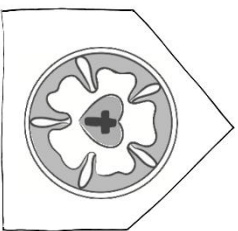


January 2022

ANNUAL REPORT



TRINITY

Lutheran Church

504 S. Westnedge Ave

Kalamazoo, MI 49007

269-344-6181

www.tlckzoo.com

office@tlckzoo.com

Worship Services

Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30am

and Live-Streamed on YouTube

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit # 575
Kalamazoo, MI

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**The Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, February 6
immediately after the 10:30am Service.**

All members are encouraged to be a part of the meeting to voice their vote. For those who would prefer to not attend in person for any reason, there will be a live-streamed option for VIEWING ONLY. Commenting and voting will not be an option if viewing online. A link for view the Annual Meeting will be made available on our website, through email, or our Facebook page. *We anticipate that the meeting will begin around 11:15am, so you will want to log on to YouTube no later than 11:10 in order to be sure not to miss anything.*

Please have this report with you and make every effort to
participate in this important meeting!

Year End Benevolence

Because of the generosity of the Trinity community, the following gifts were able to be shared as part of our year end benevolence. Thank you for your continued faithful giving which makes this possible!

Local Ministries

Kalamazoo Drop in Child Care Center - \$1000
Open Doors Next Door - \$1000
Ministry with Community - \$1000
S.W.E.L.L. - \$1000
Community Homeworks - \$500
Kalamazoo Gospel Mission - \$500
Solid Grounds Lutheran Campus Ministry - \$500

Continuing Ministries

Lutheran Graduate Study - \$2500
Lutheran Church in Eisleben Germany - \$1000 (+ \$1100 in additional funds from donors, so a total of \$2100 was sent)

Missionaries

Larry Yarger (World Partners - Thailand) - \$750
Coraley Vong (Cambodia) - \$750
Christina Horning (Campus für Christus Campus Ministry - Freiburg, Germany) - \$750
Dave Kramer (Tillers International) - \$2000
Tillers International (materials) - \$2000

**Some Benevolence items include designated contributions
from individual donors.*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Another incredible year has passed! In spite of all the challenges we have faced, we feel the power of God working daily in and through us as his servants at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Although there were various delays, our once-postponed Enter, Elevate and Gather project concluded (with a few loose ends remaining), and a welcoming place for all was created. We sincerely thank Rod (and Jill) Freudenburg and Judy (and Bill) Sherrod for all the time and skill they dedicated to making this a reality.

While we said good-bye to many long-time members of Trinity this past year, we also celebrated with Dr. William Musselman his 50 years as our organist and then Director of Music

Changes in staff were made when Emma Mc Cleary was hired as our Youth Director, allowing Pastor Jake more time for evangelism as our Outreach Pastor.

We also wish to thank those Council members who are finishing their terms, some of whom* have agreed to serve another two-year term if re-elected:

President - Janet Gullickson (3 years)
Secretary - Sheree Sorensen (3 years)
Christian Education - Audrey Martin
*Congregational Life - Connie Ruch
*Facilities - David Runstrom
*Service Ministry - Rasma McMullen
Stewardship and Finance - Keith Peterson
Worship and Music - Beth Latshaw
Youth Representative - David Latshaw

I also wish to acknowledge with deep gratitude appointees Mike Mueller and Jerry Molitor for their many years of volunteer work as Trinity's Treasurer and Financial Secretary respectively. Keeping track of Trinity's finances is no small matter.

As outgoing President of Trinity congregation I want to express my gratitude to Pastor Ken, Pastor Jake, and our staff for their dedication. We are truly blessed by their faithful leadership!

In His Service,
Janet Gullickson
Congregation President



“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope” Jeremiah 29:11

The year of our Lord 2021 was another challenging year. Pandemic, societal upheaval, economic uncertainty were prevalent for many. We look back on accomplishments, but also look forward to new dreams and opportunities for grace and love. Thank you one and all for being a part of creating a wonderful community of Faith gathered around Word and Sacrament.

I want to give a heartfelt Thank You to the staff, Council, and so many others here at Trinity. First to Bill Musselman as he completed 50 years of music ministry here at Trinity! It has been a true joy to work alongside him! Also extend tremendous gratitude to Pr. Jake, Margaret, Katie, Trudi, Heidi, Sara, Emma, Michelle. Thanks to the Church Council, and so many other volunteers who not only accomplish so much, but also inspire a blessed, fun and creative environment.

Even in the midst of a very challenging environment we have had relatively stable attendance, if one includes online viewing. Some statistics from the last year (still very much impacted by the pandemic);

Baptisms 5
New members 13
Confirmed 3
Weddings 2
Funerals 11

We completed a major renovation of our entryway and facility, and installed a new elevator this past year. It has certainly granted better accessibility and a very welcoming new gathering space.

Uncertainty of the future abounds, but our hope is in Jesus who will not fail us. With the certain assurance of the grace and peace found in our Lord and Savior we boldly look forward to a new year of visions, dreams and possibilities!

May the peace of Christ be with you always, Pr. Ken

»FROM THE

Outreach

Pastor »

“And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” - Revelation 21:5a

It’s doubtful that this is what Jesus had in mind when he shared the above words in a revelation to John, but as the pandemic continues to alter our lives in so many ways, it seems that all things are being made new all the time. This was certainly a theme of 2021 as we sought out new ways to build the community and grow in faith even as the world remained in flux as the virus remains a constant variable.

“New” isn’t always easy, but it can be good, and some of the new things we experienced this year were truly a blessing. We gathered in our parking lot for hymn sings, Oktoberfest, and many Family Ministry gatherings; we met over zoom for walk through the Bible each week during lunch; worship services continued to connect with those outside of our physical doors through the online services; we reached out in service to the community through blood drives and the amazing work of the Christ Clothes Closet; we hosted an online St. Patrick’s Day Service and created a wonderful Christmas Program! The youth of the congregation met for online game nights, confirmation, a bike trip to Gobles, leaf raking and more in addition to the blessing of adding a new Director of Youth Ministry, Emma McCleary! And last but certainly not least, thanks to your generosity and patience, in the midst of all these changes and new things, we completed the renovation of our building to create a new space in order to create a welcome space for generations to come!

As we begin a new year together, there is much to be thankful for. I am continually grateful for the community of people who call Trinity their church home and for all those who step up to lead and serve in so many ways. I am grateful as well for the amazing staff that I get to serve alongside of. Thank you to Pr. Ken, Katie, Margaret, Heidi, Trudi, Sara, Emma, Michelle for continuing to bring joy to this call! I am especially grateful for the friendship and partnership of Bill Musselman as he concluded 50 years of wonderful service to our congregation!

I pray that as we move into 2022, through whatever new things this year brings, we might move forward with a sense of hope and expectation as we experience and share God’s love and grace in new ways with all people!

Yours in Christ, Pr. Jake

REPORT OF THE TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION

I am happy to provide this report on behalf of the Directors of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Foundation. Members of the Board, in addition to me are: Pastor Johnson, Pastor Lehman, Ben Bakalyar, Michael Mueller, Julie Bosley and Keith Peterson

Jim Allen retired from the Foundation after serving as a director since its inception in 1995. We thank Jim for his many years of wise council and service.

Following are the highlights of the Foundation during 2021:

The following contributions were made:

- \$20,000 to the General Fund of the Church
- \$50,000 to the “Enter, Elevate and Gather” Campaign
- \$10,000 to the Sabbatical Fund
- \$8,000 to the Youth Fund to support their trip to Germany next year
- \$2,500 to the Lutheran Graduate Study Fund to support our Seminarian
- We received contributions of \$30,000 to the Foundation
- In recognition of his 50 years of service to Trinity, the Music Fund within the Foundation was renamed the “Dr. William Musselman Music Fund”
- Total Assets at the end of 2021 exceeded \$1,600,000.

As always I cannot help reflecting on the impact the Foundation has had on Trinity and its programs over the past twenty seven years. As I reviewed my file, I note the following:

Contributions of over \$1,070,000 have been made to Trinity Lutheran Church. Included in these contributions are:

- Over \$620,000 to the Annual General and Building funds, for support and expansion of ongoing ministries at Trinity.

Significant support for Special Projects, Including:

- Brick repair and replacement
- Purchase and Installation of the original elevator
- Construction of the Handicap Restroom

- Renovation of the Kitchen
- Repair and Expansion of the Organ
- Replacement of the Boiler
- Renovation of Fellowship Hall
- Purchase and removal of Cedar Street House
- Roof and Window Repair and Replacement (several times)
- Re-surfacing of the Parking Lot (twice)
- Repairs to Rental Property prior to Donation
- Repair of the Stained Glass Window in the Organ Loft
- Funding Support for Sabbaticals (Ongoing)
- Support of several Capital Campaigns
- Scholarship support through “Lutheran Graduate Study” fund
- Support of the Summer Concert Series
- Renovations in the Parsonage

The gift we received from Elva Lovell over twenty seven years ago, along with the many additional contributions we have received, (over \$300,000) has had a significant and positive impact on our congregation and the expansion of our ministry. In many cases, the projects noted above could not have been undertaken without the support provided by the Foundation. I believe we have indeed been Good Stewards of these gifts.

One of my responsibilities as a Director of the Foundation is to seek additional contributions to the Foundation. I would therefore be remiss if I didn’t ask: “Have you considered a gift to support the future of Trinity Lutheran Church through your Foundation?” Please consider this possibility and especially consider providing for Trinity in your Estate Planning as Elva Lovell so unselfishly did.

There are many ways you can include Trinity in your current and future financial and estate planning. Providing for the Trinity Foundation directly in you Will is the most common method. There are however many other ways, including: Charitable Gift Annuities, Deferred Payment Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts, to name just a few. If you would like more information about these programs, please call either myself or one of the Pastors.

We give thanks for these wonderful gifts and pray for God’s continued guidance and blessing as Good Stewards of them.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jerry Molitor

Family Ministry 2021 Annual Report

Due to the ongoing pandemic, 2021 was a year that again encouraged/forced Family Ministry to think outside the box and create opportunities to connect with one another and our community in a safe manner.

Because of the passing and mourning of my father, there were no Family Ministry events in January. In February, we began the year with families sharing the love of Christ and making over 70 Valentine's Day cards for members of Trinity's Caring Ministry and other congregation members. At the end of the month, we had families come to the Fellowship Hall at individual times (for social distancing) and put together a total of 60 Blessings Bags for those in need. Church members were invited to help distribute the bags (filled with toiletries, snacks, and other goodies) to people around our community.

Our big project in March was creating a Virtual Easter Vigil. Families created individual videos highlighting readings from the Old Testament that are included in a traditional Easter Vigil. Interspersed were various singing and instrumental performances to round out the vigil. Thank you to Lisa Ruble for editing and creating the video.

In April, we continued (from last fall) our monthly Drive-In Family Ministry theme of "The Lord's Prayer." We had paused in the winter due to the weather. This month, we discussed "Give us this Day our Daily Bread." The families brought food donations which were brought to Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes to help feed our community. The Drive-In events in May and June completed the theme for the year with "Forgiveness" and "Amen." We enjoyed this time of social distancing, yet togetherness in an outdoor setting.

Family events took a break in July in order to prepare for our Outdoor Family VBS during the month of August. We held four sessions—one on each Wednesday in August—in Trinity's parking lot. The theme was *Water is Life*. Through scripture readings/skits, discussions, and activities, we learned how God uses water to create, provide, protect, and claim us as His own. As a fun group fundraiser, we did a Dunk Tank Challenge. The group that raised the most money would get dunked into the dunk tank—pastors, parents, or kids. The pastors "won" and got dunked, but everyone took a turn with the dunk tank and it was one of the highlights of VBS. We collected a total of \$600 for ELCA World Hunger to support their clean water projects. It was a hot, but super fun four weeks of VBS. We had 15 families gather throughout the VBS weeks, plus many church and youth group members who volunteered each week!

We started the school year with a Fall Kick-Off Drive-In event. This school year, we are re-doing a previous theme of “Our Family.... Together.” Each month families will gather together for special activities that focus on fellowship, relationship building, and service to others. In September, we gathered for GIANT yard games in the parking lot. In October we visited the apple orchard and picked delicious apples to donate to the guests at the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. In November, we ventured inside (masked, of course) and for creative service projects. Families made Christmas cards for members of Trinity’s Caring Ministry, special cat and dog toys for animals at the SPCA animal shelter, and bird feeders for our cold and hungry feathered friends outside. For those who weren’t quite comfortable meeting in person yet, we made “to go” boxes so they could participate and create at home.

Gathering a large group of people inside was not ideal again this year, so the families opted for a virtual Christmas pageant. It was a true original production created by myself, the children and families, and our producer, Lisa Ruble. Many thanks to all who participated with this fun, silly, beautiful, and meaningful sharing of the story of Jesus birth. ☺ A small group of us joined in a Pageant Pajama Pizza Party to view the pageant video together, although it was available online for church members to enjoy, of course.

A few things to look forward to in 2022 are: Stony Lake Lutheran Camp will be open again for summer programming and hopefully we’ll send more Trinity children and youth to camp; more events that combine the strengths of Family Ministry and Youth Ministry to continue building that bridge from one ministry to the next; and a prayer that more children will be able to be vaccinated so that we can gather (hopefully) safely and comfortably indoors and in large group settings.

Many thanks to Thrivent members who wrote special Thrivent Action Team grants that helped provide funds for our Vacation Bible School, Blessings Bags, and other service projects.

A big heartfelt thank you to the many Trinity members who support this ministry with their behind-the-scenes assistance, including but not limited to: Pastor Ken, Pastor Jake, Katie Grubaugh, Margaret Stevenson, Jim & Joyce Magerlein, Emma McCleary, Christian Ed Team, Youth Group members, VBS church member volunteers, and the Family Ministry parents.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heidi Albertson
Director of Family Ministry

Annual Report of the Organist/Director of Music

Another memorable year for many reasons. We continue "in person" worship as well as a broadcast of each service on YouTube. I am pleased that actual attendance has been increasing. Good to see many returning after the pandemic.

Still no choir in place due to Covid, we were pleased to have a festive Easter Service with Scott Thornburg playing trumpet at all services.

I decided in July that I would retire sometime at the end of 2021. October 3 was the Celebration of my 50 years at Trinity, the actual anniversary of my first service was October 3, 1971. I am humbled and honored that Trinity has established a very large endowment fund in my name for the continuation of music ministry at Trinity.

I will be succeeded by my friend and fellow organist, Nathan Mattson. He will begin January 2, 2022. I may play once a month for a time and appreciate the offer to do so.

Joanne and I thank the congregation, pastors and staff at Trinity for the wonderful 50 years we have been blessed to share with this fine congregation. Choir members have been very close to us both over the years. It is our prayer that we have many years in retirement to enjoy the friendships we have made. May God continue to bless Trinity in the coming years.

Best regards to all,

Bill Musselman

Youth Ministry Annual Report 2021

This year has been FULL of changes for the Youth of Trinity. Our Middle School and High School group transitioned back to in-person Sunday School & Confirmation classes, I took on the role of Director of Youth Ministry, and we still managed to find ways to grow in our faith and have fun! The youth served our community and church family during leaf raking day, Oktoberfest, summer construction projects, blood drives, and more! They went to Harvest Moon Acres, had an outdoor movie night, and put on our annual progressive dinner. As we move into this new year, we're excited to continue serving our church family and going on some fun adventures - like serving at a local animal shelter, going to an escape room, and attending Camp at Stony Lake!

On behalf of the youth, THANK YOU to all who support us! We could not do all that we do without the support of our dedicated parents, encouraging church staff, and compassionate church family.

Growing up, the memories and relationships I made with my youth group are ones that shaped me into the person I am today, and I'm so thankful to share these activities with our youth group. I'm so blessed to be able to work with an AMAZING group, and I can't wait to walk alongside them as they continue to grow in their faith.

Respectfully submitted,
Emma McCleary
Director of Youth Ministry

2020 Annual Report of the Women of the ELCA, Trinity Kalamazoo Unit

The purpose of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America(W/ELCA): “As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.”

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the board members or circle leaders.

President: Holly Wohlfert

Vice-President: Connie Ruch

Secretary: Judy Sherrod

Treasurer: Kathy Aivars

Esther-Mary: Sandy Wallace, Leader

Lydia: Beth Latshaw, Leader

Martha: Teri Koretsky, Leader

Miriam: Lisa Ruble, Leader

Rebecca: Linda Ward, Leader (also Synod WELCA Treasurer)

WELCA -DECEMBER 31, 2021

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>10/1/21 -09/30/21</u>	<u>07/01/21 -12/31/21</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>
QUARTERLY/CIRCLE OFFERINGS		\$ 1,400.00			\$ -
THANKOFFERINGS	QUARTERLY	\$ 1,500.00			\$ -
KAL YOUTH MINISTRY--OPEN DO	JAN	\$ 50.00			\$ -
JAIL MINISTRY	FEB	\$ 50.00			\$ -
DOMESTIC ASSAULT	MAR	\$ 50.00			\$ -
MINISTRY WITH COMMUNITY	APR	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SHEPHERD'S CENTER	MAY	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SEITA SCHOLARS	JUNE	\$ 50.00			\$ -
KALAMAZOO DROP IN CENTER	JULY/AUG	\$ 50.00			\$ -
KAIROS DWELLING	JULY/AUG	\$ 50.00			\$ -
COMMUNITY HEALING CENTER	SEPT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
ROCKY BOY	OCT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SWELL	OCT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
WHAT SO EVER FREE BED	NOV	\$ 50.00			\$ -
LOVE OFFERING	QUARTERLY	\$ 100.00			\$ -
SYNOD HUMAN TRAFFICKING	NOV				\$ -
ADVENT TEA--SALVATION ARMY	NOV				\$ -
BINGO--MIN W/COMM	JUNE				\$ -
COOKBOOK SALES					\$ -
VBS/SUNDAY SCHOOL	JUNE				\$ -
ALMA'S MITTEN TREE	DEC				\$ -
TOTAL			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>					
SYNOD REGULAR OFFERINGS	QUARTERLY		\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 600.00
SYNOD THANKOFFERINGS	QUARTERLY			\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
WELCA EXPENSES					\$ -
CIRCLE GUIDES					\$ -
CONFERENCE EXPENSES					\$ -
SUBSCRIPTIONS					\$ -
KAL YOUTH MINISTRY--OPEN DO	JAN	\$ 50.00		\$ 73.00	\$ 73.00
JAIL MINISTRY	FEB	\$ 50.00		\$ 58.00	\$ 58.00
DOMESTIC ASSAULT	MAR	\$ 50.00			\$ -
MINISTRY WITH COMMUNITY	APR	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SHEPHERD'S CENTER	MAY	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SEITA SCHOLARS	JUNE	\$ 50.00			\$ -
KALAMAZOO DROP IN CENTER	JULY/AUG	\$ 50.00			\$ -
KAIROS DWELLING	JULY/AUG	\$ 50.00			\$ -
COMMUNITY HEALING CENTER	SEPT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SWELL	OCT	\$ 50.00		\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00
WHAT-SO-EVER FREE BED ASC	NOV	\$ 50.00			\$ -
LOVE OFFERING					\$ -
MISCELLANEOUS					\$ -
CHURCH WOMEN UNITED	JAN	\$ 30.00			\$ -
SAMARITAS					\$ -
BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERV					\$ -
CHRISTIAN ED/SUNDAY SCHL					\$ -
KITCHEN SUPPLIES		\$ 100.00			\$ -
BINGO PRIZES					\$ -
TILLERS INTERNATIONAL					\$ -
KATY'S FUND ENDOWMENT					\$ -
THANK OFFERING SUPPLIES	NOV				\$ -
TOTAL			\$ 100.00	\$ 736.00	\$ 836.00

BALANCE ON HAND, DECEMBER 31, 2021

WELCA	\$ 4,561.89
SYNOD	\$ 2.50
THANKOFFERING	
COOKBOOKS	
WELCA CONFERENCE	\$ 180.00
LOVE	\$ -
ALMA'S MITTEN TREE	\$ 17.50
BINGO--MINISTRY W/COMM	\$ 4.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,765.89

Respectfully submitted,


Kathy Ellis-Avairs
Treasurer

Annual Report of Christian Education at Trinity

We're saying goodbye to another weird year, but we were able to gather more in 2021 than 2020, so that's a positive. For children's Sunday school, the first half of 2021 was virtual, with attendance each week ranging from 2 kids to 6 or 7. In the fall, we resumed in-person Sunday school under the leadership of Ashley Wineland (a big thank you to Ashley!). Each week, between 6 and 12 kids and their parents gather for a Bible story, songs, and a craft project. It's a good step forward. The Sunday morning adult Bible study has also resumed, both virtually and in-person. Heidi Albertson has continued to find creative ways to manage Family Ministry, including outdoor and staggered in-person events each month, plus a very successful Drive-In VBS in August, where an average of 10 families joined together each Wednesday for food, crafts, songs, and skits. Thank you to Heidi for all of her work, as well as the volunteers who helped, including Jim and Joyce Magerlein, Teri Koretsky, Jen Gatz, Marianne Fuerst, and Kathy Aivars. We look forward to more opportunities to worship and learn together in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Ruble and Audrey Martin

Annual Report of Congregational Life

The Congregational Life Committee oversees all groups and activities that concern the members of Trinity's congregation and how we help, interact and share with each other. This year continued to present a number of challenges for our congregation to gather together in safe ways, but many of us were able to stay connected and do what we could to create an atmosphere of welcome and fellowship for new and old congregants.

- Special thanks to Marie Belleville for her years of service on Caring Ministry and a warm welcome to Julie Peterson as she has taken over for Marie. Caring Ministry continued to connect as they were able with Trinity's members who could not come to church because of health reasons.

- Teri Koretsky faithfully sent greeting cards via email or the post office for all member's birthdays and anniversaries.
- Rasma McMullen and the Christmas Basket committee prepared baskets of food to be delivered to members who cannot leave home.
- Christmas and Easter cards were sent to those members that cannot be at church.
- Oktoberfest was held outdoors this year and was a huge success. Over 200 people were able to gather and enjoy amazing food prepared by Donna Gardner and her great team, live music, and fellowship with one another on a beautiful day.
- Meeting of the Women started this year and was a perfect way for several congregants and friends to connect and enjoy fellowship at a local coffeehouse.
- Sidney Mueller and her Prayer Shawl Committee consistently kept on knitting and blessing shawls for members.
- On October 3rd, Dr. William Musselman was honored on his 50th anniversary as our Organist/Director of Music with a special fellowship time in our new gathering spaces. Thank you to Trudi Giffin and Greta Decker for helping with the celebration.

Many thanks to all who have helped continue our work to create community! Our prayer is to strengthen the bonds between us all and gather together once again in the new year.

Respectfully submitted,
 Connie Ruch and Katie Grubaugh, co-chairs

Annual Facilities Report – For Year 2021

- The BIG item begun & completed for 2021 was the comprehensive ENTER, ELEVATE & GATHER construction project. Persons such as Rodney Freudenburg and several others were previously & publicly thanked & acknowledged for their dedication and involvement with that BIG endeavor. We appreciate all the gifts & pledges from members of the church who made the project possible and also appreciate the patience of many who may have been inconvenienced during the summer months when the elevator was not available.
- We want to acknowledge the fine work completed by Steve Bittner which occurred on the top floor of the education building. A new wall was built in the room which will be the new site of the church library. Thank you Steve!
- Very special thanks to Shelly Meyer who has been a key person in recent years regarding maintenance & plantings in the church courtyard, church entrance areas and the BIG planters in the parking lot. Thank you Shelly, for your continued & talented contribution! We also continue to get significant contributions in the courtyard area and other landscaping efforts from Judy Morison plus her daughter, Naomi. Thank you ladies! Collectively, we are committed to work tirelessly to make the courtyard and columbarium area as beautiful as possible.
- Special thanks, once again, to **Portage Great Scapes** (John Pawlak & son Aaron) for assisting with moving the big planters in the parking lot each spring and fall.
- Finally, we wanted to say that, with the 2022 annual budget approval, we will be embarking with exterior brick restoration as soon as a weather permits for the north side of the sanctuary building. That is the portion of the building in most urgent need of attention. We plan to also get updated proposals for brick restoration & capstone repair for the rest of the building as well as an indication of which sections of the building are of highest priority. The concern we have contracted with is Building Restoration, Inc.

Respectfully Submitted: David Runstrom – Church Council Facilities Chair

2021 Stewardship and Finance Annual Report

Thank you for your contributions that enabled us to support our missions in these uncertain times. A very special thanks to the Congregation of Trinity for launching and fully subscribing to the Enter, Elevate and Gather Campaign. We are all benefiting from a first-class entry, reliable elevator and inviting meeting area!

- The Stewardship campaign featured Temple Talks by Jerry Molitor and Julie and Keith Peterson, which focused on time and talent.
- The number of pledges declined slightly and giving is anticipated to be relatively flat.
- The 2022 budget that is relatively flat year-on-year was developed and approved based on pledges and historical data. Compensation related expenses account for about two-thirds of our budget.
- We continue to allocate resources to four primary areas:
 - Worship – \$143,346 – 24.4%
 - Mission & Service – \$169,317 – 28.7%
 - Faith Development – \$168,317 – 28.6%
 - Fellowship & Hospitality – \$107,459 – 18.3%
- We'd like to extend our thanks and appreciation to: Pastors Ken and Jake, Jerry Molitor, Katie Grubaugh, Mike Mueller and Trudi Giffin for their input, advice and support. A very special thanks to Judy Sherrod and Rodney Freudenberg for their invaluable guidance and direction with the Enter, Elevate and Gather Campaign and construction.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Grubaugh & Keith Peterson

2021 Service Ministry Annual Report

In spite of the ongoing restrictions due to the pandemic, we were pretty busy!

- The **Crop Walk** raised \$692.56.
- We packed 75 health kits and 72 quilts for Lutheran World Relief.
- **Clothes Closet**- the closet has been doing well and serving many families in the community. We are enforcing mandatory mask wearing and have not had any problems. The coat giveaway provided coats, hats, gloves and scarfs to 73 families. We also provided clothing and coats to 8 Afghan refugee families.
- **Angel Tree**--as always we had a great response with generous donations to the Angel Tree. We received 67 gifts and 17 gift cards to donate to The Salvation Army. Thank you.
- **Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry** - Although the pantry remained closed during 2021, much thought has gone in to how best to serve our community in the future. As a result, in coordination with Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes, we plan to open in 2022 with a new space (the room formally occupied by the library) and using a revised curbside delivery model.

Fair Trade Sales 2020 – Due to reduced attendance at in-person services and social hour being held outside, there was considerably less sales of Fair Trade products during the year. A few “faithful” customers called me and picked up at my house or I met them at church to deliver what they wanted. A few left payments and took what they needed out of our storage room. I did display coffee during the regular Sundays in December (1st and 3rd) so lets hope that can continue. Total sales for 2021 amounted to \$637. I continue to order for the church’s use as well. Hopefully, 2022 will gradually bring things back to normal. – Nancy Diment.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes - Once again, I thank the generous people at Trinity! A Thrivent grant also allowed us to fill 20 boxes this year with the aid of the congregation who paid for postage and handling. A number of the boxes were sent with a “Follow your box” label so I hope to hear soon where our boxes went. Our final tally of shoeboxes was 77 so we met our goal and WAY BEYOND stretch goal! Here is the breakdown of what we sent: Ages 2-4: 21, Ages 5-9: 28, Ages 10-14: 28. God bless you, every one! – Linda Ward

SCRIP Program (*gift cards*) - Even though the SCRIP Table was not available during most of 2021, sales of gift cards totaled \$12, 805! Of that total, cards donated to the Angel Tree totaled \$370. This year Samaritas received 93 backpacks filled with school supplies for foster children from Trinity; donations of items and to purchase cards for other items were overwhelming! Rewards from Harding's for three-quarters of 2021 totaled \$122.31. We give our sincere thanks to all who helped keep these projects alive!

S.W.E.L.L. (*Sharing with Everyone Lutheran Love - a partnership with Samaritas [formerly Lutheran Social Services of Michigan] to help support foster children in their care*) The SWELL Partnership continues to give each Samaritas foster child a birthday gift. New socks and underwear for those entering foster care were provided by a SWELL member. We also filled several special requests during 2021, and gave ILP (Independent Living Plus) young men and women Christmas gifts from their wish lists. Welcome Baskets for those entering ILP were provided. (These are young people ages 15-18 who have aged out of or left foster care and have other living arrangements [including ILP homes] but are still supervised by Samaritas.) SWELL is grateful for the generous support of all the area Lutheran churches, and for the Action Team grants received from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who gave of their time this year to ensure we continued to serve our community despite the pandemic!

Respectfully submitted,
Rasma McMullen and Sandy Wallace

Worship and Music Annual Report 2021

Shout for joy to the Lord, everyone on earth. Worship the Lord with gladness. Come to Him with songs of joy.

Psalms 100:1-2

Once again I have the wonderful opportunity to thank the Worship and Music Team. The pastors and staff have done much work to bring worship back to those that are able/willing to attend and to make the services available online for the rest of us. I continue my gratitude to those who lead and take care of their teams. I am so grateful for everyone who participates and volunteers on one or more of the teams. Many serve on several committee teams to support each other and the church community. I would like to thank Julie Peterson for stepping up to organize lectors. I will be continuing to organize acolytes even though I will be stepping down off council this year as I have served 4 years. Please contact me or one of the pastors if you would like to be on council for Worship and Music or another position. Speaking of stepping down, I would again like to congratulate Bill Musselman for his 50 years of service as our organist and Music Director. Words cannot express our gratitude.

As of January 2, 2022, Nathan Mattson has started his duties as the new Organist and Music director. With over 25 years of experience, we welcome his expertise and talent. He has been in contact with the choir and we look forward to bringing back choir or soloists/small groups soon (as covid precautions allow.) WELCOME back to Trinity Nate!

A huge CONGRATULATIONS and THANKS to Sara McGarvey who is celebrating her 10th year of service! The Children's choir will be starting again soon, at first virtually and when safer will move back to in person. She has done a beautiful job as soloist and Wednesday evening services over the years. We are so blessed to have her talents shared with us.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sr. Beth Latshaw, n/OLF

Worship and Music Committees Chair

Worship and Music Team Leaders:

Acolytes and Altar Assistants: Sr. Beth Latshaw

Altar Guild: Teri Koretsky and Ginny Giese

Flowers: Suze Breischaft

Greeters: Marianne Fierst

Lectors: Julie Peterson

Music Director & Organist: Nathan Mattson

Children's Choir & Weds Pianist: Sara McGarvey

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Report of the Financial Secretary
Annual Meeting 2022

Attached is the year end Contribution report by fund for 2021.

What a year it has been! If you remember, that is what I said last year too! Again we have been gratified by the continued faithfulness of our members who have continued to support our mission during this most difficult year. In addition to our normal activities of processing and accounting for contributions and other cash receipts, we have been involved in two other major activities during 2021.

First, we conducted a very successful campaign raising over \$550,000 for our Enter, Elevate and Gather campaign. I think we all agree the result is not only a beautiful new gathering area but a much more functional use of the space. A special Thank You to Judy Sherrod for heading up this effort.

We spent a great deal of time working on our loan forgiveness application for the Payroll Protection Loan we received last year. Constant changes in the rules and interpretation thereof, combined with a total lack of assistance and cooperation from our lender resulted in our application not being approved until late summer, almost a year after we were first prepared to submit our application.

We continue to see a steady increase in members using either Vanco Payment Solutions or their own Bank's on-line banking program to make regular automatic contributions to Trinity. Automatic payments provide a convenient way to make steady contributions, and helps us even out our cash flow. There is a link "Giving" at the top of our church webpage www.tlckzoo.com Clicking on that link will take you to the Vanco page linked to Trinity where you can set up a profile and donation schedule.

Please feel free to contact me, if you have any questions concerning any of our on-line giving options.

I would like to express a special thanks to Trudi Giffin, who during this year has continued to take on the additional responsibility of receiving and processing the many contributions we are now receiving by mail. As we continue on a path to more normal operations, we hope to return to our old system of having the offering collected and counted each Sunday. We will of course need volunteers to do this.

If you have an interest in helping in this way please contact me.

Respectfully submitted
Jerry Molitor

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Report of the Financial Secretary
Year to Date December 2021

				YTD	
Fund	Description	Designation	December	Designation	December
Fund	Description				
100	General Fund		33,428.64		408,816.14
102	TLC Foundation		5,000.00		20,000.00
103	Loose Offering		230.00		2,818.51
105	Sunday School		6.00		127.00
107	Ash Wednesday		0.00		60.00
108	Lenten Offerings		0.00		2,211.00
109	Maundy Thursday		0.00		206.00
110	Good Friday		0.00		265.00
111	Thanksgiving		0.00		337.75
112	Advent		901.50		1,123.50
113	Christmas Eve		1,573.00		1,634.00
114	Christmas		0.00		0.00
200	Worship Service Flowers		380.00		2,411.00
202	Fair Trade		177.00		863.00
203	Youth Fund Restricted		400.00		420.00
211	Subscriptions		0.00		0.00
213	Youth Deposits		120.00		2,110.00
300	ELCA Benevolence		841.33		15,867.06
302	World Hunger		20.00		415.00
303	Food Pantry		0.00		0.00
304	Good Samaritan Fund		551.75		5,595.38
305	Quilters		0.00		0.00
311	Lutheran World Relief		55.00		65.00
317	Loaves and Fishes		0.00		0.00
318	Personal Care Kit		0.00		60.00
319	Non-ELCA Restricted		1,253.00		4,377.00
	Larry Yarger Ministry	23.00		2,788.00	
	CROP Walk	5.00		60.00	
	Dave Kramer	1,225.00		1,425.00	
321	Christ's Closet		0.00		0.00
400	WELCA Offering		0.00		0.00
402	Thankoffering		0.00		436.00
403	Campus Ministry		2,558.33		20,241.63
404	Quilters		0.00		45.00
406	Family Ministry		10,000.00		11,700.00
407	Director of Youth Ministry		20,000.00		20,000.00
409	SWELL		800.00		2,725.00
500	Building and Maintenance		575.00		5,945.00
503	Music Fund		20,200.00		21,600.00
504	Youth Fund		8,000.00		8,615.00
506	Youth Fndrsr (not deductible)		0.00		0.00
507	Special Holding Fund		5,000.00		5,000.00
509	Funeral Lunch Fund		0.00		1,000.00
510	Staff Christmas Gifts		3,560.00		7,350.00
512	Enter Elevate & Gather		16,879.64		349,877.77
600	Lutheran Graduate Study		2,500.00		2,500.00
601	Sabbatical		10,000.00		10,000.00
700	Memorials/Honorariums		15,200.00		17,725.00
802	Evangelism/Fellowship		0.00		378.00
	Oktoberfest	0.00		378.00	
3100	Columbarium Fund		0.00		2,000.00
3106	Endowment to Foundation		30,000.00		30,000.00
2000	Transaction Fee		-153.61		-1,588.58
			190,056.58		985,332.16

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Report of the Treasurer
(as of December 2021)

Assets									
Bank Accounts									
Checking Accounts									
PNC General Checking Account								203,293.39	
Savings Accounts									
PNC General Savings								326,449.46	
<i>subtotal: Bank Accounts</i>									
<i>Total Assets</i>								<u>529,742.85</u>	
Total Liabilities									
Pass-thru Contributions								944.18	
Loan from Foundation								<u>50,000.00</u>	
<i>Total Liabilities</i>								50,944.18	
Net Assets									
Unrestricted Assets								86,178.01	
Restricted Assets								<u>392,620.66</u>	
<i>Total Equity</i>								478,798.67	
<i>Total Liabilities and Equity</i>								<u>529,742.85</u>	

Respectfully submitted
Michael L. Mueller, Treasurer

(as of December 2021)

Income

Unrestricted Income

Unrestricted Income

Banking Interest

Miscellaneous Income

Foundation

Transfer to/from Restricted

subtotal: Unrestricted Income

Restricted Income

Foundation

Total Income

Expenses	
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Op	Pastoral Staff
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Support Staff	
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Administrative Expenses		
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Buildings and Grounds

9	Benevolence
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Committees

Christian Education

Music

Ministry

Transfer to restricted

Other-Misc Exp.	
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<i>subtotal</i> : Operating Expenses			

Restricted Expenses

subtotal: Total Expenses

Net Income

Summary

Unrestricted income

Operating Expenses

subtotal: Operating Income

Restricted Income	
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Restricted Expenses

subtotal: Restricted Net Income

Total Income (Loss)

December 31, 2021

25

Trinity Lutheran Church 2022 Budget

	2022	2021
Income		
Unrestricted Pledged and Expected	435,825	445,904
ELCA Benevolence Restricted	18,000	15,000
Capital Campaign Restricted	11,600	16,415
Restricted Fund Dir of Youth Ministry	12,600	0
Other Restricted Pledged and Expected	25,800	27,364
Foundation Unrestricted	30,000	20,000
Foundation Seminarians		2,500
Foundation Sabbatical	10,000	10,000
Total Income	543,825	537,183
Expense		
Senior Pastor Salary and Benefits	141,093	138,715
Associate Pastor Salary and Benefits	125,474	120,722
Director of Music	25,436	24,695
Director of Bells	2,000	2,000
Jr. Music Director	4,383	4,255
Musician	1,970	1,913
Bookkeeper	5,801	5,632
Financial Secretary	2,005	1,948
Office Administrator	21,377	20,749
Custodian/Sexton	21,036	20,423
Maintenance Manager	2,458	2,387
AV Director	1,607	1,560
Nursery Staff	2,340	2,546
Dir of Family Ministry	6,138	5,960
Dir of Youth Ministry	11,700	0
Payroll /Workers Compensation	10,000	8,300
Total Compensation	384,818	361,805
Administrative Expenses	33,450	33,500
Building and Grounds	81,000	52,100
ELCA Benevolence Designated	18,000	15,000
Benevolence Designated & Directed	36,800	36,964
Committees	3,725	4,975
Christian Education	20,500	25,500
Music Expense	4,000	9,400
Ministry Expense	6,000	6,000
Total Other Expense	203,475	183,439
Total Expense	588,293	545,244
Utilization of Unrestricted Assets For Building Repairs	30,000	0
Net Income (Loss)	(14,468)	(8,061)

Trinity Staff

Pastor Rev. Ken Johnson
Outreach Pastor Rev. Jake Lehman
Organist/Director of Music Nathan Mattson
Director of Family Ministry Heidi Albertson
Office Administrator Katie Grubaugh
Custodian Margaret Stevenson
Children's Choir/Pianist Sara McGarvey
Bookkeeper Trudi Giffin
Director of Youth Ministry Emma McCleary
Seminary Student Ed Ruble

Trinity Foundation Members

Jerry Molitor
Mike Mueller
Julie Bosley
Keith Peterson
Ben Bakalyar
Rev. Ken Johnson
Rev. Jake Lehman

Library

Mary Bittner
Maryann Hubbell

Church Council

President Janet Gullickson
Secretary Sheree Sorensen
Treasurer Mike Mueller
Financial Secretary Jerry Molitor
Worship & Music Beth Latshaw
Christian Education Lisa Ruble & Audrey Martin
Service Ministry Rasma McMullen & Sandy Wallace
Facilities Dave Runstrom
Congregational Life Connie Ruch & Katie Grubaugh
Stewardship & Finance Keith Peterson & David Grubaugh
Youth Representative David Latshaw

Missionaries

David Kramer, Tillers, Int.
Eisleben Church, Germany
Larry Yarger, Indonesia
Coraley Vong, Cambodia
Christina Horning, Germany