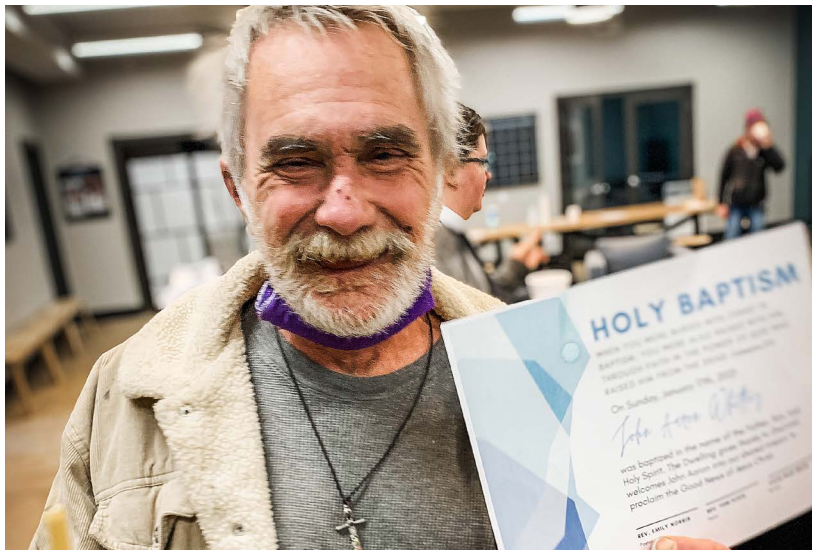


# ANNUAL REPORT

2021



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



## A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP

*Elizabeth  
Eaton*

Dear friends in Christ,

The last year has been one of adapting and learning. In many places we have seen vibrant and vital ministry spring forth from changes made due to the pandemic. Digital worship opportunities have introduced to our congregations people who may never have walked into one of our buildings. Many congregations have found new ways to invite people to share their generosity through online giving. And many ministries have found just how vital they are as they continue to serve alongside people in their communities.

The first chapter of James, verse 17, reminds us that "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." Yes, this has been a season of change, but Scripture also reminds us that we serve a generous, steadfast God.

While we stay rooted in God's enduring, unchanging promise, God also gives us the gifts of creativity and learning. Across all three expressions of the church we have used those gifts to serve God, love our neighbor and share the good news of Jesus Christ. In this time of change, we have opened our arms wider to meet people where they are, living into the reality that we are not defined or confined by the four walls of our buildings.

Through all this, I am so grateful for your generous sharing of creativity, time, talents and resources. All good gifts do come from God, and we are called to share and use those gifts. We have and will continue to answer that call. There is still much change and learning to come, but God's steadfast love energizes us for the work God is still doing in the world through this church.

*Elizabeth A. Eaton*

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

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

# **Trinity Lutheran Church at South Park**

## **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**

**February 6, 2022**

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## **2022 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA**

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AT SOUTH PARK, LAWRENCE, KANSAS**

**February 6, 2022**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Opening Devotion: Pastor Jeff Alvestad**
- III. Approval of Minutes of the February 21, 2021, Annual Meeting**
- IV. Elections: Beth Llewellyn**
  - a. Appointment of Tellers**
  - b. Nominations from the Floor**
  - c. Election of New Council Members**
  - d. Election of Synod Assembly Voting Members**
  - e. Election of Nominating Committee Members**
  - f. Election of Endowment Committee Members**
- V. Reports**
  - a. Pastor Report**
  - b. Treasurer's Report for 2021 and Discussion of 2022 Budget: Barb Bishop**
  - c. Committee Reports**
- VI. Report of the Tellers**
- VII. Closing Devotions**
- VIII. Adjournment**

# Trinity Lutheran Church

## Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

### February 21, 2021

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by Ted Smith, Congregation Council Vice President. Tami McNemee, the Council President, handled the Zoom set up for the meeting. 48 members attended by Zoom and 21 attended in person in the Fellowship Hall.
- A. Opening Devotion: Pr Jeff Alvestad**
- B. Approval of Minutes of the February 9, 2020, Annual Meeting:** Brenda Albright made a motion to approve the minutes, Barb Bishop seconded the motion, and it passed.
- C. Minutes from Call Meeting of 9/27/2020:** Beth Llewellyn made a motion to approve the minutes of the Call Committee meeting, Matt McNemee seconded the motion, and it passed.
- D. Treasurer's Report for 2020:** Barb Bishop thanked everyone for their financial support especially in this year of the pandemic. We did receive \$40,000 in PPP funding from the federal CARES Act. We ended the year with a surplus. Preliminary income at the end of 2020 was \$409,448.18 and preliminary total expenses were \$362,751.01 with an ending surplus of \$46,697.17. Once the final end of year figures are cleared by bookkeepers, Council wants to pay down the line of credit (currently at \$36,388.68). The remainder of any surplus would go to the Council Discretionary Fund. ***This is something to celebrate!*** Ted Smith mentioned that income had increased this year as we are now renting out Bethany House through Tenants to Homeowners, thus providing us with rental income and providing a needy family with housing.

## II. Elections

- A. **Nominating Committee Report:** Ted Smith, the chairperson of the committee, reported the following nominations: for Church Council, Beth Llewellyn, Susanne Shaw, and Jarvis Stirn; for Endowment Committee: Susanne Shaw and Wally Brockhoff; for Nominating Committee: Molly Olson-Kelly and TBA; Synod Virtual Convention attendees: Tami & Matt McNemee.
- B. **Nominations from the Floor:** Brenda Albright volunteered to be a second nominee for the Nominating Committee.
- C. **Appointment of Tellers:** Sandy Cooper, Shelia Smith, and Matt McNemee
- D. **Election of New Council Members**
- E. **Election of Synod Assembly Voting Members**
- F. **Election of Nominating Committee members**

**G. Election of Endowment Committee members**

PAPER BALLOTS WERE PROVIDED FOR THOSE IN ATTENDANCE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. A POLL ON ZOOM WAS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE ATTENDING BY ZOOM. 54 individual ballots were cast. Not everyone who attended voted, obviously.

**III> Reports**

- A. Pastor's Report:** Pastor Jeff Alvestad, who has been with us in person and online since early January, asked everyone to read his report in the Annual Meeting Packet available online and in print. He and Candace thank everyone for the amazing remodeling of the parsonage done before their arrival.
- B. Committee Reports:** See the Annual Meeting Packet
- C. Organization reports:** See the Annual Meeting Reports

**IV. 2021 Budget:** Barb Bishop presented the budget for 2021 which has been a work in progress for several months as we have gone through several changes. After careful consideration by Pr. Jeff and the Church Council, the position of Parish Administrator has been eliminated budget for 2021, after 2/26/21. Ted thanked LaDonna for her many years of dedicated service to this church and to the people of Trinity. We will hire a 30 hour a week Communications Manager and have some morning volunteer help in the office as we move forward. Annielaurie Seifert made a motion to approve the budget for 2021, Jim Cooper seconded the motion, and it passed.

- V. Report of Tellers:** The tellers reported that all those persons nominated were elected. While waiting for the report, Ted Smith presented Tami with a gift from the Church Council of a \$200 gift certificate and some bottles of wine. Ted praised Tami's leadership this past year.
- VI. Closing Devotions** were led by Pr. Jeff Alvestad.
- VII. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harriet Shaffer, Council Secretary

## TLC Council Nominee Bio's

**Belinda Sturm:** Dr. Belinda Sturm, is the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research & Professor in Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering. She has BSPH, Environmental Science & Engineering, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and Ph.D., in Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences, University of Notre Dame. Belinda is married to Brian and they are the proud parents of three boys: Liam, Patrick and Caleb. Belinda and Brian are a part of the livestream crew and Belinda has been involved in Sunday School and youth activities.

**Jim Cooper:** Jim Cooper graduated from the University of Kansas and was commissioned through the Naval ROTC Program in 1974. He earned his wings as a Naval Flight Officer in 1975 and spent thirty years in the Navy. He flew the P-3C Orion sub hunter, serving in assignments throughout the Pacific and Indian Oceans and serving in staff assignments in Sicily, Japan, and at the Pentagon in Washington DC. His last active duty assignment was Commanding Officer/Professor of Naval Science for the University of Kansas NROTC. After his retirement from the Navy he worked in the front office of the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas. Jim is now an active community volunteer. He has previously chaired the Finance Committee and has served on Council twice.

**Tim Mock:** Tim grew up in the American Lutheran Church in Belleville, KS with wife Terelle down the road at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Norway, KS. We have 2 daughters Ashley and Piper. We have been members at Trinity for 15 years or so. I'm a 2000 graduate of KU. I'm currently employed at Truity Credit Union and have been in the banking profession in Lawrence for 17 years. I enjoy watching Ashley play softball, Piper play soccer and the occasional round of golf.

**Wallace Brockhoff:** I grew up on a grain and livestock farm near Hiawatha, KS and was confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in Fairview, KS the traditional way (memorization of Luther's Small Catechism, etc.). I majored in Ag Economics at KSU, where Anne and I met, and then went to law school at KU. I spent the first 28 years of my legal career at Lathrop Gage (formerly Gage & Tucker) in KCMO before moving over to Polsinelli PC in March 2019. My practice is mostly focused on mergers & acquisitions, with a particular focus on founder-owned, agribusiness and employee-owned (ESOP) companies. Shortly after Anne and I were married and moved to Kansas City, we were looking for a church and eventually stumbled our way into Immanuel Lutheran Church, an ELCA church in Westport, where we met Pr. Peter Marty. Pr. Marty remember our names immediately, made us feel very welcome and gave incredibly thought-provoking sermons, which cemented for me how important having a pastor that helps lead a spiritually uplifting service is to the health and vibrancy of a church. I also liked the ELCA atmosphere much better than the rigid Missouri Synod brand of Lutheranism that I'd grown up with. At Immanuel, I served in many roles, including council, chair of a capital campaign for an expansion and chair of their endowment trust fund. We moved out to our farm near Linwood in 2006 and eventually decided that Immanuel was too far to go on Sundays, so have been members at Trinity since shortly before Pr. Teske retired. Trinity is an important church home for me, Anne and our 3 kids.



# 2022 Congregational Report: Jeffery Alvestad, Pastor

## February 6, 2022

<sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup>And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. +++ 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13: 12-13

On occasion I am reminded of two comments from “long ago”:

*“Our congregation is strong, resilient and successful, and we face the next year, and the next decade, with confidence and unbounded potential.”* +++ Jim Cooper, 2019 President’s Report

*“We just want someone to look up to who shows up!”* +++ Olivia Rice, Call Committee Member

Trinity first embodied Faith, Hope and Love to Candace and myself with refurbishing the parsonage in a home we could never afford in the best location in all of Lawrence! During these extraordinary times we have seen dimly and longed to know more fully, but as a community we continue to walk boldly into the future God has prepared for us with faith, hope and love! Jim’s words were especially visionary because they were written during an even more conflicted time. His faith was *“the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”* I have tried to live up to Olivia’s expectations during a continuing pandemic and hope for more time to “show up” in a variety of ways. To that end Stephen Ministers have been valuable and we hope very soon for Stephen Ministers and others to offer monthly communion to shut-ins and those unable to attend worship inside Trinity.

We began 2021 recording the services on Wednesdays in an empty sanctuary aside from my Sesame Street friends in the front row, with some of us gathering Sunday morning in the parking to listen to the broadcast, honking our horns during the sharing of the peace while enjoying cold, communion and community. There was an understandable longing to “come in from the cold” into what is the most beautiful sanctuary of the congregations I have consulted or served!

After Zoom meetings in October and November of 2020, Tami McNemee oversaw the installation of the livestreaming equipment and along with Belinda and Liam Sturm, Darrah and Adele Buren, Ted Smith and Candace Alvestad have managed the livestreaming completing with volunteers. When we are able to move the equipment downstairs it will widen our pool of volunteers. The existing screen in the lobby was also activated for livestreaming and announcements.

There is much to celebrate and look forward to in 2022 and beyond. There is more detail in the body of my report, but among the causes for celebration in no particular order:

### **Staff**

Kevin Cooper, Sherrie Kincaid, Susan Hash, David Cason are simply stellar. Stellar. I am grateful to serve with them!

### **New Members**

We formally received 31 new and returning members in December.

### **Livestreaming**

As many as 42 households worship via livestream each week. In addition to the homebound, and travelers, livestreaming is the “front porch” for seekers looking for a church home. On Christmas Eve the Sturm family worshipped “with us” from Costa Rica.



**Easter Sunrise @ South Park.** The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Community Easter Sunrise @ South Park was very well attended. Hopefully, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Easter Sunrise @ South Park will occur April 17, 2022. The plan at this writing is to have three Easter Services to accommodate social distancing. An informal sunrise at 7 a.m. and identical services at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

### **Stewardship**

Because of your generosity, year to date with a few pledges yet to arrive:

2022	69 households	\$283,820
2021	57 households	\$239,143
2020	66 households	\$261,208
2019	66 households	\$254,441
2018	79 households	\$239,510
2017	85 households	\$264,215

- Because of your generosity, in October our long-standing line of credit was paid in full.
- Because of your generosity and delaying until 2022 the hiring of a Director of Faith Formation, at the end of 2021, \$25,000 in the General Fund was transferred to a new Capital Account in case of increased utility or unexpected building costs.
- Because of your generosity, over \$60,000 was contributed to improve lighting, sound and livestreaming, which should be completed by the end of February.

### **The Cantemos Youth Chorale + Lawrence Children's Choir + The Music Clubhouse**

- The first Cantemos concert was December 5 to a full sanctuary with many members of Trinity present! Trinity members contributed generously to the Chorale in 2021.
- Trinity became the new home of the Lawrence Children's Choir and hosted a Fall Concert with at least 400 in attendance – 95% of whom were not regular attenders of Trinity. The new director, Gabe Lewis O'Connor has introduced Susan and myself to Dr. Eduardo Garcia-Novelli, the new Director of Choral Studies at KU (who comes from Carthage/Kenosha Wi. an ELCA college) and Grammy award winning Charles Gruffy, the Director of the Kansas City Symphony Chorus in furthering close ties with KU and the arts community. When people in Lawrence think of Trinity I hope they think of an inclusive faith community of all ages that values the arts and ideas.
- Not only do 100 piano students and their families visit Trinity every week, the Music Clubhouse has brought new life to three rooms by the library. Janet Hart and her students have graced our worship and provided music on Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Eve and other services. Janet hopes to provide several students to David Cason for free the organ lessons as Trinity's gift to the larger church in providing more church musicians.
- The Lawrence Children's Choir and Music Clubhouse together contribute or reimburse Trinity roughly \$18,000 per year in maintaining and improving our wonderful facility, but far more important further our mission to be a community that values children, youth, the arts and ideas.
- I cannot express how uplifting and inspiring it is to be in the building during the day or evening and hear the voices of children singing or playing the piano.

### **Scouting Troop**

We are the new home of new Scouting Troops. Lorin Maletsky and Ryan Devlin are heavily involved.

### **Pastor's Class**

The Pastor's Class that meets in the Fellowship Hall after worship to study the appointed scripture readings for the following Sunday. We are fortunate to have Pastors Randy Weinkauf, Victoria Brundage, and Randy Baldwin who is the new Lutheran Campus Ministry Pastor, lead the classes. The Pastor's Class resume March 13, after a special forum in March on Deaf Ministry led by Ralph and Sunnie Planthold.

### **Trinity Winter Forum**

Our congregational meeting is occurring in the middle of what we hope will be an annual Trinity Winter Forum that will also be of interest to the "congregation of Trinity not yet here". Sarah Bell, Virgil Dean and Belinda Sturm are members. Please offer suggestions for 2023.

### **Worship**

We owe many thanks to Tami McNemee who sorted through the technical details procuring of equipment and installation. As many as 42 households worship via livestream and this ministry is completely dependent on volunteers! We need at least two more volunteers to occasionally operate the livestream and/or push the button to begin the radio broadcast at 11 a.m.

Worship and music have been incredibly enhanced with the addition of Susan Hires and David Cason as new staff members with Janet Hart and students providing special music on occasion. Last Fall a long-time choir member said to the choir that he didn't remember there being more people singing in the choir. Susan and David are setting a high expectations bar for a stellar choir and music ministry.

There is wonderful synergy with our Susan Hires and David Cason, as well as Gabe Lewis-O'Connor the Director of the Lawrence Children's Choir, Janet Hart the Director of the Music Clubhouse, and Emily Boedeker the Director of Cantemos. As many as 200 young people and their families visit Trinity during the week, familiarizing themselves with our location and beautiful main building. They bring life and joy and make good use of our expansive building during the week.

We can be very thankful for the generosity of the congregation enabling us to let light shine in the beautiful sanctuary provided for us. We also owe many thanks to Jarvis Stirn as the liaison to the Property Committee, Council, consultant and contractor on the specifics and engineering of the project.

### **Property**

Our property team is completing an overall assessment of building and grounds needs. I would like to add a commercial playground as well. John Martello has done an excellent job leading the group and has completed his term.

### **Staff**

In addition to Susan Hires and David Cason, I am very grateful to serve with Kevin Cooper and now Sherrie Kincaid! Included in the 2022 budget, is moving Sherrie Kincaid our Office/Communications Manager to full time. We had reduced administrative staff from 1.25 to .75 equivalent positions based on how administrative staff functioned and declining offerings and attendance. Sherrie Kincaid is very gifted in areas such as social media, web, and graphic design. Her manner is appreciated by those who come to Trinity during the week. Many thanks to the volunteers who help at the front desk during the week. Under Sherrie's management the radio broadcasts and flower sponsorships are usually fully funded. Moving her to full time is good stewardship.

Trinity has additional "full-time" programmatic needs. Parents of children and youth at Trinity have been extraordinarily patient. In last year's budget there were funds for a full-time staff member to begin mid-year whose main responsibility included ministries relating to children, youth and family, but also inclusive of faith formation and service opportunities for all God's people. Pending approval of the 2022 budget, the search begins with the expectation of someone coming on board July 1, 2022. Funding a new position for a year will have implications for the 2023 budget. The position description parents crafted several years ago has been very helpful. We saw a glimpse of the Children and Youth led Lessons and Carols service on December 19.

### **Director of Faith Formation**

Soft inquiries have begun and pending approval of the 2022 budget, the search will intensify. The position parents crafted several years ago has been very helpful!

Beyond staffing needs focused on children and youth there needs to be sensitivity in building a child friendly culture at Trinity. Implications might be how the Fellowship Hall is refurbished, the installation of a commercial quality playground, Sunday refreshments children enjoy, and simply having children, youth and their parents and caregivers in mind when planning events. This involves asking larger questions like, how will children and youth be involved, and why would they want to be?" These are the kinds of larger questions I would like Council and committees to explore shifting away from the day to day management of the church.

### **Moving Forward**

With every action, there is reaction. I am well aware how been difficult it has been to yet again to adjust another pastor. I hope we are moving toward a culture, especially on Council less reliant on memory and guided by our Constitution/By-Laws with committees transitioning into ministry teams organized around SMART goals:

**Specific**

**Measurable**

**Attractive**

**Related**

**Timetable**

Twenty-five years ago, then Presiding Bishop, H. George Anderson wrote a monograph entitled, "A Good Time to Be the Church," but added, "this doesn't mean it is an easy time to be the church." The next decade will not be kind to communities who do not sort through what part of normal is worth returning to and what is not. Doing the same things and over again expecting different results lends itself to a "closed system" that beyond an initial welcome, inhibits fresh perspectives. The average worship attendance downward trends in our ELCA Trend Report that began long before the last few years are not sustainable.

We owe many thanks to Ted Smith, Lorin Maletsky, Webb Hecker, Harriet Shaffer and Brenda Albright who have served on Council and many others who help in the financial office, serve on committees, assist during worship and volunteer in the office! Annielaurie Seifert is also stepping back after serving five years as chair of the Worship committee and John Martello from Property. Thank you all!

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffery, Alvestad, Pastor

# Membership Report 2021

*\*Membership is defined in the Congregation Constitution & Bylaws Sec. C8.04.01*

<b>2021 Received Baptism</b>		<b>2021 Removed</b>	
Affirmations of Baptism		Deceased	10
Transfer	0	Transfer	4
Other	0	Request	0
	0	Other	0
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total Removed</b>	<b>14</b>

Membership as of December 31, 2020:	392
Net change in membership	29
<b>2021 Total membership (including inactive members)</b>	<b>421</b>

# **Council President Annual Report 2021**

Dear Congressional Friends and Family,

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. I want you to know how much I appreciate you and our partnership in experiencing the Gospel here at Trinity Lutheran Church at South Park. It has been an honor to serve as your Council president and it has been a pleasure to serve along with other Council members, Barb, Jeff, Harriet, Lorin, Webb, Bill, Brenda, Ken, Beth, Susanne, and Jarvis. With the ongoing COVID Pandemic, the normal Trinity experience has been anything but normal and I thank you all for your patience and sacrifice as we have lived, served and worshiped together, either in person or virtually.

Regardless of the Pandemic, our Congregation has been able to achieve great things this year. The Church was blessed to welcome Pastor Jeff Alvestad and his wife Candice to our Church. We have weathered some staff changes and I believe the Church's operations have not missed a beat, thanks in part to our volunteers. Based on your generosity, Trinity has been able to end CY 2021 in the black and I believe Trinity is in good hands for the future with Beth's leadership and all the new members to the Church. Your support of improvements to the Church's lighting, audio and livestreaming has been extraordinary and I can't wait for their implementation later this year.

We have welcomed new partners to Trinity, Cantemos, Boy Scouts of America, Lawrence Children's Choir and Music Clubhouse that have breathed more life into the Church and its surrounding community, East Lawrence. While these programs do not generate financial gains for the Church, they do achieve a goal I have worked towards during my three years on Council - A Church should be a warm, open place, so that children and adults of any age can feel welcome regardless of their economic class, sexual or gender orientation, race, neuro-diversity, political affiliation, or ability. We are all children of Christ and it has been a privilege to share this time on Earth with you.

In Christ's love,  
Ted Smith

## **Finance Committee Annual Report 2021**

The congregational members of the finance committee are Rick Ehert, Larry Arnold, Tami McNemee, and Ex Officio Members Treasurer Barb Bishop, Financial Secretary Janet Ross, Endowment Chair Harriet Shaffer, Council Chair Ted Smith, and Pastor Jeff.

The committee normally meets on the third Thursday of each month, The Finance Committee is charged with over seeing the expenses/budget. They review the monthly expenses and discuss any pressing financial concerns. The committee also reviews the recommendations from the Endowment and Memorial Committee to assure that those recommendations meet the churches financial and budgetary plan. They may also refer proposed expenses to Memorial or Endowment for their consideration if the proposed expenses are over the budgeted line item or have not been addressed when the budget was created.

The committee is also charged with aiding the Treasurer in developing the annual budget. Of particular concern in developing this year's budget were the increases in utility costs, rising insurance rates, maintenance cost and program expansion.

# **Financial Secretary Annual Report 2021**

The past year was a testament to the resilience of the congregation at Trinity Lutheran Church. Despite the ongoing pandemic and its pernicious impact on the demographic make-up of a large portion of our church members, we resumed in-person worship services last Spring. With the return of in-person service, our faithful counting team members, consisting of Deb Boatright, Deb Black, Alita Cooper, Sue Reeder, Barb Kurtz, Barb Bishop and Carole Rehder also returned to their much appreciated duties of counting the weekly offerings and segregating the offerings into the various accounts for which the funds were intended.

In March of last year Jane Warren completed the annual validation for compliance with the requirements of the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard. The benefits of achieving PCI-DSS compliance helps TLC take a proactive approach to data security and employee awareness relating to the acceptance and safe handling of credit card and bank payments. This certification greatly reduces the potential of a data breach or compromise to TLC's electronic fund giving. The growth of our members' on-line giving is a strong indication of the confidence in the system we employ.

Our members demonstrated their faith and generosity in many ways during the challenging past year. Our Envelope/Loose Offering (the monetary gifts given to the general fund of the church) was evidence of that generosity. The Envelope/Loose Offering grew to a total of \$385,000. The amount was an approximate ten percent increase over the levels given in 2019 and 2020. The total in the general fund is more impressive when considered in the context that funding for the church's many dedicated accounts also increased by an additional \$60,000 over the level at the end of 2020. The church also paid-in-full an outstanding line of credit debt of \$40,000. Finally, the pledge cards we have received for 2022 indicate that while the number of households submitting pledges (69) remain relatively constant, the pledged amount of \$282,820 is a significant increase over the past several years.

The aforementioned financial results clearly show the endorsement for the programs and ministries our pastor and the church committees are pursuing; and the renewed vitality and confidence our congregation has for the future of TLC and the impact we can have in the community. The continued support and commitment our congregation has shown is greatly appreciated.

If you have questions regarding how to give your offering, please do not hesitate to contact me. We can discuss on-line giving through VANCO, giving from retirement accounts - required minimum distributions (RMD), qualified charitable distributions (QCD), or simply the transfer of securities from personal brokerage accounts.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Ehret



## 2021 Budget

		2021	
<b>Income</b>			<b>Expenses cont</b>
Envelope/loose offerings	344,000.00	370585.20	<i>Worship and Music</i>
Initial Offering	400.00	805.80	<i>Children Learning</i>
Debt Reduction	1,000.00	737.76	<i>Adult Ed</i>
Other Receipts	0.00		<i>Caring</i>
Facility Use Rental	1,000.00	875.00	<i>Evangelism</i>
Media Ministry	1,500.00	2799.00	<i>Radio Broadcast</i>
Dedicated Revenue Received	5,000.00	918.23	<i>Total Evangelism</i>
Altar Flowers	800.00	795.00	<i>Social Concerns</i>
Bethany Rental	15,000.00	15952.92	<i>Outreach/Benev</i>
interest income	0.00	9.63	<i>Synod Benevolence</i>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>368,700.00</b>	<b>393478.54</b>	<i>Campus Ministry</i>
			<i>Total Outreach</i>
<b>Expenses</b>			<i>Youth &amp; Family</i>
<i>Personnel</i>			<i>Property</i>
Salary	175053.41	149134.47	<i>Utilities</i>
Pension	11581.56	11528.62	<i>Insurance</i>
Health	16724.4	12872.83	<i>Repair &amp; Main</i>
FICA/SSA offset	15303.4	13229.76	<i>Supplies</i>
Pastor's Cont Ed	1000	225.99	<i>Total Property</i>
Prof Exp Pastor	500	330.00	<i>Stewardship</i>
Home Equity	2742	2742.00	<i>Fellowship</i>
Auto Allowance	2500	1481.13	<i>Administrative</i>
Conventions/Retreat Pastor	0	195.00	<i>Communications</i>
Workers Comp	2500	2074.93	<i>Hospitality</i>
<i>Total Personnel</i>	<i>227904.77</i>	<i>193814.73</i>	
			<b>Total Program</b>
<i>to Capital Reserves</i>		<i>25000.00</i>	
		<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$393,478.54</b>
		<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$375,811.32</b>
		<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$17,667.22</b>

Trinity Lutheran receives money from both the Lawrence Children's Choir and the Music Clubhouse who use our facilities for their lessons. These monies are not considered part of our General Funds. In 2021 The Clubhouse funds were used to pay for needed upgrades and maintenance on the South doors and the south classrooms. Any additional funds from the clubhouse and those from the Lawrence Children's Choir were placed in the fund for the Sacristy lighting improvement project.

## 2022 Proposed Budget

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenses cont</b>	
Envelope/loose offerings	395000.00	<i>Worship and Music</i>	10535.00
Initial Offering	500.00	<i>Children Learning</i>	1450.00
Debt Reduction	0.00	<i>Adult Ed</i>	925.00
Other Receipts		<i>Caring</i>	810.00
Facility Use Rental	1500.00	<i>Evangelism</i>	200.00
Media Ministry	2000.00	<i>Radio Broadcast</i>	4680.00
Dedicated Revenue Received		<i>Total Evangelism</i>	4880.00
Altar Flowers	800.00	<i>Social Concerns</i>	1600.00
Bethany Rental	10000.00	<i>Outreach/Benev</i>	
interest income		<i>Synod Benevolence</i>	19775.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>409800.00</b>	<i>Campus Ministry</i>	400.00
		<i>Total Outreach</i>	20175.00
<b>Expenses</b>		<i>Youth &amp; Family</i>	1650.00
<i>Personnel</i>		<i>Property</i>	
Salary	193950.00	<i>Utilities</i>	44500.00
Pension	11578.00	<i>Insurance</i>	32000.00
Health	13900.00	<i>Repair &amp; Main</i>	23750.00
FICA/SSA offset	16092.86	<i>Supplies</i>	1000.00
Pastor's Cont Ed	1000.00	<i>Total Property</i>	101250.00
Prof Exp Pastor	500.00	<i>Stewardship</i>	1000.00
Home Equity	2742.00	<i>Fellowship</i>	250.00
Auto Allowance	2500.00	<i>Administrative</i>	16635.00
Conventions/Retreat Pastor	200.00	<i>Communications</i>	4100.00
Workers Comp	2000.00	<i>Hospitality</i>	25.00
<i>Total Personnel</i>	<i>244462.86</i>		
		<b>Total Program</b>	<b>165285.00</b>
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$409,800.00</b>	
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$409,747.86</b>	
	Difference	\$52.14	

Trinity Lutheran receives money from both the Lawrence Children's Choir and the Music Clubhouse who use our facilities for their lessons. These monies are not considered part of our General Funds. In 2022 these monies will be used to offset any additional utility and maintenance costs incurred by Trinity. Any funds over and above cost directly occurred from housing these programs will be used for improvements in the heating/cooling system and the Fellowship Hall.

# Mission Endowment Committee

## Annual Report 2021

The Trinity Mission Endowment Committee is responsible for overseeing two separate endowed funds of the church. The committee only distributes money from interest on pooled trust I. **Endowment Pooled Trust I**, governed by bylaws protecting the principal, provides interest quarterly which feeds into a Mission Investment Fund account. The balance in Pooled Trust fund I as of **11/30/2021 was \$293,685.60**. Committees and groups within the church may apply for funding which meets the criteria of the bylaws, primarily in advancing the MISSION of the church locally and throughout the community and world. **Members may contribute to the principal of this fund at any time.**

**Endowment Pooled Trust Fund II** contains endowments from specific deceased members of the congregation (Milliken, Baker, Thompson) as well as unendowed funds from the Clepper estate invested there by the Church Council in 2012. Interest from the endowed funds goes to specific funds of the church quarterly (based on donor's request) as follows: Milliken to Property; Endacott and Baker to Youth; Endacott to Music; Thompson to Council. Interest from the Clepper fund goes into Tech Reserves, Children's Reserves, and Building Reserves funds. The balance in Pooled Trust Fund II as of **11/30/2021** was \$410,898.92.

Because the pandemic continued into 2021, the Committee met twice by email. The balance in the **Mission Investment Fund** account (into which interest from Pooled Trust Fund I is deposited quarterly) as of 11/30/2021 was \$4585.30. Deposits of \$11,090.00 from quarterly distributions and interest were received during 2021. During 2021, allocations were made to the following groups or committees of the church: \$3500 to the Central States Synod for companion synod support, \$3160 to church boiler repair, \$2000 to Lutheran Student Ministry, \$1500 to Justice Matters, \$1000 to Once We were Refugees. And \$2000 to the Pet Food Pantry.

These allocations met the bylaws requirements of a minimum of 20% toward social services; a minimum of 20% for the Mission of the ELCA in this continent and worldwide; a minimum of 20% for capital **improvements, debt reduction, education, or building program of TLC**, and up to 40% for OTHER, consistent with the Mission outreach of TLC. We have a **funding application form** which we sent out twice this year to all committees and other groups in the church, inviting their requests for funding which meets the criteria of the bylaws.

Thank you to the members of the Mission Endowment Committee: Susan Hadl, Susanne Shaw, Annielaurie Seifert, Wally Brockhoff, and Harriet Shaffer (Chairperson), and Pr. Jeff Alvestad, ex officio. I have served the maximum number of terms and will be leaving the committee in 2022. Susan Hadl resigned in 2021. Nominees are Tami McNemee, Matt McNemee, and Wally Brockhoff, renomination. Thanks are in order to Traci Johnson, our bookkeeper.

Harriet Shaffer

# **Worship and Music Committee Annual Report 2021**

Annielaurie Seifert (ALS), chair  
Pastor Jeff Alvestad  
Lou Flessner (until 2/6/21)  
Sandy Cooper  
Megan McCoy (choir and music director  
until Spring 2021)  
Leah Larson  
Marilyn Clark  
Webb Hecker (until Summer 2021)  
Stuart Taylor (organist until Fall 2021)  
Beth Llewellyn (Council Liaison)  
Susan Hash-Hires (Choir and Music Director  
as of Fall 2021)

Worship and Music Committee met once a month on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Beginning in April 2020 meetings were held by ZOOM. This continued into 2021, but in-person meetings started in October.

We said goodbye to Lou Flessner in February as he went on to pursue some other interests, to Choir and Music Director Megan McCoy in the spring, and to organist Stuart Taylor in the fall.

We welcomed Pastor Jeff Alvestad in January, with installation on May 23. We welcomed Susan Hash-Hires as Choir and Music Director, as well as David Cason as organist, in the fall. We also welcomed Beth Llewellyn as the Council Liaison, replacing Webb Hecker (who decided he would like to stay on the committee, but later needed to resign).

The organ and the pianos in the sanctuary and music room were tuned and some organ repairs were done. Pianos were rearranged and some were donated. The Steinway piano is now in the Sanctuary in hopes that it will help draw recitals and concerts, thus additional people to our church. Major work on the Steinway is on the runway for 2022.

Live-streaming services were started on February 21. After a few minor snags, this has become a welcome and permanent part of our worship experience.

Ash Wednesday services were held in the parking lot.

On Palm Sunday we returned to in-person worship with mask and distance restrictions.

A lovely Easter Sunrise service was held next to the gazebo in South Park. There were some non-member faces and members who had been staying at home were able to worship safely outside. The service was well received and we anticipate repeating in 2022.

The Cantemos children's choir was launched with a summer 4-day camp and is now being managed by its own independent board incorporated as a 501c-3 organization. Trinity is serving as home sponsor. They filled the house for their first concert in the sanctuary.

Water was added back into the baptismal font once it was deemed that it might be safe.

Confirmation was celebrated for 7 youth during the worship service on June 13.

We resumed having a Thanksgiving Eve service. New members (a record number of 31) were received in a special service on December 12. We had three Christmas Eve services. The 4:00 and 7:00 services were live-streamed.

When in-person services resumed, altar flowers were provided as spring flowering potted plants that could be used for multiple Sundays. In June, once potted flowers were not so available, we went back to regular deliveries from HyVee. Office & Communications Manager Sherrie Kincaid has taken over scheduling sponsorship of flowers and radio broadcasts. She is doing an outstanding job with this.

In the spirit of special activities for festival Sundays, former Pastor Gary Teske, preached for All Saints Sunday.

Choir has increased in number, including 2 paid section leaders. Their contributions have provided depth and volume that has made a significant difference.

Some changes were made to the layouts of bulletins and eNews for ease of reading and increased communication.

We have continued to work toward consolidating the worship supplies that are currently being stored in various closets and rooms around the building. They are now being stored in the Vestry (aka Robing Room).

Respectfully submitted,

Annielaurie Seifert, Chair

## **Trinity Lutheran Church Music Director of Music, Susan Hash-Hires**

It has been a lovely gift for me to take on the role of Music Director for Trinity Lutheran. Despite the uncertainty of COVID, the choir has grown and hopefully will continue to do so. The level of musicianship in this group is very high, and their open and welcoming attitude is a blessing. I know that as we move forward the group will get better and better- and they too have big plans! I am very fortunate also to have Organist, David Cason at my right hand. His musical gifts, attention to detail and humor make work a joy. Looking ahead, I hope for expansion of offerings for making music. We have 5 octaves of handbells and 3 of hand chimes that need to be put to work! I'd like to engage adults (music readers or not!) and children and youth in ringing, and get our instrumentalists of all ages involved in working with the choir and as a larger group. Music is a gateway for involvement and community in the church, and I hope to create more opportunities for engagement in the coming years.

*Susan Hash-Hires*

# Learning Committee

## Children & Youth Ministry 2021 Report

Greetings Council and Congregation:

Gratitude and optimism are the words that come to mind as I recount the Learning Committee's work in 2021. The first because of the many Trinity members who've poured time and effort into creating engaging and enriching programs for our children and youth. Enthusiastic support from Pastor Alvestad, Susan Hires and Sherrie Kincaid is also much appreciated. And the optimism? After continuing remotely in the early months of the year, we were able to return in person for classes and activities in the fall. Our enrollment has increased, and new families have brought their own energy to our work. A sense of normalcy has returned, and we look forward to expanding opportunities for families to grow in faith.

### Programs Overview

#### Sunday School Update

##### Leadership – Belinda Sturm & Terelle Mock

Spring 2021 was a continuation of the at-home *Fruit of the Spirit* curriculum that was delivered to families in January, as well as special activities for Lent and Easter. We were not able to hold our typical year-end celebration; instead, we mailed each Sunday school student a card, summer schedule and \$5 gift card to Syllas & Maddy's ice cream shop.

We kicked off the fall session with Back to Church Sunday (formerly Rally Day) on Sept. 12. We welcomed kids back, presented new bibles to third graders and enjoyed snacks and crafts, including decorating the welcome sign currently displayed near the entryway. Sunday school is held weekly after the church service. We begin in the chapel with announcements, a celebration of baptismal birthdays and music led by Choir Director Susan Hires. Kids are then dismissed to go to their downstairs classrooms. The pre-kindergarten through first grade class has 5 students and is led by Terelle Mock. The second through fifth grade class has 8 students (two of whom will move to Confirmation next year) and is led by Belinda Sturm. Lorin Maletsky, Kevin Boatright (also our photographer) and Anne Brockhoff assist as needed. Both classes are using the *Spirit and Truth: Teaching Kids the Heart of Worship* curriculum, which leads students into the language of worship by exploring the church year's liturgy and festivals.

A tour of Trinity's stained-glass windows with Nancy Vogel in October also helped kids connect with the worship space itself. Belinda leads all ages in preparing meals for L.I.N.K. whenever it's our church's turn to provide them—definitely one of the kids' favorite activities!

#### Confirmation Update

##### Leadership – Karen Nicholas



Karen Nicholas again oversaw our Confirmation class with the assistance of Milford Limesand. Despite our unusual circumstances this past year, we confirmed 7 students in June: Eliza Brockhoff, Adele Buren, Loki Frost, Evan Maletsky, Cale Paden, Sydney Smith, and Zoie Stirn.

This fall, we resumed in-person Confirmation classes on Sunday mornings for sixth, seventh and eighth graders with a class curriculum that follows a three-year cycle: Old Testament, New Testament (what we are currently studying), and Catechism. We have 10 students, and we will confirm 5 individuals in May. It's been a lot of fun being in person, having the opportunity to eat junk food, and talk about the "good" and "bad" from the week.

Confirmation students and high school students helped make Valentines last year for members of the congregation, and the Confirmation class is making Valentines again this year. Additionally, the Confirmation class helped bake cookies for a Sunday coffee hour in December. The class will continue to study the New Testament this spring.

### **Youth Update**

#### **Leadership – Anne Brockhoff**

There are 12 high school students in the congregation, but it remains difficult to find meaningful ways to engage with them. There has been no ongoing bible study or other gathering time for students; rather, we have focused on trying to include them in all-ages activities. Several high schoolers worked with Confirmation students to host a Halloween party for Sunday school kids and joined Confirmation and Sunday school students in the Lessons & Carols Christmas program. The Learning Committee mailed holiday greetings and \$5 gift cards to Syllas and Maddy's to each of them in December. Three of our students—Marie Brockhoff, Max Fagan and Janice Werth—will graduate from high school in May.

### **Vacation Bible School**

#### **Leadership – Jennifer Alderdice**

Jennifer Alderdice headed up Vacation Bible School, which was held at Trinity in June in cooperation with First Baptist Church and Plymouth Congregational Church. This outdoor event offered games, crafts, music and to-go snacks for kids ages 4 through fourth grade. We appreciate her continued leadership in this role!

### **Children & Youth Activities**

Many kids from grade school through high school have assisted as acolytes and crucifers (thank you to Annielaurie Seifert for coordinating sign-ups). Others have regularly helped manage the livestreaming of weekly services.

This year saw the return of Trinity's Halloween Party. High school and Confirmation kids built a haunted house in the youth room; there were also treats, games, crafts and a costume parade in fellowship hall. Both members and children from the surrounding neighborhood attended.

**Sunday school, Confirmation and high school students also helped decorate Trinity's Christmas tree and enjoyed hot chocolate afterward.**

Susan Hires has been a wonderful addition to our youth programming, and she enthusiastically leads our Sunday school students in singing during the opening each week. In addition, Susan arranged a Lessons & Carols program that combined the talents of Sunday school, Confirmation and high school youth with those of Trinity's organist and choir to present an all-ages performance in December. Holiday gift bags were distributed to kids after that event.

We also appreciate the efforts of Cathy Box and other Children's Sermon volunteers. Although this isn't part of the Learning Committee, we are grateful for the way they joyfully share faith with kids each Sunday.

### **Looking Forward**

The outlook for Trinity's children and youth programming is largely positive, particularly as the church moves toward hiring a director of youth and family ministry. This goal remains essential. Parents have long shouldered the entire responsibility of planning and organizing all youth-oriented programming. While these volunteers joyfully serve, Trinity needs a dedicated staff person if it hopes to develop necessary programs (especially for high school youth), plan impactful activities (including mission trips), expand outreach and create meaningful experiences for all families. We've also begun planning to make the spaces used by our kids more welcoming and fun, especially the youth room. Also in the works: plans to clean out the basement supply closet and other spaces to make storage more useable and supplies more accessible. And, as always, the Learning Committee welcomes all those who would like to get involved in helping our youngest members grow in Christ.

Blessings for a better future—  
Anne Brockhoff  
Chair, Learning Committee

# Boy Scouts

## Troop 62

Troop 62 of Lawrence, Kansas was newly chartered at Trinity Lutheran Church for the year ending October 31, 2022. The charter was officially presented to TLC during the church service on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The “key three” adult leaders are Lorin Maletsky – Scoutmaster, Cary Strong – Committee Chairman, and Ryan Devlin – Charter Organization Representative (COR). The troop currently has nine active boy scouts and six adult leaders. Three scouts are currently working towards Eagle rank. The troop meets every Tuesday night at 7:00 until 8:30 in Fellowship Hall. We plan outdoor events every month, usually with camping. In summer of 2022 we will be attending summer camp at Camp Naish in Kansas City from June 12-18. Troop 62 does not draw funds from the TLC budget. A bank account has been created at Main Street Credit Union that is used to manage the funds to operate the troop. The troop has been allocated a room in the basement to store our gear.

The members of Troop 62 were previously in Troop 61, chartered at the AME church in Lawrence. During 2021 Troop 61 had numerous events including backpacking on Clinton Lake and at Indian Caves State Park. Camping twice at Lake Perry with one time also canoeing. The troop did not attend summer camp due to the Camp Naish week being canceled due to covid and low enrollment. In the Fall the troop camped on the USS Razorback Submarine in Little Rock Arkansas. The troop also sent a 10-person crew to Philmont High Adventure National Scout Ranch in New Mexico in August where they hiked 53 miles and participated in many activities including ATV riding, fly fishing, black powder rifle shooting, and panning for gold.

Lorin Maletsky



## **Stephen Ministry**

### ***Christ Caring for People Through People***

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

We thankfully acknowledge the gift of the Stephen Ministry program to our congregation, which was started in 1998. We continue to praise and thank God for willing Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders who have provided countless hours of one-on-one Christ-centered caring for those in our congregation facing periods of crises, transition, or difficulty.

Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus' command to "love one another, as I have loved you". The Stephen Minister is a lay person, who has undergone 50 hours of training to earn skills and develop his/her God-given gifts to assist someone in need. A Stephen Ministry brings Christ's healing love to people who are experiencing a crisis or stress in their lives by providing a "listening ear", a non-judgmental and confidential helping hand. A Stephen Minister is the care-giver; God is the cure-giver!

The Stephen Minister Leaders are Ruth Sarna, Debra Black, Charles Baars, and Pastor Jeff Alvstad. The current Stephen Ministers are listed below:

Brenda Albright	Cathy Box
Joe Box	Sandy Cooper
Julie Holmberg	Vicky Juliann
Brenda Kappelman	Carolyn Keil
Melanie King	Sue Reeder
Carole Rehder	Ruth Shadel
Reece Wiley	

We regretfully accepted the resignation of Emilie Norris during 2021 due to health issues. We thank her for her partnership in ministry.

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, the Stephen Ministers continued to meet monthly throughout 2021 for continuing education and supervision with the help of ZOOM and some in-person meetings in the fall.

We want to call special attention to the service of Carolyn Keil in managing the Stephen Ministry "Journeying Through Grief" book support program. She has mailed over 30 sets of the four grief books to families who have lost loved ones over the last two years. The books are written by Dr. Kenneth Hauk and are shared with grieving people at four crucial times during the first year after a loved one has died.

We want to thank the members of Trinity for their continued financial support, referrals, and prayers for this ministry. Stephen Ministry is truly a Gift of Love to one another!

In HIS Service,  
The Stephen Leaders (Submitted by Debra Black)

# Social Concerns Team

## Annual Report 2021

***"Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." 1 John 3:18***

2021 was another year of adjusting to health and safety needs. Vaccines moved us toward relief from the pandemic, and then variants in the virus slowed us in our return to in-person ministries and activities. Trinity members continued to work in service to our neighbors in Lawrence as needs for assistance grew.

**Justice Matters:** Approximately 30 Trinity members participated in Justice Matters, an interfaith organization dedicated to working toward systemic justice in our community by: (1) collectively listening to the concerns and vision for our city among its many residents, (2) voting to select priorities, (3) researching the underlying problems we face and solutions that work, (4) creating the public will to improve our city at system-wide levels through the power of organized people, and (5) monitoring results to ensure the improvements are realized. In 2021, our team leaders were Steve Ozark, Chelsy Larson, and Kevin Boatright.

Trinity members participated in the Justice Matters Action Assembly on May 3, 2021. This was a drive-in event at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. At this Assembly, Mayor Brad Finkeldie and County Commission Chair Shannon Portillo committed to using the Build for Zero program to end chronic homelessness in Lawrence by January of 2023. Trinity members also participated in the Jubilee Celebration on June 14, and gathered in person at church and online on October 28 for the Community Problems Assembly, to help determine goals for this year. It was determined that in 2021-22, Justice Matters will lead the community to raise its voice in favor of a new issue, Elder Care. We will continue to work on Restorative Practices in Schools, Ending Homelessness, and Jail Alternatives. The vote to add Elder Care to these issues was overwhelming. We continue to monitor Mental Health - the 24/7 Crisis Center is due to be open this year. All issues are in the research phase now. Upcoming events include the Solutions Briefing, April 7, 2022; the Action Assembly, April 28, 2022 and the Celebration, June 13, 2022.

**LINK (Lawrence Interdenominational Nutrition Kitchen):** We host LINK on the second Tuesday of every odd-numbered month. Since the state at home order in March, LINK's service model continue to work to keep guests and volunteers safe. We continued to order box lunches from Maceli's early in the year, to provide meals for LINK to hand out safely to guests. Approximately 80-100 meals are served daily. Thank you to the many donors of money to support this ministry. In July and September, we purchased materials to assemble sack lunches at church to deliver to LINK. Thank you to volunteers who assisted. In November, Trinity provided hot casseroles, vegetables, bananas and dessert. Thank you to those who provided food and helped serve. LINK has plans to safely return to serving meals in their dining room this winter. A special thank you to Carole Rehder who is the Trinity coordinator.

**Trinity Episcopal Food Bank:** As our church gradually opened for members to gather for in person worship and other activities, we began again collecting and delivering food to the food bank at Trinity Episcopal Church. Thank you to Bob and Ruth Sarna who have recently volunteered to deliver donations to the food bank site.

**New York Elementary School Supplies:** We did not hold a school supply collection this year, as needs were uncertain. We continue to maintain a fund to provide clothing and supply needs to individual students in need who are referred by the school social worker. These items are funded through monetary gifts to the school supply collection.

**Family Promise:** Trinity continues to serve as a support congregation to host church First Southern Baptist. For all of 2021, we have supported families who were safely housed during the pandemic, as the rotation in churches program is still suspended for the remainder of the year. Thank you to everyone who has provided grocery debit cards, food, and financial support during this time! We invite others to join us. This is an important and joyful ministry. Our host weeks in 2022 are March 13-22; June 5-12, September 4-11; November 27-December 4. We hope for a return to rotation in churches at some point in the future, dependent on the course of COVID-19 in the months ahead.

Family Promise is providing a safe shelter for families as part of the city's Winter Emergency Shelter program. The Shelter continues through February. We encourage Trinity members to help in whatever way they can. Overnight hosts are especially needed.

***We welcome other members to join us, as we help minister to those in need in our local community! We need more ideas, energy, and leadership!***

Trinity Social Concerns Team  
Deb Boatright, Chairperson  
Steve Ozark  
Carole Rehder  
Ken Brancaccio, Council liaison

## **Property Management Maintenance To Do List**

- Bell Tower: structural engineer needed to access damages and repairs.
- Paint all wooden surfaces outside of church and parsonage.
- Power wash church and parsonage with acid-based solution.
- Tuck point or caulk all outside areas of building.
- Stripe parking lot as needed.
- Replace or remove concrete island east of kitchen entrance in parking lot.
- Replace or repair downspouts as needed on church.
- Replace main A/C and heating system in church. Chiller for original side of church may need to be replaced prior to summer 2022.
- Fellowship Hall: complete remodel, lights, paint, ceiling, vents, carpet, replace sound blocks.
- Update kitchen: floor tile, counters, paint, cabinet cleaning, lighting.
- Narthex: carpet, paint, update lighting, new furniture.
- Music room: paint, carpet, lighting.
- Restrooms: floor tile, counter tops, fixtures as needed.
- Sanctuary: repair damaged walls, paint, refinish hardwood floors, carpet, update choir loft with safety railing, rotate organ 90 degrees.
- Sanctuary: carpet, refinish hardwood floors, refinish pews.
- Assess stain glass windows and prioritize those in need of repair.
- Trim all trees and shrubs on property.
- Ongoing donations to cover cost of coffee and wine, per month or longer commitment.
- Ongoing donations to cover cost of general lawn maintenance at both church and parsonage.



## **Live-Stream Team Annual Report 2021**

First and foremost, thank you to the Congregation for your patience and support as our group of volunteers has navigated the Live-stream process. This “idea” quickly moved to reality and we had NO idea how necessary this would become after another year of pandemic. We are so thankful for the volunteers who sign up to operate the system, stream to YouTube, and play back for the radio each week. And a big shout out to Liam Sturm and Adele Buren for waking up early on a Sunday to help with this important ministry!

The live-stream highlighted the urgent need for better lighting in the Sanctuary. Several of the lights including the light in the stained glass above the altar have been updated and this has helped brighten up the virtual views. In 2022, thanks to donations from you, we will be updating the sound system microphones and adding an additional camera to the stream.

Tami McNemee

# **Lutheran Campus Ministry**

## **2021 Annual Report**

Greetings in the name of Christ, our hope.

Once again, 2021 proved to be another challenging year. As all of you are aware, the pandemic has continued to impact all of us, including the ministry at Westwood House. Spring semester brought the 20'-21' academic year to a close while still being virtual. Worship and other student-led ministries met primarily via Zoom though we kept the some open ours at the building for access to the food pantry.

In the midst of summer break, Pastor Dan Baldwin accepted the call as pastor for LCM-KU and we said farewell to Interim Pastor Peter Rehwaltdt. We are grateful for his ministry with us! Pastor Dan joined LCM officially in August and has moved with his wife, Jen just outside of Baldwin City to be closer to Lawrence.

With students being welcomed back to campus in-person in the fall, ministries at Westwood also resumed in-person! Worship, which is preceded by a coffee and community hour, still occurred on Wednesday evenings. There was a Bible Study on Thursdays. Vegans, Veggies, and Vibes, a popular student-led ministry, shifted from a previously in-person meal to preparing meal kits for students with instructions for preparation—both written and online video—to give opportunities for students to explore new, inexpensive recipes while fostering their cooking skills. Other student-led ministries included Queer Faith, Prayer Yoga, and Creation Corner. The ministry offered by the food pantry has also continued this past semester.

We ended the semester with a Christmas Bizarre that focused on student's well-being. Students who attended were able to move through different "booths" to find simple resources help them think about and manage their physical, emotional, social, financial, and spiritual well-being. We also had some festive music and hot beverages for all to enjoy. We ended the evening with worship.

The Board has been especially hard at work this past year, moving through the call process and also working to try and build the Board into a fundraising entity, as funds for the ministry continue to be one of the issues facing LCM. The Board met in retreat in November to do some strategic planning for the year ahead. As we plan to celebrate 100 years of Lutheran Campus Ministry at KU we hope to raise \$100k for the next 100 years of ministry, with the desire of acquiring not only sustained givers, but also to build an endowment fund that can support the pastor's salary with the intent of freeing up fundraising efforts to support expanding ministry efforts. The Board is grateful for your support and invites you to continue partnering with us over the next 100 years of Lutheran Campus Ministry! The Board members this year are Anne Wallen (President), Laurie Jackson (Vice-President), Becky Foerschler (Secretary), Ann Nichols (Treasurer), Will Duncan, Rachel Griffard, Susan Gronbeck-Tedesco, Pastor Jeff Alvestad, Annielaurie Seifert, and Pastor Dan Baldwin (ex-officio). We are grateful for their service!

We give thanks to God for the ways that Trinity Lutheran Church has partnered with us and we look forward as we continue together in stewardship of the ministry of the Gospel among the students at KU!

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Dan Baldwin

# **Cantemos Choir**

## **Annual Report 2021**

Hello, Trinity Lutheran Church!

First, thank you so much for your support and kindness towards Cantemos Youth Chorale! You've welcomed us with open arms and your support this first semester has been amazing! CYC had a successful first semester: we held our first choir camp, rehearsed and performed our first concert, and even caroled downtown! Our first concert, "A Beautiful in the Neighborhood" was a testament to community and the support we feel by being a part of not only the Lawrence community, but the Trinity family as well. Cantemos is ready to hit the ground running in 2022. We are steadily growing our membership and have been invited to sing at local community events while we prepare for our next concert on May 1st. CYC thanks you again for your support and looks forward to seeing you at our concert in May!

Emily Boedicker

## **Lawrence Children's Choir Annual Report 2021**

Greetings from the Lawrence Children's Choir! We at LCC are thrilled and honored to call Trinity Lutheran our new home, and are continually astounded by the grace, generosity, and support offered by the entire Trinity community. Our organization offers a nationally-recognized choral education to the youth of Lawrence, and is currently in its 30th year. After a fully digital season last year we were eager to begin making music in person again, and feel so lucky that Pastor Jeff, the Council, and the greater church community warmly entertained our proposal to start a new chapter of music-making at Trinity.

The Lawrence Children's Choir has four choirs, serving singers ages 3 through 18, and we meet every Monday and Tuesday evening to make music together. The flexibility of the different spaces (the Chapel, Choir Room, and Fellowship Hall) offers myriad rehearsal opportunities, while the acoustics of the Sanctuary supported our young singers in their Fall concert (presented to a standing room only crowd in November, 2021). We look forward to continuing our mission of teaching life skills through music, and supporting our youth during this impactful period of their lives. This would not be possible without the hospitality and support of Trinity Lutheran Church, and for that we thank you deeply. Please feel free to stop in anytime and absorb a bit of the joy and passion our young singers share. Here's to song!"

Gabe Lewis-O'Connor, Director

# **The Music Clubhouse Annual Report 2021**

We, at The Music Clubhouse, send greetings to you and gratitude for our new home at Trinity Lutheran Church. To make music and work with our students in this beautiful space has been a gift in so many ways. Your facility superintendent, Kevin Cooper, is a one-of-a-kind gem who has been helpful in every way and always with enthusiasm and grace. And every interaction with your staff - Pastor Jeff, Susan, David, and Sherrie - has been a delight. Never in all of my 30+ years of teaching have I been so surrounded by supportive people who want to forward the cause of arts education. I can't quantify the energy that this support brings to the entire Music Clubhouse team.

Our students and parents have expressed so many positive comments to us throughout the transition. Having already held two recital series here in our short three months with you, our families have noticed the generosity of spirit that comes from your church. They, too, sense that this home for us was "meant to be" and notice all of the work that is being done to make it a place where our people still feel the community we have been busy building for the past 22 years. It is lovely to note that we did not lose a single student in the transition, but have actually even gained a few.

We believe that through this partnership, both The Music Clubhouse and Trinity Lutheran Church will shine brighter than ever before as we all serve the community of Lawrence.

Janet Hart, Director  
The Music Clubhouse

## **WELCA End of Year Report 2021**

<b>BALANCE 12/17/21</b>	<b>6356.98</b>
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<b>Walmart Store -MittenTree gifts</b>	<b>114.37</b>
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<b>Lutheran World Relief-donation</b>	<b>750.00</b>
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<b>Lutheran Campus Ministry-</b>	<b>750.00</b>
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<b>donation Trinity Lutheran Church-</b>	<b>750.00</b>
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<b>Link fund WELCA pledge</b>	<b>700.00</b>
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<b>BALANCE 12/31/2021</b>	<b>3292.61</b>
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**Respectfully submitted**

**Carol Ann Salber. WELCA treasurer**



Congregation: Trinity Lawrence KS 66044  
Central States Synod Conference: Border Conference  
Year Organized: 1867

From 2013 to 2020	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	%Chg (13 -20)
Baptized Membership	912	899	1,010	502	394	395	401	390	-57.2%
Members Received By:									
a. Baptism: Children	6	5	5	5	6	1	10	1	
b. Baptism: Adults	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
c. Affirmation of Faith	6	3	0	9	4	5	5	0	
d. Transfer	20	8	6	6	13	2	0	0	
e. Other & Stat. Adjustment	0	0	139	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Members Received	32	16	150	20	23	8	16	1	
Members Removed By:									
a. Death	10	10	18	6	19	6	7	12	
b. Transfer	7	8	8	4	4	7	3	0	
c. Other & Stat. Adjustment	9	11	13	513	108	0	0	0	
Total Members Removed	26	29	39	523	131	13	10	12	
Membership Change	6	-13	111	-503	-108	-5	6	-11	
Baptized Youth Confirmed	6	4	6	1	4	3	1	0	
Confirmed Membership	685	676	829	408	334	338	337	324	-52.7%
Average Worship Attendance	194	180	178	150	150	112	120	80 120	Online Onsite [5]
Percent Attending Worship [1]	21.3 %	20.0 %	17.6 %	29.9 %	38.1 %	28.4 %	29.9 %		





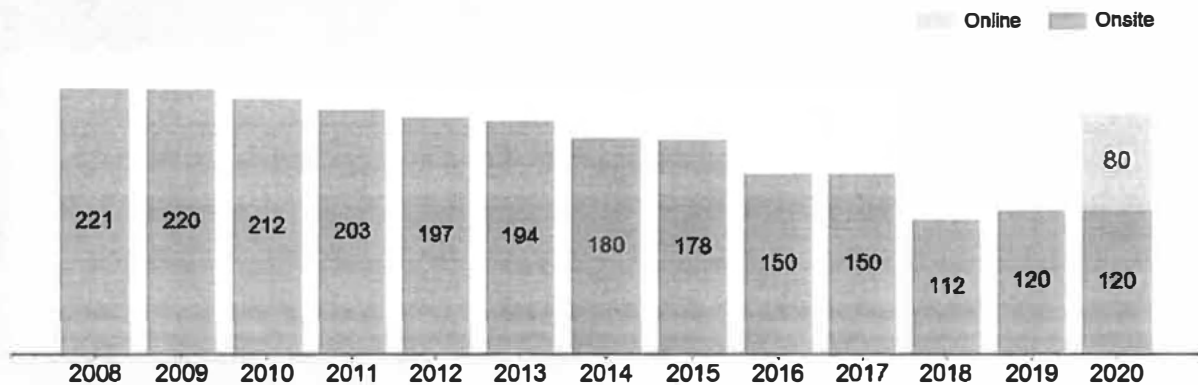
From 2013 to 2020	2013	2014	2015	2016 [2]	2017	2018	2019	2020	%Chg (13 -20 )
African American/Black	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	
African National/African Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	
Latino/Hispanic	2	2	2	2	3	3	0	0	
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Arab/Middle Eastern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Multiracial	6	7	3	3	2	2	0	0	
White	610	595	466	466	370	566	559	238	
Other (not available for 2019-2020)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Number of Active Participants	623	608	475	475	378	574	561	240	

Racial/Ethnic Composition - Congregations filing in 2013 to 2020 show Active Participants. This data is collected to measure the ELCA'S progress in becoming more diverse.

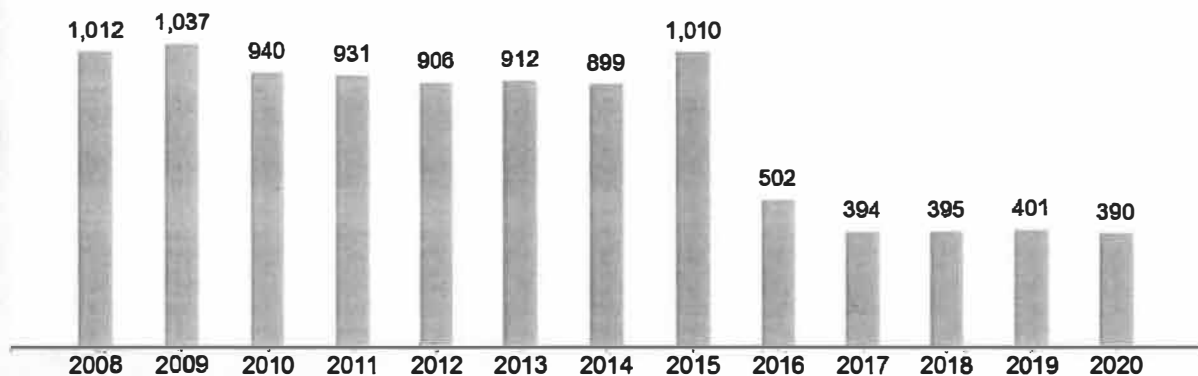
Regular Giving Per Confirmed Member	571.11	564.70	466.06	942.52	1,240.11	1,136.69	1,049.21	1,076.68	88.5%
Regular Giving by Members	391,207	381,740	386,364	384,548	414,197	384,201	353,583	348,845	-10.8%
Regular Giving by Members in 2013 dollars	391,207	377,102	379,495	375,389	405,559	379,420	353,159	343,284	-12.3%
Designated Giving by Members	78,629	38,168	52,057	90,331	73,014	60,172	17,006	55,919	-28.9%
Grants & Partnership Support	0	1,960	69,400	0	0	5,000	0	0	0.0%
Total Receipts [3]	502,426	488,290	517,886	522,889	527,414	1,293,314	400,942	466,473	-7.2%
Current Operating Expenses	434,012	390,787	364,755	407,365	358,035	418,308	357,115	347,007	-20.0%
Payments on Debts	19,182	8,084	14,000	5,418	3,753	17,125	4,110	0	-100.0%
Total Disbursements [3]	495,656	467,181	409,980	478,047	437,840	510,327	402,739	455,961	-8.0%
Mission Support	15,798	20,812	26,390	20,185	20,464	22,285	17,445	16,146	2.2%
Mission Support as % of Current Operating Expenses, Debt, Expenses & Mission Support [4]	3.4%	5.0%	6.5%	4.7%	5.4%	4.9%	4.6%	4.4%	
Mission Support as % of Regular Giving [4]	4.0%	5.5%	6.8%	5.2%	4.9%	5.8%	4.9%	4.6%	
All other benevolence (non-mission support)	15,864	14,291	4,835	18,175	17,992	26,270	20,559	20,814	31.2%
Mission Support as % of total benevolence.	49.9%	59.3%	84.5%	52.6%	53.2%	45.9%	45.9%	43.7%	



**Average Worship Attendance From 2008 to 2020 (change)**



**Baptized Membership From 2008 to 2020 (-61.5% change)**



**Population of Congregation's ZIP Code 66044**

2000	2002	2008	2010	2012	2018	2020	%Chg
28,476	-	-	29,377	-	-	31,111	9.3%



Assistance provided to people with disabilities:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wheelchair access throughout the building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign language interpreters  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Braille worship materials and signage                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health ministries  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large print worship materials                | <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry with people with developmental/intellectual disabilities |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assistive devices for the hard of hearing    | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialized childhood learning (ADHD, autism, dyslexia, etc.)     |

Community Context: **Medium city 50,000 to 249,999 pop.**

ZIP Codes Served: **66049 66047 66046 66044 66006 66067**

[1] Average worship attendance divided by baptized membership through 2019, only

[2] Racial/Ethnicity numbers forwarded from 2015

[3] These totals include other receipts and disbursements not displayed

[4] The percent change in the right most column is the percent change between 2013 and 2020

[5] Online and on-site attendance are reported separately for 2020

The ZIP Code population data are Copyright (c) protected by Esri Analytics

To make corrections or updates, contact the ELCA Office of the Secretary.

E-mail [conginfo@elca.org](mailto:conginfo@elca.org) or call 800/638-3522 extension 2810

Forms filed electronically will be checked for errors starting in early summer.

"Living Lutheran: Renewing Your Congregation" by Dave Daubert is resource for congregational renewal. Order ISBN #0806653345 from Augsburg Fortress at [www.augsburgfortress.org](http://www.augsburgfortress.org).

# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY

### Litany

Today our congregation gathers in prayer and hope to begin another year of ministry. We bring with us the memory of a year like no other, even as we move into a future that we cannot yet imagine. Yet even now, as in every age, God is our refuge and strength. In times of plenty and want, in times of conflict and peace, in times of growing and pruning, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We remember the past year with lament and gratitude. We have lost so much, and so much still feels uncertain. We have also witnessed God's hand at work in new and unexpected ways. We delight at hidden seeds bearing surprising and wonderful fruit. When our own resources fail, when we cannot predict the future, when we must rely on God alone, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We celebrate this moment and the many ways God has held us together as a community. We give thanks for the gift of our church building and the welcome it provides, even as we bless God for the marvel of technology and the new bonds of connection it makes possible. When our bodies need sanctuary, when our minds need expanding, when your grace must transcend our limitations, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We look ahead to the road we will travel together this year. We anticipate and receive with joy the new gifts God's love has planned. We pray for the grace to let go of what has served its holy purpose. When we are trailblazers or followers, when we are seekers or visionaries, when we must walk by faith and not by sight, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

And so we pray: Grace our meeting, O God, with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the Spirit who has guided the church from the beginning, the Spirit of our risen Lord Jesus, the Spirit who sends us as healers and restorers of your beloved world. You are the source of our life together. You are the rock and cornerstone.

**You have called us for such a time as this.**

### God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of  
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in  
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that  
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your  
 trust from you all that you give; help us in  
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our  
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
 love to share, teach us like you to care  
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bus - ed,  
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.  
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.  
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love will be - stows.  
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

*All Creation Sings* #1063

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**O God,  
 you have called your servants  
 to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,  
 by paths as yet untrodden,  
 through perils unknown.  
 Give us faith to go out with good courage,  
 not knowing where we go,  
 but only that your hand is leading us  
 and your love supporting us;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.** (ELW, p. 317)

Change and the need for creativity have become constants over the last year and a half in many aspects of life, including the church. This was the case for **Living Christ Lutheran Church** in Flagstaff, Ariz., even before a global pandemic caused many of us to rethink what it means to be church. Generosity from all three expressions of the ELCA (the churchwide organization, the Grand Canyon Synod and members of Living Christ) helped turn a congregation “on the road out of town, near the mall” into an online presence reaching over 500 people a week from Phoenix to the Philippines. (Read more about Living Christ in the current issue of “**Stories of Faith in Action**” at [ELCA.org/SOFIA](https://www.elca.org/SOFIA).)

Many other congregations have found new ways to connect both when in-person worship was impossible and when congregations began to return to their sanctuaries. Generosity, especially through Mission Support, helped us find and support these new ways of being connected. Early in the pandemic, ELCA Worship launched the “Worship in the Home” webpage, with Scripture, hymn links, prayers and reflections for each

Sunday. These resources were and continue to be used in congregations across the ELCA—even at **Sitka Lutheran Church** in Alaska, whose members printed and hand-delivered “Worship in the Home” resources to fellow members without internet access.

Change and creativity have taught us many things. As Pastor Sandra Rudd of Sitka Lutheran Church noted, “The pandemic was a stark illustration of the fact that the church is not a building. A lot of people say that, but we didn’t fully know it until we didn’t have a building to use. We learned that there are many ways to be connected as the church.” Throughout the pandemic, the ELCA has changed and adapted, doing ministry in new and creative ways, because of the generosity of its members. Even now, you may be gathering in a new way for your annual meeting, to discern how you will steward the gifts shared generously with your congregation to do ministry in your community and beyond. As you have these important conversations, remember that your gifts of time, talent and resources have helped create new spaces beyond our walls and buildings where we continue to worship, serve and love God and each other.

# ANNUAL REPORT

— 2021 —