,069,800</b>	<b>1,163,887</b>	<b>94,087</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Community Outreach	2,700	1,991	709
Administration	223,983	243,192	(19,209)
Adult Spiritual Growth	203,447	197,251	6,196
Children's Spiritual Growth	15,743	16,596	(853)
Facility	147,400	155,134	(7,734)
Mission	64,000	64,000	-
Preschool	300,400	304,527	(4,127)
Music	65,100	66,283	(1,183)
Worship	4,500	4,260	240
Youth Spiritual Growth	41,952	41,200	752
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,069,225</b>	<b>1,094,434</b>	<b>(25,209)</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>69,453</b>	<b>68,878</b>
Transfer (to) from Council Discretionary	(575)	(69,453)	(68,878)
<b>Net Income After Transfer</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

# 2024 BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY

## 2024 Balance Sheet Summary

ASSETS	31-Dec 2024	31-Dec 2023	Change 2024 vs 2023
Cash/Investments			
ELCA Endowment	449,313	\$ 390,174	\$ 59,139
First Mid Bank	486	\$ 225,016	\$ (224,530)
Prepaid Insurance	17,500	\$ 19,334	\$ (1,834)
US Bank	372,157		\$ 372,157
ELCA Mission Investment Fund	78,604	\$ 77,977	\$ 627
Total Cash and Investments	<u>\$ 918,060</u>	<u>\$ 712,501</u>	<u>\$ 205,559</u>
Fixed Assets			
Buildings	\$ 3,892,130	\$ 3,892,130	\$ -
Cemetery	\$ 5,661	\$ 5,661	\$ -
Furniture and Fixtures	\$ 119,575	\$ 119,575	\$ -
Land	\$ 640,637	\$ 640,637	\$ -
Total Fixed Assets	<u>\$ 4,658,002</u>	<u>\$ 4,658,002</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 5,576,062</u>	<u>\$ 5,370,503</u>	<u>\$ 18,524</u>
AP and Credit Cards	7,500	\$ 2,442	\$ 5,058
Dedicated Funds			\$ -
Capital Campaign	-	\$ 38,953	\$ (38,953)
Capital Reserves	40,562	\$ 55,325	\$ (14,763)
Cemetery	131,205	\$ 47,890	\$ 83,314
Fellowship Care Ministries	11,296	\$ 11,089	\$ 207
Endowment Fund	449,313	\$ 390,174	\$ 59,139
Memorials	1,320	\$ 755	\$ 565
Mission	23,896	\$ 27,844	\$ (3,948)
Discretionary	75,517	\$ 39,117	\$ 36,400
Preschool	54,413	\$ 45,327	\$ 9,086
Payroll Tax	54	\$ 54	\$ 0
Liabilities including designated funds	<u>\$ 795,076</u>	<u>\$ 658,970</u>	<u>\$ 136,105</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 795,076</u>	<u>\$ 658,970</u>	<u>\$ 136,105</u>
Equity	<u>4,780,986</u>	<u>\$ 4,711,533</u>	<u>\$ 69,453</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>\$ 5,576,062</u>	<u>\$ 5,370,503</u>	<u>\$ 205,558</u>

## 2025 Budget vs. 2024 Budget

	2025 Budget	2024 Budget	Variance
<b>Receipts</b>			
Envelope Giving	676,000	638,000	38,000
Fund Raisers and Loose Basket	6,200	10,000	(3,800)
Preschool	456,902	372,300	84,602
Rental and Other	50,000	49,500	500
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>1,189,102</b>	<b>1,069,800</b>	<b>119,302</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Community Outreach	2,700	2,700	-
Administration	244,163	223,983	(20,180)
Adult Spiritual Growth	202,290	203,447	1,157
Children's Spiritual Growth	17,192	15,743	(1,449)
Facility	162,243	147,400	(14,843)
Mission	64,000	64,000	-
Preschool	370,900	300,400	(70,500)
Music	73,030	65,100	(7,930)
Worship	6,000	4,500	(1,500)
Youth Spiritual Growth	44,178	41,952	(2,226)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,186,696</b>	<b>1,069,225</b>	<b>(117,471)</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>2,406</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>1,831</b>

# ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT



Purpose: The Trinity Endowment Fund will be used to enhance the mission and ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, Chesterfield, Missouri (the “Congregation”) and/or to assist in capital improvements over and above the general operation of the congregation as customarily provided for in its annual operating budget. We want to encourage all Trinity members to consider:

## PAYING GOD’S BLESSINGS FORWARD

Fund Status: In accordance with the Founding Document, this is the status of the Trinity Endowment Fund as of December 31, 2024. The summary status of the fund is as follows:

Fund Balance as of 12/31/2023	\$390,912
2024 Mission Support	(\$17,500)
2024 Donations/Additions	\$5,912
Market Changes	\$39,989
Fund Balance as of 12/31/2024	\$419,313

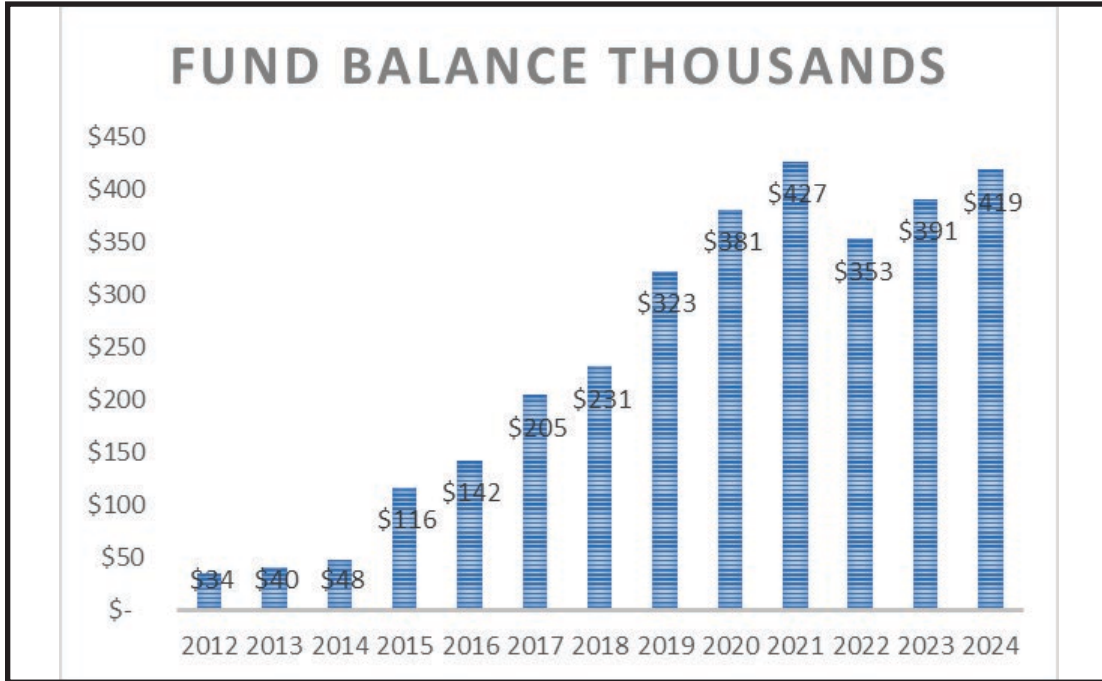
### 2024 Goals and Accomplishments:

1. Manage the Fund’s Portfolio:
  - While the Fund’s portfolio return was positive for the year, returns were not as strong as the S&P 500 Index, as strong market performance was led by a narrow group of stocks.
2. Continual Communication to Congregation
  - Held an Adult Forum last spring and provided updates in the Trinitell, Website, and Emails.
3. Received roughly \$45,000 in contributions at the end of 2024 from the Endowment Fundraiser outreach. The majority of the money is not reflected in our 2024 numbers, as it will be invested into the Endowment Fund in 2025.
4. Distribute Funds to Missions and/or Capital Improvements
  - Donated \$17,500 from Fund in 2024 to the following:
    - Lutheran School of Theology \$2,500
    - Lutheran Senior Services \$2,000
    - Companion Synod \$500
    - Circle of Concern \$1,000
    - Lutheran Campus Ministries \$2,000
    - Lutheran Disaster Response \$2,000
    - ELCA World Hunger \$1,000
    - Trinity Pre School \$3,000
    - Trinity Lutheran Church Facilities \$3,500

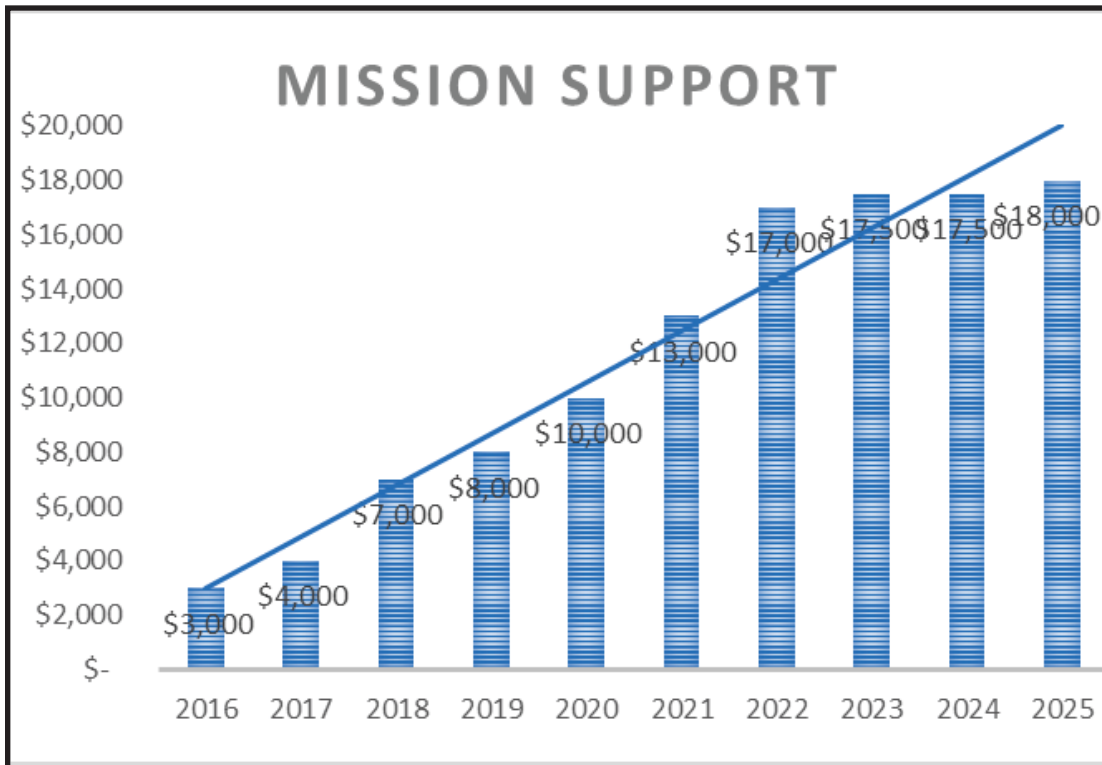
The Endowment Committee recommended, and Council approve a distribution of a total of \$18,000 to be sent out in early 2025. These monies will be divided between various missional causes and a capital improvement at Trinity Lutheran Church.

# ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Trinity Endowment Fund is new and had a balance of about \$30,000 at the end of 2011. As of December 2024, the balance is approximately \$419,313.



This has allowed the Mission Support from the Endowment Fund to continue to grow. The first distribution was made in 2016 and has increased steadily since then.



# FEBRUARY 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

## Trinity Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Minutes February 6, 2023



Call to Order: 11:50 am  
Attendance: Well over the 38 needed for a quorum.  
Opening Devotion: Pastor Chris Naig  
Opening Hymn: ELW #655 “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

### President’s Report—Zack Henderson

- General Comments / 2023 Summary
- ***Review and approve the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes. APPROVED.***



### Pastor’s Report—Pastor Chris Naig

- General Statements: Grateful to be part of Trinity, grateful for Vicar Gail, the Music Team, and the Staff.
- Focus for 2024: Connections; God, Each Other, the World
  - Purpose through Evangelism
  - Better online worship experience
  - Create “Digital Clips” to use for social media, evangelism, etc.
  - Leslie Steinmeyer will be cutting back on duties. She will be greatly missed.
  - Nicole Maloy will take over Communication and IT duties.



### Mission Committee Report—Rob Harper

- Review of our Five Core Missions: Circle of Concern, Gateway180, Meals Do Matter, Lantern Hill, and Trinity Preschool.
- Thank you to Brian/ the Music Team for raising for raising \$12,549 to help fund our Core Missions and for the “We Say Goodbye and We Say Hello” fundraiser, which raised approximately \$20,000 for Trinity Core Missions.
- Circle of Concern, Gateway 180, and Meals Do Matter are always looking for help. Please reach out to these missions if you have time to give.
- Gateway 180 Mission Team are looking to restart the monthly dinners; possibly changing to a week night.
- Lantern Hill—Trintiy has a multi-generational trip to Lantern Hill June 22-28, 2024. Currently 11-13 are going.



### Treasurer’s Report—Paul Ogier

- Budgets: Pages 21 to 24 of the 2023 Annual Report. The 2024 Budget is presented as an overall increase from 2023. We are expecting an increase on Receipts as post COVID numbers are almost back to pre COVID for the Preschool classes and build rentals. The increase in Expenses is to reflect funding for and intern or other Pastoral Care Support and an increase in preschool staff salaries.
- 2023 ended with a \$62,882 surplus!



# FEBRUARY 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

- Items not in Budget: The last large HVAC unit is needing to be replaced. A \$55,000 donation was made to the Building Reserve fund, which should cover this expense.
- The Council Discretionary fund took a hit this year due to needed capital improvements; 2024 will focus on rebuilding this account.
- COVID Employee Retention Credit applications have been sent and we are expecting to receive \$220,000. This can be used to build Council Discretionary.
- Challenges for 2025: Acquire funding to support either an intern or assistant pastor to enable Trinity to grow the congregation and expand our ministry.
- **Presented 2024 Budget. APPROVED**

## Columbarium Committee Report—Larry Tietjen

- The Committee has been meeting to plan a Columbarium for the Trinity Cemetery grounds. Start up money will be needed to develop, but it should become self-funded as niche sales begin. This will include landscaping funding to keep the grounds beautiful.
- We are consulting with two companies to give guidance with initial interest, funding, location, and design.
- Plan to bring request to Council to make Niches available to the community at large. Plots are currently only available to Trinity members.

## Mission Endowment Committee Report—Peter Larsen

- The 2022 Market was not favorable, but we did do better than the overall Market Changes.
- For more details see pages 27 and 28 of the 2022 Annual Report.

## Nominating Committee—Ron Jones

- Opening remarks: The Nominating Committee is grateful for the Trinity Members who have such a great commitment to serve this congregation. It has made their job easy.
- See page 39 of the 2023 Annual Report for the complete slate of Officers, Committee Members, and Delegates.
- **Presentation of Slate 1—Council Officers and At-Large Council Members: APPROVED.**
- **Presentation of Slate 2—Nominating Committee: APPROVED.**
- **Presentation of Slate 3—Mission Endowment Fund Committee: APPROVED.**
- **Presentation of Slate 4—Mission Committee: APPROVED.**
- **Presentation of Slate 5—Synod Assembly Delegates: APPROVED.**

## New President's Comments—Larry Tietjen for Mike Herrmann

- Thank you to all of Trinity's outgoing leaders and for Zack's guidance.

## Closing comments / Prayer: Pastor Chris and Vicar Gail

- Thank you to all Trinity Members!



## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The five slates of 2025 Trinity Nominees are as follows:

Council Officers and At-Large Members  
Nominating Committee  
Endowment Committee  
Mission Team  
Synod Assembly Delegates

For the following slates, the proposed nominees on whom you will vote at the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 4, 2024, are in **bold type** and underlined.

### Slate 1—Council Officers and At-Large Council Members

President Larry Tietjen will serve a one-year term.  
VP/President Elect **Jeff Haferkamp** has agreed to stand for election to a two-year term.  
Secretary Stanley Nadar will serve the second year of 2nd two-year term.  
Treasurer **Mike Hower** will serve the second year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term.

### At-large Council Members

**Elaine Larson** has agreed to stand for election to a 1st two-year term  
**Dan Fry** has agreed to stand for election to a 2nd two-year term  
**Jim Mueller** has agreed to stand for election to a 1st two-year term  
**Eric Halter** has agreed to stand for election to a 2nd two-year term  
**Gene Kerr** has agreed to stand for election to a 2nd two-year term  
Jon Engle will serve the second year of 1st two-year term  
**Mikki Lee** has agreed to stand for election for a 1st two-year term  
Maureen Hoppin will serve the second year of 1st two-year term

### Slate 2—Nominating Committee

Cindy Gesme will serve the second year of a three-year term  
Karen Henselmeier will serve the second year of a three-year term  
Karen Johnson will serve the third year of a three-year term  
**Miguel Pico** has agreed to stand for election to a second three-year term  
**Nicole Maloy** has agreed to stand for election to a second three-year term  
Eric Petersen will serve the third year of a three-year term

### Slate 3—Endowment Fund Committee

Eric Flatterm will serve the second year of a second three-year term  
Eric Halter will serve the second year of a second three-year term  
**Eric Petersen** has agreed to stand for election to a three-year term  
Morris Larson will serve the second year of a first three-year term

### Slate 4—Mission Committee

Rob Harper will serve the third year of second three-year term  
**Deb Palmer** has agreed to stand for election for a second three-year term  
Aruna Nadar will serve third year of second three-year term  
Genie Mueller will serve the second year of a three-year term  
**Donna Rice** has agreed to stand for election to a first three-year term  
Christie Tietjen will serve the second year of a three-year term

### Slate 5—Synod Assembly Delegates

**Eric & Stephanie Petersen** and **Kevin & Karen Johnson** have agreed to serve as Trinity's delegates to the Central States Synod Assembly in 2025.

## Members Received

Gene Hagen  
 Jon Mueller  
 Laura Mueller  
 Jude Mueller  
 Claire Mueller  
 Leo Mueller  
 Pastor Roy Christell  
 Terry Christell  
 Alex Kafoury  
 Deb Evans  
 Sharon Weeke  
 Wayne Weeke



## Baptisms

Chessie Berakha Sasi  
 Reed Harold Goebel  
 Lea Kafoury

## Confirmations

Hudson Lawrence Frank  
 Harrison Patrick Hughes  
 Andre Manuel Johnson

## Weddings

Katie (Steinmeyer) and Sam McGarey

### 2024 Membership Report

	Baptized	Voting	Households
<b>1/01/2024</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>268</b>
Members Received	12	9	5
Confirmation	0	3	5
Baptized Members	3	0	0
Removed/Transferred	-12	-7	-6
Deceased	-9	-9	-6
<b>12/31/2024</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>264</b>

Average Sunday Worship Attendance: 189

## Deaths

Willis Kunz  
 Emily Williams  
 Sam Hopmeier  
 Lillian Mueller  
 Caesar Gomez  
 Waynes Weeke  
 Bette Hecht  
 KJ Sharitz  
 Jill Schroeck



Through your generosity, God is at work across the ELCA. A portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church, helping the ELCA nurture Christian community, raise up leaders, serve our neighbors and strive for justice. Read stories and learn more at [LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA](http://LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA).



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

**YOU MATTER  
TO GOD  
YOU MATTER  
TO US**