



# TRINITY PARISH

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN OSHKOSH

REPORTS TO THE 166TH  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
JANUARY 26, 2020

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## Agenda

Call to Order of the 166th Annual Parish Meeting  
Opening Prayer  
Appointment of Clerk of the Meeting  
Elections  
Parish Reports  
Presentation of 2020 Budget  
Rector's Address  
Closing prayer and Adjournment

## Introduction

Canon Law directs every congregation to have an Annual Parish Meeting, which includes:

- Reports from Rector, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden
- Election of elected officers, including but not limited to Vestry members, Wardens, and Delegates to Diocesan Convention
- Presentation and discussion of the Budget, which has been approved by the Vestry at its January meeting
- Other optional reports as received.

## 2019 Officers of the Parish

Vestry

Senior Warden Christine Roth (elected to the Vestry 2017, completing 2<sup>nd</sup> 1 year term as Senior Warden)

Junior Warden Karen Jacobs (elected to the Vestry 2018, completing 1<sup>st</sup> 1 year term as Junior Warden)

Tami Goodwin (2017)

Stephanie Rogers (2017)

Paul Wagner (2017)

Natalie Johnson (2018)

Cathy Cowling (2018)

*The Clerk of the Vestry and Treasurer can be, but do not have to be, members of the Vestry. They are appointed annually by the Vestry.*

Clerk of the Vestry Stephanie Rogers

Treasurer Tami Goodwin

## Candidates for Elected Office

The deadline for nominations was noon on Tuesday, January 21, and thus we have the following slate of candidates for elected offices:

- For Convention Delegate: Stephanie Rogers, Celeste Williams, and Cathy Cowling
- For Alternate Convention Delegate: Marcia Smith Leslie
- For Vestry: Rebecca Spurlock (for a first three-year term), Tami Goodwin (for a second three-year term)

## Rector's Statistical Report

In 2019 there were:

88 Sunday Eucharists

69 weekday Eucharists

9 Private or other Eucharists (including Evergreen)

24 celebrations of the Daily Office

1 wedding

10 funerals

Easter Attendance (Vigil and Sunday)	137	(154 in 2018)
Christmas Attendance (Eve and Day)	113	(177 in 2018)
Total Sunday Attendance	3004	
Total 8am Attendance	561	
Total 9/10am Attendance	2322	
Average Sunday Attendance	57.8	(-1% from 2018)

### Christian Burial – 10

Alfred T. Kisubi

William D. Brink

Kay Clark

Jacob I. Quast

Nile Alsuwailih

Florence A. Mueller Hetue

Betty Overton

Mary Blanchett Hunn (committal)

Rosemary Turner

Scott William Horton

*Additionally, Pat Fell was commemorated at a mid-week requiem Eucharist*

### Holy Matrimony – 1

Leah Wagner and Marc Ziegenbein

### Baptisms – 2

Scarlett Grey Ederle

Olivia Ann Lacelle

### Confirmations and Receptions – 0

## Senior Warden's Report

I have been honored to serve as your Senior Warden once again this year. It has been a difficult year for me personally, and, in some ways, I am grateful. It has renewed my prayer life, and I have felt God pursue, bolster, and embrace me in ways that filled me with humility, wonder, and profound peace. I speak less and listen more now, and I see God at work in places in my life where I never expected it before. What a perfect year to hear Bishop Michael Curry call for us all to “live the way of God’s unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial, and redemptive love”!

Trinity experienced its own struggles and joys this year. We lost beloved parishioners and grappled with building challenges and a reduction in pledges. But we also welcomed Lisa Ueda as a deacon-in-training over the summer, celebrated Marianne Chaudoir’s 35 years of service to Trinity as our music director, and continued to offer a thriving Loaves and Fishes ministry and EfM class. As one of six parishes in the diocese that participated in the Faithful Innovations process in 2019, Trinity also began discerning where God is leading us to connect with our local community. Through attentive listening, reflective bible study, and meditative observation, the Faithful Innovations team is leading the congregation to a deeper engagement with our faith and cultivating a new, vibrant spirit in the parish. The second series in the process begins this month, and I am looking forward to the February common read of *Quietly Courageous* organized by Kathryn Allen. Many of us also participated in the Way of Love activities in the fall, culminating with the revival in Appleton in October. Many thanks to Natalie Johnson and Chris and Stephanie Rogers for hosting the weekly meetings leading up to the big event!

What has changed this year? As planned, the vestry changed the way it organizes its monthly meetings. Everyone on the vestry now focuses their work on one of three committees—Administration, Property, or Mission. These committees meet on their own, according to their own schedules, and the committee Chairs present voting and discussion items to the vestry on behalf of the committee. We have continued to begin each meeting with worship, which nurtures us as not only a managerial body but also a spiritual one, and this new structure has encouraged the group to use its time and energy more productively. There have also been some changes to the sanctuary itself. At the end of the summer the vestry reviewed your feedback about the removal of the pews at the back of the church, and the clear majority of your comments were positive, so we voted to keep that space open. The floors were sealed and waxed, as well. We will need to make several repairs to the church and discuss the future of the parish hall over the next year. Please pray for the vestry as we figure out how to move forward with the buildings.

Many devoted people are working arduously to discern a unifying and galvanizing vision for Trinity. And we in the vestry are working as well as we can to take care of the institution—the budget, buildings, policies, personnel, and ministries—but the vestry can’t manage the parish’s way to spiritual revival. We can’t make people engage with the Bible or cultivate a dynamic prayer life or be curious and enthusiastic about our shared faith. That only happens if each of us asks daily for the Holy Spirit. I am pleased to see Trinity looking outward to the local community. The next year will

challenge us to discuss tough issues like the future of the parish hall and the possibility of marriage for LGBTQ members of our community, but I am hopeful and excited to see what God has in store for us as a community of faith, love, and action.

My schedule requires me to leave right after the service on many Sundays, but I am eager to listen to your concerns, discuss vestry decisions with you, and relay your comments and ideas to Father Chris and the vestry. If you aren't able to catch me, please feel free to email me at [christine.ann.roth@gmail.com](mailto:christine.ann.roth@gmail.com) to discuss what's on your mind or to schedule a face-to-face chat.

*Respectfully submitted*  
*Christine Roth*  
*Sr. Warden*

## **Junior Warden's Report**

In February, I was appointed Junior Warden by the vestry. With the building maintenance now under direction of the Buildings & Grounds Committee, my duties were to support the Sr. Warden, the Rector and to be an active member of the Trinity Church community. My activities were:

- Attended monthly Vestry meetings.
- Volunteered at Loaves and Fishes Meals, coordinated meal scheduling and reported data to Oshkosh Area Community Pantry. Purchased supplies as needed.
- Attended Way of Love Revival.
- Attended three Farmer's Markets with Faithful Innovations to survey community need and the Faithful Innovations November meeting as a Vestry "guest".
- Cared for a garden space area around the parish hall.
- "Warm Item Donation" box announcement, collection and helped to distribute items to December Loaves & Fishes guests, Christine Ann Center and Warming shelter.
- Member of the Altar Guild and fourth year EfM student.

Thank you for your encouragement and support in 2019.

*Respectfully submitted*  
*Karen Jacobs*  
*Junior Warden*

## Buildings and Grounds Committee Report

It has been a busy year for the building & grounds committee. Thanks for the volunteers helping to keep on top of the ongoing maintenance needs of Trinity's two building and grounds. We have been very blessed with a dedicated committee. Members have given many hours of their time and talent and they are: Mike Murray, Doug Berge, Steve Goodwin, Larry Lang, John Milos, Elijah Rogers, and Peg Wachtel. When you see these people, take time to thank them for their work.

### **B&G Projects Completed:**

- Repairing delamination of plaster in lounge of parish hall
- Volunteer garden projects throughout the property, stump removal, replanting areas, adding lights to the Trinity sign
- Replacing shield on Trinity sign
- Broken sidewalk repaired
- Installing new parking bumpers in upper parking lot
- Asphaltting drainage troughs along church and parish hall, and adding electric heater cable to both to avoid ice buildup
- With many challenges, the floor refinishing in the church, applying wax and polishing (many thanks to all involved in prepping areas, moving furniture, emailing and following through on this project)

### **B&G Future Projects:**

- Scheduled for spring: installation of blessing box
- Refinished exterior doors on church and parish hall
- Refinish wood floor in altar areas and window sills in church only
- Plaster areas that are decaying will need to be addressed
- The alley and south church wall need to be discussed in regards to moisture leakage
- One downspout on the south end of church needs to be scoped out for leaks
- If leaks are under control in lower sacristy, we may want to replace carpeting
- Continue on landscaping volunteer garden projects
- Inventory of assets – I feel this should be shared by all committees and organizations within the parish. If done in small groups and sections at a time I feel it could be accomplished quickly so we are done for the next audit.
- Parish hall – make a decision on it
- Exterior stone window is still pulling away from window and needs to be addressed

Thanks to Peter Chmelik, our part time custodian, for what he does for us.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Paul Wagner*  
*Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee*

## Daughters of the King Report

The Daughters of the King (DOK) is an organization through the national church. Members of this group complete in-depth study before taking their vows. Our group here at Trinity meets the second Sunday of each month. Our purpose is to pray daily for our parish and clergy. We also receive requests, which are kept confidential.

Members are Marianne Chaudoir, Tami Goodwin, Joan Horejs, Peggy Anderson, Betty Paterson, Sandy Muinde and Fran Shoemaker. Requests can be given to any of the members or clergy.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Paterson*

## Deacon Nancy's Report

Greetings Parish Family,

This is the start of my 17<sup>th</sup> year as deacon in the Diocese of Fond du Lac and I cannot believe how fast the time has gone. I am currently assigned to serve at both Trinity in Oshkosh and at Saint Paul's in Suamico. I usually alternate Sundays here at Trinity with Deacon Sandy but I am the only deacon assigned to Saint Paul's. It is interesting to see how the two parishes are similar and yet different.

According to the Book of Common Prayer, my job is two-fold: to represent Christ and His Church as a servant to those in need and to assist the bishop and the priest in the proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments. I take these responsibilities seriously and try to accomplish both directives to the best of my ability.

I look for ways to be active in our community, our parish, our diocese and our national church. At the present time I serve on the Day By Day Homeless Shelter. I am the liaison to the faith communities for the shelter and work with the marketing committee to help raise funds and awareness of the homeless situation in Oshkosh. My hope is to find the gifts of the people in our parish family that can be used to serve people in need in our community. In our parish, I serve on the altar guild, the flower committee, and occasionally help with youth group and Loaves and Fishes. In the diocese, I serve on the Board of Trustees and the Deacon's Council and try to stay in touch with diocesan youth activities and be active in the Cursillo community. Two years ago, I was elected to the National Cursillo Committee and am presently the vice-president. With that committee, I find myself traveling a lot and doing many workshops for other dioceses.

All of these activities keep me very busy and provide me with many blessings. I am honored to be a deacon in Christ's church.

*Your Sister in Christ,  
Deacon Nancy Behm*

## Deacon Sandy's Report

Dear Friends of Trinity,

Happy 2020 and Farewell 2019. As I review 2019, I am grateful for the many blessings and also some of the challenges that have taught me to rely more on God and less on self.

It's been a good year for me personally in many respects. As I looked back at my calendar, I found I spent a lot of time in doctor's offices or hospitals with either family members, myself or others I care about. It's probably indicative of my age, but I hope that we all aspire to better health and well-being in the coming year.

In February I had a short trip to Florida with family that was most welcome. Samuel and I celebrated fifty years of marriage by renewing our vows in June, followed by a trip to Prague and a cruise on the Danube River in November. Not sure what travel plans will be in 2020 for me, but it will pale what I did this past year.

My activities this year included assisting at:

- 10 Evergreen services
- 46 Midweek services
- 30 regular Sunday services
- 9 Burial rites
- 14 hospital visits
- 65 pastoral visits – (nursing home and homes with or without communion)
- Leading Stations of the Cross during Lent

I missed the Clergy Retreat this year, but attended the Chrism Mass, Eucharistic Festival, the Fall Convention and Revival with our Presiding Bishop Curry present.

My Trinity activities continue to be: Altar Guild, Daughters of the King (DOK), Pastoral Care, Flower Committee, occasional Loaves & Fishes and Coffee hours. In the greater community, I continue to serve on Evergreen's Board of Directors and as a member of the Board for the HELP Fund, a project of the Wisconsin P.E.O. After working as a volunteer at the Day by Day Warming Shelter since 2013, I had to make my contribution financial this year. I hope to get back to it when I have more available time. I do enjoy it.

As a member of the Clergy at Trinity, I am always willing to make myself available. I pray for God's continued blessings on our people. I also hope that in this new year we can look with fresh eyes, open hearts and minds to seek what God's will is for us at Trinity.

*In Christ's Love,  
Deacon Sandy Muinde*

## Director of Music Report

Music at Trinity continues to play an important part in worship. As Music Director, I have tried to choose hymns, anthems and voluntaries that inspire, uplift and bring another dimension to the readings of the day.

Our choir contributes to the fabric of the service and has set aside 9-10 am on Sunday mornings for rehearsal. Many thanks to our choir members: Joan Cason, Celeste Williams, Denise Robson, Ann Muscavitch, Sandy Muinde, Rebecca Spurlock, Steve Mueller, Rob Paterson and James Chaudoir. Risa Freund, Tami Goodwin and Paul Holzschuh joined us for a portion of the year. Due to mobility problems with several members, we have not been part of the procession.

Cellist Jacob Bedroske, flutist Stephanie Rogers and recorder player James Chaudoir joined us for special musical offerings.

The Oshkosh Chamber Singers presented Lessons and Carols once again, affording the community the opportunity to see our beautiful building and hear our organ pipes.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Marianne Chaudoir*  
*Director of Music*

## Episcopal Church Women Report

The ECW (Episcopal Church Women) meets on the second Thursday of each month from September to June. It is an active group in our parish life that offers friendship, fellowship and fun. Making fleece blankets is one of our favorite activities. We support "The Trinity Boutique," which is operated by several dedicated members. The shop is open for clients on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of each month from 10am - 3pm. We rely on parish members for supplying used or unwanted items for our merchandise.

This year we gave donations to several charities as well as to some needs in our own parish. The treasurer's report gives a more detailed account of this activity.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Betty Paterson*  
*ECW President*

## ECW Treasurer's Report

Mary Kay Vacheresse, the ECW Treasurer, is a snowbird and so I am attempting a report. The books balance and we have another check signer in her absence.

During the 2019 year, we supported the following charities with donations amounting to \$2,955.00. The recipients included Loaves & Fishes (\$200), RDF (\$500), DDF (\$500), Growing Oshkosh (\$50), Peter Chemlik (\$100), Christine Ann Center (\$150), WMHI (\$75), Take Five Club (\$200), Day by Day Warming Shelter (\$300), Heifer International (\$200), ERD (\$250), Our Little Roses (\$250) and Oshkosh Food Coop (\$180).

In addition, we purchased lace table cloths for reception use, funded ECW program expenses and purchased fleece material for blankets.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Paterson on behalf of  
Mary Kay Vacheresse  
ECW Treasurer*

## Faithful Innovations Report

In 2019, Trinity became one of the first six congregations in the Fond du Lac Diocese to form a guiding team and take part in the Faithful Innovations (FI) process, which was originally developed by author and speaker Dwight Zscheile. The guiding team, coached by Jerry Molitor of Grace Sheboygan, included Kathryn Allen, Chris Arnold, Marianne Chaudoir, Natalie Johnson, Serah Muinde and Chris Rogers.

- **In year 2, Karen Jacobs and Stephanie Rogers will transition on the team as Serah moves off and the rest remain. Natalie and Stephanie also will serve as FI coaches for other parishes.**

With Faithful Innovations, parish members seek to develop deeper connections with God, each other and their neighbors through introduction of practices of action reflection involving listening, discernment and small experiments. Leaders are encouraged to take risks as they discover a more hopeful future together. The process involved attending three daylong training sessions set throughout the year with assignments/practices to be completed between the trainings.

Summary of 2019 FI activities:

1. Practiced and shared **Dwelling in the Word** with the parish community throughout the year, focusing on Acts 16: 6-15. This practice asks us to consider what catches our attention in scripture, what questions does the passage create and what might God be saying to us as a group through the passage.
  - **In year 2, the guiding team will select a new scripture passage on which to dwell and begin again to listen for clues to where God is leading us as a parish.**
2. Went on a number of **listening walks** in our church neighborhood, on campus and at summer and winter farmers' markets and the library. Noticed a mixture

of income levels represented in the neighborhood; people attending the farmers' markets are more diverse than what we see in church and have an appreciation for whole foods and sustainable eating practices; the campus and library offer places for both gathering and quiet study.

- **In year 2, the guiding team plans to explore connections with the Oshkosh Co-op as it develops and becomes a reality; consider meeting in more visible public spaces.**
3. Conducted a handful of interviews and modeled how to interview each other in an effort to share **faith stories**. Learned that people seem willing to share their stories in informal, person-to-person settings and that sharing of our stories builds trust among parish members.
    - **In year 2, the guiding team will consider how the congregation might share more faith stories, perhaps at the start of a Sunday service and/or with a format similar to Dwelling in the Word.**
  4. Implemented a **question box** for parish members to respond to a series of questions posed by Father Chris. Found that response was strong in the beginning and then slowed down over time; learned that people report finding God in nature and in relationship with friends and family but not necessarily during the liturgy.
    - **In year 2, the guiding team will consider ways to explore how Trinity members see God through regular worship.**
  5. Teamed up with Stephanie Rogers to offer a primarily lay-led preparation program in advance of the Presiding Bishop's **Way of Love** Revival held on Saturday, Oct. 26. Participation ranged from eight to 12 people attending each session; engaged in rich discussion; enjoyed inspiration leading up to the well-attended revival.
    - **In year 2, guiding team will consider ways to keep the energy of the revival flowing and explore how to encourage and support parishioners in their efforts to develop their own rules of life.**
  6. Offered 20 minutes of **Centering Prayer** at church during the summer months at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays ahead of the 5:30 liturgy as a way to deepen the prayer life of individuals and the congregation as a whole. Participation ranged from two to six each week; as the time/date worked well for regular attendees, the practice has continued well beyond the trial period.
    - **In year 2, the guiding team will work to promote this activity through parish-wide announcements and more broadly through Facebook; consider if there is interest and leadership available to add a second Centering Prayer session to the weekly parish calendar, perhaps a morning session that could serve the downtown business community and government (police and city hall) employees.**

Besides these six practices and experiments undertaken in 2019, the FI guiding team wrestled throughout the year with how best **to communicate as a team and with the congregation**—a challenge that seems to be at the heart of many recent parish concerns. We gave a few updates in the newsletter; we offered some updates at Sunday announcements; we included messages in the Sunday bulletin; we invited participation over Facebook; we talked to people face-to-face during coffee hour. We

welcome your suggestions for how to communicate our challenges and successes as we move forward in 2020.

We also welcome you to enter this faithful journey with us. Please feel free to talk with any of the team members; join in our activities; propose an experiment or practice of your own. The beauty of this process is that there is no way to fail, because we just try things and see if they stick. With each try, we learn something more about ourselves, each other and our relationship with God.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Natalie Johnson*

## **Flower Committee Report**

The beauty of our sanctuary is always enhanced by the flowers on the altar and by the seasonal decorations. This year weekly flowers were taken care of by our faithful committee members: Nancy Behm, Joan Horejs, Sandy Muinde, Stephanie Rogers, Mary Kay Vacheresse and myself. Flowers are usually purchased from Hrnak's and delivered on Saturday mornings. During the gardening season, our flowers may come from the Farmer's Market or our own gardens.

We always have an excellent crew to help, and many thanks to all the hands that make the work light for the Christmas greening and ungreening.

Special thanks to these people who helped in different ways throughout the year:

- Dawn Arnold, who organized all of the decorating for Advent and Christmas
- Larry Lang, for delivering spring tulips to nursing homes
- Ann Muscavitch, for helping to arrange Easter lilies and Christmas poinsettias
- Tammy King, who donated both the ribbon and her time and talent to replace all of our tired Advent and Christmas bows
- Trinity's Cub Scout Pack 3633, who put up and decorated our Christmas tree. It was beautiful!

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Marianne Chaudoir*

## Loaves & Fishes Report

My sincere THANK YOU goes to the people and groups that have made this past year successful for the Loaves & Fishes meal program.

Thank you to those who have prepared and served meals, purchased food and supplies, provided clean up, decorated tables and contributed financial support. All of these made our year a success.

Thank you to others that have been part of this outreach; Our Savior Lutheran Church, First United Methodist Church, Affinity/ Ascension Healthcare and those who volunteer on an individual or family basis. Thank you to the many Trinity members that volunteer regardless of who is hosting.

In December, we were able to provide warm hats, gloves, scarves, hand warmers and socks to guests thanks to your generosity. Items were gathered from Trinity Episcopal Church and our ministry partners. We donated any items not distributed to the Warming Shelter and Christine Ann Center.

Thanks to everyone involved, we were able to serve 2,409 meals, provide warm winter items and a safe place to gather in fellowship with our guests.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Jacobs*

## Pastoral Care Report

The Episcopal Church defines Pastoral Care as the Ministry of Caring at the Heart of the church's life. Here at Trinity we refer to Ministry in the hospitals, nursing facilities or the homebound as Pastoral Care. This ministry includes laity and clergy responding to human need.

Although we have a small number of parishioners in care facilities or retirement communities, we have continued our services at Evergreen on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. This service, a Healing Eucharist, is for anyone, not just our Evergreen parishioners. We are very fortunate to have use of Evergreen's lovely Chapel.

Phone calls to both hospitals are made daily by either Mike or Nancy Murray, Judy Richey, Natalie Johnson, Fran Shoemaker or myself. If a parishioner is an in-patient, a visit may be made or communicated to the clergy.

Joan Horejs sends greetings to those unable to come to church.

If you love to visit with folks, or have an interest in being a Eucharistic Visitor (taking communion to someone), calling the hospitals, or visiting those who are homebound, kindly let me or Fr. Chris know.

Please offer thanks to the above named people, as I do, for their service to our parish. I welcome suggestions and new participants. Pray also for those who are served and those who serve.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Deacon Sandy Muinde*

## Stewardship Report

The core Annual Appeal Team (Natalie Johnson, chair; Chris Arnold, Dawn Arnold, Cathy Cowling and Tami Goodwin) planned and implemented Trinity's 2020 Annual Appeal. It was the second year of following the **Moving forward in worship, connection, growth and service** theme.

The goals were very general in nature: to increase total giving for Trinity by increasing the number of giving households and encouraging current givers to increase their annual donations. To allow more time to develop the parish budget as it is dependent on pledging levels, the appeal kicked off in September (earlier than in past years) and culminated with Celebration Sunday on Oct. 13.

The components of the campaign included printed materials; testimony from parishioners (thanks much to Kathryn Allen and Elijah Rogers); parish financial updates and "giving" particulars from Tami as treasurer; and announcements and sermon from Father Chris. Pledge cards were collected on Celebration Sunday followed by delicious food and fellowship downstairs organized by Dawn. Thank you messages to pledgers and follow-up messages to non-pledging households were communicated via announcements, email newsletters and direct mailings. The appeal resulted in 59 (compared with 61 in 2019) households pledging \$165,145 for 2020, which is a \$17,499 decrease over pledges (\$182,644) in 2019. This represents a 9.58% decrease overall. Of households that pledged in both 2019 and 2020, there was an increase of 4%. Although the giving goal was not met, the appeal team is truly grateful to all those who thoughtfully considered and made pledges for 2020, sharing their faith in Trinity as a worthy investment.

Moving forward, the Annual Appeal Team sees a need to expand the scope of stewardship at Trinity beyond the annual appeal endeavor to be a more year-round effort that considers other ways of giving back financially as well as a sharing of our spiritual gifts. Under such a plan, the annual appeal would be just one aspect addressed by a wider Stewardship Team.

The team is thankful for assistance from Kami Zuercher for managing appeal logistics and mailings.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Natalie Johnson  
Stewardship Committee Chair*

## Treasurer's and Finance Committee Report

### 2019 Financial Recap and 2020 Budget Considerations

[Note: Please see the Appendix on page 19 for more detailed financial information, including the 2020 Budget.]

The 2019 Operating Budget continued to be funded at a minimum to support Trinity's needs. We had approved a budget with a deficit of nearly \$14,700, hoping we would make it up by the end of the year. We were able to reduce our spending by almost \$7,400 (less than what was budgeted) but our receipts were almost \$2,500 less than we budgeted and we ended up with a deficit of \$5,747 for the year. The draw of \$4,068 on the Endowment to cover the operating budget continued to be much lower than in past years. The Vestry again thanks the parish for its patience as we continue to work to hold down our expenses and strive to fund as much as we can from our annual contributions.

Overall pledges from our repeat pledgers again increased for 2020. We cannot thank you enough for your continued financial support of our church and missions! Your generosity not only allows us to keep the lights and heat on and our worship services going, but also the continuation of important programs such as Loaves and Fishes and Youth Ministry. Unfortunately, several pledges were not continued and others were reduced, leading our budgeted pledge line to be reduced by 9.5%. Additionally, in 2019 we discontinued the SCRIP program and moved the cash from that program to the 2019 budget, an infusion of \$13,872 that isn't available to us in 2020. Consequently, the 2020 budget includes \$45,717 from the Endowment to cover the shortfall. The Line of Credit will continue to be used for checking account overdraft protection. This final budget does show a shortfall by year's end, but we are looking forward to the generosity of parishioners and visitors to help make up for the difference and potentially reduce the draws on the Endowments.

As has been reported in the news throughout 2019, the markets were very favorable for investments. Combined, our Endowments gained \$312,192 in value, an 18.7% increase from 2019. While just over \$4,000 from the Endowments was used for Trinity's operations budget, there were several capital repairs that did require draws as well. These repairs were for the sanctuary floor, water damage in the lower sacristy, and organ maintenance. We also had a market appraisal done on the Parish Hall, and used funds from the SAY account to pay for youth camps. Additionally, we donated \$1,000 to the Annual Bishop's Appeal from the outreach endowment. The total of all General Endowment draws was \$39,272 for these items.

The Finance Committee met three times during the year. Two meetings were with the Trust Branch of US Bank to review our investments, and we also met to discuss the 2020 Budget, providing input to the Vestry for what is presented in this report.

Concerning our cash flow, I ask, if possible, that all pledges be paid in full by December 15, 2020. Due to the limited banking transaction days during the holidays, it's very difficult to pay off the line of credit with incoming end-of-year pledge funds

when they don't arrive until the last few days of December. On a personal note, as your volunteer treasurer, having to make last minute transactions with the bank also impacts my own holiday, including preventing me from traveling during the season. I really appreciate your understanding and consideration in paying your pledges in full by December 15 each year.

I would like to thank Mary Kallin for all her help as our accounts payable and payroll clerk. Her work has really made my own so much easier. It's been a pleasure working with her and I look forward to her continued assistance in 2020. I am also very appreciative of the Finance Committee members who provided much needed oversight and input to Trinity's financial matters this year: Rebecca Spurlock, Mike Hammett, Mary Ellen Wonders, Doug Berge, and Larry Lang. I also welcome John King on the Finance Committee for 2020. Finally, it's a joy to work with Kami Zuercher as our office administrator, who is always so willing to help me in any way needed.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Tamera R. Goodwin, MBA*  
*Treasurer*

## **Youth Ministries Report**

Our Youth Group is regularly attended by high school aged students that are an enthusiastic group of students. This group is comprised of youth from the city of Oshkosh. Many of these fascinating youth are beginning their faith journey with Christ and inviting us along. What a true blessing this is!

We start our weekly meetings by breaking bread together and sharing in a full sit-down meal. This is a great time to talk with the students about a wide variety of subjects. Following meal time, we do something different every week. Some of these activities include community service projects, service projects for our church, activities with other Episcopal churches and other denominations, hot topic nights, diocesan events like Happenings, Lock-Ins and Church Camp, as well as others. We also have some good, old-fashioned fun nights filled with games and laughter. We are always trying to do something that will strengthen the faith of our youth.

We are very blessed to have both John Milos and Fr. Chris volunteer every week. I would never be able to do this without their dedication. I want to thank them, as well as the parents, the parish and the community for the support they give. The financial support, rides given and the fantastic homemade meals are so much appreciated and never go unnoticed. Thank you!

I feel really positive about our youth group and the direction we are headed. With your continued support and prayers, I feel that our mission of bringing Christ to the youth will flourish for years to come. I feel the youth that attend just want a safe place to go and talk with people they can trust. They want to have fun with each other, all the while being able to talk freely about their faith and the path they take on this journey. I believe we, at Trinity, offer this for them. I know that my volunteers and I love working

on behalf of Trinity Episcopal Church with this remarkable group of young people. We all want to be there to help where we can by praying, listening, talking or whatever else we can do to help. Thank you for being there for all of us.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Jill Milos*  
*Youth Ministry Coordinator*

## Courtesy Resolutions

### Resolution #1

**WHEREAS:** Stephanie Rogers and Paul Wagner have served Trinity Church faithfully as members of the Vestry; and

**WHEREAS:** they will complete this phase of their personal ministries at the election of their successors, therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that this 166th Annual Parish Meeting of Trinity Episcopal Church, convened on January 26, 2020, hereby offers our most sincere gratitude and thanks for their commitment of time and energy to this parish, and especially for their continued love and support.

### Resolution #2

**WHEREAS:** Trinity Episcopal Church is thankful for the many years of mutual love, support, and leadership from bishops and rectors with whom we have served in ministry; therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that this 166th Annual Parish Meeting of Trinity Episcopal Church, convened on January 26, 2020, sends our warmest greetings to the Rt Rev Matthew Gunter, assuring him of our continued commitment and devotion to the Diocese and to his ministry as our bishop, and to the bishops and rectors who have served with us in the past: Rt. Rev. Russell Jacobus, Rector Emeritus The Rev. Charles E. Cason, Jr., and The Rev. Steven Powers, assuring them of our love and concern for their well-being and wishing them God's blessing and peace.

### Resolution #3

**WHEREAS:** Music is an essential element in the beauty of Christian worship; and

**WHEREAS:** The praise of the church in song has always been supported by the ministries of church musicians; and

**WHEREAS:** Our parish has been richly blessed by the skillful and beautiful music ministry of Marianne Chaudoir for thirty-five years; therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that this 166th Annual Parish Meeting of Trinity Episcopal Church, convened on January 26, 2020, hereby expresses its great gratitude for her ministry with us, her talent, her devotion, and her ability to lift our souls towards heaven through music.

## Appendix

Page A-1: 2020 Budget

Page A-3: Summary of Restricted Accounts, January to December 2019

Page A-4: Endowment Accounts, January to December 2019

Page A-5: Balance Sheet, December 2019