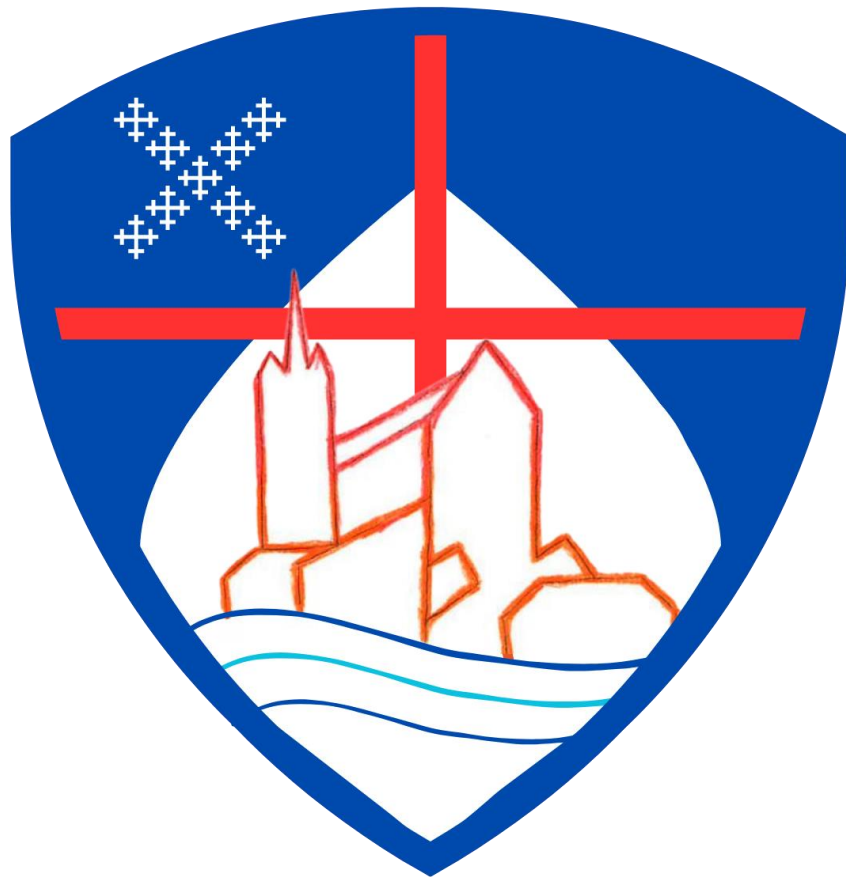


# Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Annual Meeting

26 January, 2025



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## **Meeting Agenda**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Establish Quorum
3. Accept Agenda
4. Approve Minutes from 2024 Annual Meeting
5. Nominating Committee Report and Voting
6. Dean's Report
7. Wardens' Report
8. Program Reports
  - a. Canon for Parish Life
  - b. Director of Music
  - c. Children, Youth and Family Ministry
9. Ministry Reports
  - a. Worship Ministries
  - b. Outreach Ministries
  - c. Support Ministries
  - d. Social Ministries
10. Financial Reports
  - a. 2024 Operating, Discretionary, Endowment, and Faith Like a River Funds
  - b. 2025 Operating Budget
11. Commissioning New Parish Leaders
12. Closing Prayer

## **Minutes from 2024 Annual Meeting**

**Opening Prayer:** The Very Reverend Paul Bailey offered the opening prayer.

The meeting was called to order by Senior Warden Kait Flocchini at 11:20 a.m.

**Quorum:** Ann Morgan, Clerk, established that a quorum was present.

**Agenda:** On motion by Josette Dornoff, second by Betsy Bethke, the agenda as presented was approved unanimously.

**Minutes of January 29, 2023, Meeting:** On motion by Mikkel Bassett, second by Nancy Petersen, the minutes of the Annual Meeting of January 29, 2023, were unanimously approved.

**Election of New Vestry Members:** Chair of the Nominating Committee, Kait Flocchini, presented the slate of nominees for the three open three-year terms: Margaret Brown, Aaron Koning, Eric Nummela, one two-year term: Kathryn Landreth, and Luke Wolfe for the youth member. There were no nominations from the floor.

Howard Bennett moved to close nominations, second by Gary Fuller, it was unanimously approved to close the nominations. On motion by Howard Bennett, second by Josette Dornoff, it was unanimously approved to accept the nominations.

**Election of Endowment Board Trustee:** Kait Flocchini presented Harvey Fennell, current chair of the Endowment Board, for another three-year term. There were no nominations from the floor.

Betsy Bethke moved, and Nancy Richards seconded the motion to close the nominations and approve Harvey Fennell as an Endowment Board Trustee. Harvey Fennell was unanimously approved for a three-year term on the Endowment Board.

**Election of Delegates for the 2024 Diocesan Convention:** Kait Flocchini presented a slate of delegates and one alternate: Betsy Bethke, Bruce Bethke, Lindsay Campbell, Clea Dillard, Carol Roman, Nancy Petersen, Rayann Pezonella-Brown, John Lilley, Gerrie Lilley, Nancy Richards and Kait Flocchini as Alternate. Josette Dornoff was nominated from the floor as an additional Alternate.

Upon motion by Will Aldrich, second by Mikkel Bassett, the proposed slate of delegates and alternates was unanimously approved.

**Election of Nominating Committee At-Large Membership:** Gary Fuller and Gretchen Wolfe were nominated to serve as parish members on the 2024 Nominating Committee.

On motion by Terry Cain, second by Clea Dillard, the proposed at-large members for the Nominating Committee were unanimously approved.

### **Interim Dean and Wardens' Reports**

Sr. Warden Kait Flocchini reviewed the Interim Dean's report, noting that in addition to the parish statistics presented, Iyanuoluwa Onaopemipo Erinoso, was baptized.

Sr. Warden Kait Flocchini presented the Wardens' Report expressing gratitude for the past year of our worship community and the support of Interim Dean Steve Brehe and Bishop Elizabeth Gardner. The reconnection of the parish and its growth were recognized as we look forward with excitement to welcoming our new Dean Tim Watt.

The Search Committee was recognized, and special thanks were given to committee chair Margaret Brown and vice-chair Howard Bennett.

Junior Warden Barbara Marquand and Clerk Ann Morgan were thanked along with the current vestry, Gary Fuller, Eloy Ituarte, Brandon Harjer, Nancy Petersen, Dave Bennum, Marné McKimney, Bruce Bethke, Mikkel Bassett and Will Aldrich.

Canon Ruth Hanusa; Rev. Julius Rogina; Judy Landis, director of Christian education and EYC; and Anke Riesner, administrator; were each thanked for their work this past year.

The Transition Committee consisting of Kait Flocchini, Margaret Brown, Josette Dornoff, Tom Anderson, Dave Bennum, Nancy Petersen, Jessie Clark, Mimi Butler, Gary Fuller, and Sandi Brooke was announced.

Outgoing vestry members Gary Fuller, Brandon Harjer, and Eloy Ituarte were thanked by outgoing vestry member and Sr. Warden, Kait Flocchini.

Jr. Warden Barbara Marquand thanked Sr. Warden Kait Flocchini for her joyful service.

### **Program Reports**

On motion by Will Aldrich, second by Betsy Bethke, the program reports by Rev. Ruth Hanusa, canon for pastoral care; Bryan Chuan, director of music; and Judy Landis, director of Christian education and EYC; were unanimously accepted.

### **Ministry Reports**

On motion by Josette Dornoff, second by Gretchen Wolfe, the ministry reports for worship ministries, outreach ministries, support ministries and social ministries were unanimously accepted.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Sr. Warden Kait Flocchini presented the treasurer's report noting the clean audit received for the year ending 2022. Stewardship pledges of \$615,482 were noted yielding a very small deficit which the vestry is confident will be erased as the year proceeds. On motion by Dave Morgan, second by Harvey Fennell, the financial reports were unanimously accepted.

### **Senior Warden Appointment**

Kait Flocchini read a letter from Bishop Gardner appointing Barbara Marquand Sr. Warden, pending Dean Tim Watt's arrival.

### **Commissioning New Parish Leaders**

Kait Flocchini led the commissioning of the new Vestry and Endowment Board members.

On motion by Mikkel Bassett, second by Howard Bennett, the meeting was adjourned at 11:47.

## **Nominating Committee Report**

The Nominating Committee comprises outgoing members of the Vestry and two parishioners elected at the prior year's annual meeting. The committee proposes candidates to serve on the Vestry and Endowment Board and to serve as Nevada Diocesan Convention delegates. In addition, the committee nominates two non-Vestry members to serve on the next Nominating Committee. The 2024 Nominating Committee members included parishioners Gary Fuller and Gretchen Wolfe; and retiring Vestry members Barbara Marquand, Dave Bennum, Nancy Petersen, Marné McKimmey and youth representative Luke Wolfe.

### **Vestry Nominations**

The Vestry, the governing board of the parish, handles the parish's business and non-liturgical policy matters. The Vestry fulfills many of the functions served by boards of directors or trustees of other organizations or businesses. Among its responsibilities is overseeing the parish's financial health. The Vestry also serves as an advisory council to the dean and rector, who by church law is the parish's chief liturgical and pastoral officer. Five well-qualified candidates are standing for the five vacant positions. One youth candidate is standing to be a youth representative for 2025. The candidates' statements are presented below.

#### **Rebecca Dixon**

I'm a cradle Episcopalian who has lived in Nevada for 27 years. I'm originally from the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, area. I moved to Reno in 2015 and have attended Trinity since 2016. I have a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in education. I am a licensed K-8 teacher, and the bulk of my experience is in 6th grade. My husband, Jay, is a civil engineer/hydrologist, my daughter, Leah, is a senior at Pepperdine University, and my other daughter, Aubrey, is a senior at Damonte Ranch High School. I have been teaching Sunday School since I was pregnant with Aubrey, and I truly feel it is my gift and calling at church.

- What service do you usually attend?

Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

- What ministries are you involved with at Trinity and what others are you passionate about?

I am a Sunday School teacher for the youth who are ages 13-18, as well as one of the leaders for EYC. I am also a member of Daughters of the King. I recently became aware of the Labyrinth Ministry and am very interested in becoming more involved with it.

- Why do you want to serve on Vestry and what strengths will you bring?

I was initially asked to serve on Vestry in May 2024 when one of the members moved away and couldn't complete his term. In my short time as a Vestry member since then, I have learned a great deal about the mission of Trinity's Vestry and formed special friendships with the other members. I am open-minded, willing to learn, patient, empathetic and a great listener. As a previous middle school teacher, I have a true

passion for learning, as well as a deep respect for the different ways in which people learn new things.

- What do you think God is calling us to be and do in the next year?

I think God is calling us to carry the light of Christ into the world with truly open hearts and minds. That can mean many different things for different people, depending on our unique talents, but I feel that God desires for us to serve in ways that feel most authentic to each of us. In the next year, I pray that we will continue to meaningfully grow in membership and become even closer as a church family.

- Where would you like to see Trinity Cathedral in three years?

Wow, what a fantastic question to ponder! Three years from now, I would love to see us continuing to thrive as a Cathedral, with the same welcoming spirit we currently embody. I hope that we are bursting at the seams in terms of attendance at the 9:00 a.m. service, because that will mean we are connecting with the youth in relevant ways that bring them back each week to learn more about God's love.

### **Josette Dornoff**

Aside from singing in our St. Cecelia Choir, I sing with Bella Voce, a small women's ensemble, and the Reno Philharmonic Chorus.

I've been a Reno resident since 1972 although I went to St. Olaf College in Minnesota that year. Jim is my husband of almost 49 years. Our daughter, Heather, grew up in Trinity. Heather and her husband, Pete, have our only granddaughter, Afton, who's soon to be 12. Two of my sisters live here in Reno, Faith Burnette and Candace Burnette, with their spouses.

I retired from MSC Industrial Supply in 2020 after 14 years as a supervisor and trainer for the Call Center located in Fernley. Prior to that I had a lengthy career in banking starting as a teller, moved up through branch manager and invested 19 of my 29 years as a trainer through multiple name changes, computer conversions and acquisitions from First Federal, American Federal, Norwest and finally keeping the Wells Fargo name in the last acquisition/merger.

Generally, learning and sharing have been fun throughout my careers. The opportunity to serve on the Vestry will give me more fun, and hopefully my experience and commitment will provide some benefits also.

- What service do you usually attend?

As I sing in the St. Cecelia Choir, I mostly attend the 11 a.m. service on Sundays, except in the summer, when I attend the 10 a.m. combined service. I have acted as cantor for the family service as needed. In the past, I have attended all services to do announcements and presentations.

- What ministries are you involved with at Trinity and what others are you passionate about?



Obviously, music, especially the choir as a singer member as well as director for rehearsals and anthems to ensure continuity in the absence of the musical director. I have supported concerts as an usher, as needed. Occasionally I attend the Pipes on the River concerts. When office support was needed, my help was used for the office. I have served on the search committees for musical director and rector/dean twice.

- Why do you want to serve on Vestry and what strengths will you bring?

I feel strongly about our parish being welcoming, financially stable, growing, meeting the needs of our multiple age and economic strata as well as maintaining a beautiful place to worship. My skill set includes organizational and management skills as well as a long history of adult education in the business world; I've been retired for about 5 years. With retirement, my time allows a little more availability than when I last served on the Vestry. I feel I contributed to growth at Trinity and helped in some challenging times of change.

- What do you think God is calling us to be and do in the next year?

Our mission statement continues to guide us and offers each of us a large responsibility in our community. Supporting existing goals, continuing to move toward the parish hall change and supporting the staff and clergy as they guide the congregation along our spiritual paths are what comes to mind immediately. As always, adaptability and flexibility are needed as we continue to grow and support our parish.

- Where would you like to see Trinity Cathedral in three years?

Here's what popped into my thoughts initially:

- The parish hall renovation completed.
- Increased attendance and participation.
- Sufficient funds to realize or at least move toward goals.
- Increased visibility and participation in the greater Reno community and across the diocese.
- Not to be looking for a new dean or musical director.

More importantly, the vestry and clergy together have that task of looking ahead and behind to generate a path and plot the steps to lead to success. I think I can contribute to the group's success.

### **Katherine Mahannah**

Katherine Mahannah is a UNR alumni and moved to Reno in 2017. She is originally from New Orleans and attended Trinity Episcopal Church there during her childhood. She started attending Trinity in Reno in 2023 and was confirmed during the Easter Vigil in 2024. In her spare time, she hosts a podcast called The Vibe Check, teaches barre and Pilates, assists with our Sunday School program, volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Nevada, and enjoys exploring the outdoors with her husband, Zak.

- What service do you usually attend?

I attend the 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. depending on whether I am helping with Sunday School.

- What ministries are you involved with at Trinity and what others are you passionate about?

I am involved with EYE, EYC, and Sunday School at Trinity. I love the role I have stepped into with the Trinity youth, and they have helped me to continue to develop my faith through seeing how they love God.

Before I was an active member at Trinity, I hosted a Bible study with some friends who were also in their early 20s. This Bible study group was unique because every young woman in it came from a different Christian denomination, and one was an ex-Mormon. I really loved being able to share and discuss God's Word with them because everyone had different translations of the Bible and brought new perspectives on faith. Overall, it was an incredible experience because I helped one of my closest friends who had previously rejected her Christian faith come back to Jesus.

I also treat my daily work in medical sales as a subtle ministry. I have the opportunity to interact with dozens of people on a daily basis, and I use those small interactions to try and show strangers God's love with every opportunity that presents itself. Sometimes it's through interaction with fellow Christians and bonding over Jesus' love, or when welcome, paying for an acquaintance who just opened their heart and shared something meaningful or deeply personal with me.

I was raised by a Catholic father and Episcopal mother, and I remember my childhood being enriched by faith on a daily basis at school and at home. I went to Trinity Episcopal School in New Orleans. At home we would always pray before supper and my dad would pray with us before bed. At the end of his prayer, he would always gently place his hand on my forehead and say "May you grow in the gifts of faith, hope and love. May you come to know God and do God's will. This we ask in Jesus' name, amen." With a childhood embodied by faith I take ministry in my home very seriously. My husband grew up going to Living Stones Church somewhat infrequently. Through his mom, Southern Baptist grandfather, and a few incredible football coaches he learned many Biblical stories and Christian values, but he was never baptized. Over the past two years I have been introducing faith into our home through a daily Bible verse flip book next to our coffee machine, prayers before meals, and discussing what I learn in church or from Episcopal sermon podcasts I listen to. In July of this year my husband told me that he decided he wanted to be baptized. On the way to our wedding venue in Hope Valley we found a mountain lake. I had my Bible, prayer book, and holy water from the nun we used to visit when I was a child in the car in preparation for our wedding ceremony. At dusk we found the most beautiful spot on the small lake. As my husband waded into the lake the setting sunlight was brightly reflecting on the water all around him. I read him the baptismal covenant, gently traced a cross over his forehead with holy water, and he completely submerged into the glistening lake. This was a huge moment for my husband, and it made our wedding weekend even more spiritually enriched.

- Why do you want to serve on Vestry and what strengths will you bring?

I understand that I am a young Episcopal Christian and that I still have a lot to learn in faith and life, but I am always seeking spiritual wisdom. I realized during Tim's All Saints' Day sermon that a church is not just a place of worship, but rather a group of

people who come together in the name of Jesus and that "saints" are defined by how a leader in faith helps others come to know and love God. With this understanding, I want to serve on Vestry because I think that Trinity is in an incredible position to add some light to the heart of Reno. I also really want to help Trinity become a place of worship that welcomes young men and women to know Jesus in our liturgical way of meditating on the Word of God. In the past I have been able to help others find community in Christ, and I want to bring that strength to Vestry.

- What do you think God is calling us to be and do in the next year?

I think God is calling us to be a refuge for lost and tired people who seek hope and comfort.

- Where would you like to see Trinity Cathedral in three years?

In the next three years I hope to see Trinity Cathedral as a place where families, young couples, and people of all backgrounds feel welcome to learn about God and find His peace and love within themselves and a strong community.

### **Gary Warren**

I have lived in the Reno-Sparks area most of my life, including the past 30 years in Sparks. I am married to Christine and have two adult children. I am a retired real estate appraiser. Since retiring, my hobbies include trying to bridge the digital divide, traveling, bicycling on area bike paths and taking my grandson fishing.

My relationship with Trinity Cathedral dates back to my baptism approximately 72 years ago. Since then, I have been a parishioner at Trinity during different periods of my life. I am currently a server at the 7:30 a.m. service and work as a counter for the treasurer's office.

- What service do you usually attend?

I attend the 7:30 a.m. service.

- What ministries are you involved with at Trinity and what others are you passionate about?

I currently am a server for the 7:30 a.m. service and coordinate the schedule for that service's servers, lectors, and ushers. I also work as a counter for the treasurer's office. At this point, I do not know what other ministries I might pursue.

- Why do you want to serve on Vestry and what strengths will you bring?

I would like to serve on the Vestry to provide a continuing perspective of the 7:30 a.m. parishioners after Ann Morgan and Bruce Bethke rotate off the Vestry. I believe my strengths rely upon my work experience and previously and currently serving on other nonprofit organizations' boards.

- What do you think God is calling us to be and do in the next year?

I believe God is calling us to continue the transition process to right size the cathedral, as former Dean Stephen Brehe put it. This includes reviewing our resources and abilities to continue existing and/or providing new internal and external outreach programs.

- Where would you like to see Trinity Cathedral in three years?

I would like to see a significant increase in the number of new parishioners, especially families with children. I would like to see the Cathedral achieve higher visibility and connectivity with the downtown Reno neighborhood.

### **Nan Marie Wollam**

My husband and I arrived in Reno in the snowy winter of 2021. I am a cradle Episcopalian. We attended St. Paul's in San Rafael, California. Both Buzz and I were blessed to be members of the St. Paul's vestry. Buzz served before COVID; I served right after. While on the vestry, I was on the Financial Committee where we researched and offered investment recommendations for a large gift from a parishioner. I also served on a committee when our long-term private preschool tenant retired. The space was then remodeled and rented to a non-profit community preschool focusing on the El Salvadoran and Guatemalan community in San Rafael. We worked with the program administrators in developing contracts, and best uses of the school spaces, together with group activities bridging the preschool and St. Paul's parish. I was also on the counting team. We counted the weekly gifting, entered the pledges and checks into Realm. We also made the weekly deposit at the bank and mailed out quarterly giving statements to the parishioners.

- What service do you usually attend?

Buzz and I started attending Trinity when we arrived in Reno in December 2021. We attend the 11:00 a.m. service mainly due to the music but have attended the family service as well as the Saturday evening service.

- What ministries are you involved with at Trinity and what others are you passionate about?

Currently, I am involved with the Columbarium Committee and am a lector for the 11:00 a.m. service. Now that I am retiring at the end of 2024, I look forward to seeing where else I can be of service.

- Why do you want to serve on Vestry and what strengths will you bring?

I found that my past vestry experience was a way to meet more parishioners, developing deeper relationships with the different services and exposure to the many ministries within the Church. With my retirement at the end of the year as an auditor in the commercial insurance industry, I can contribute more fully to Trinity. The strengths that I offer come from my years in the audit world. Strengths include detail driven, contractual (working with vendors, etc.), experience working with Realm (I am a bit rusty though), and financial.

- What do you think God is calling us to be and do in the next year?

I believe that God is calling us to be centered in faith, reaching out to our internal and external community through our many ministries. Love our neighbors as ourselves, remembering that each and every person is our neighbor.

- Where would you like to see Trinity Cathedral in three years?

Personally, in the next three years, I would like to see Trinity Cathedral be a vital resting place in the community of Reno. A place void of contempt, rich in our Episcopalian traditions, and continuing to turn scripture into action.

### **Josephine Flocchini, youth representative**

I am a junior at Hug High School, where I attend the Signature Sports Medicine program. I also am active with the Hug Theater group, building sets, assisting with sound during performances, and stage managing. During the winter, I ski for the Diamond Peak Ski Team, which is an all-consuming endeavor. Skiing is my passion! I also love to bake and regularly make sourdough for family and friends.

My family has attended Trinity since I was very young. I was baptized at Trinity by Rev. Stefani in 2011 and confirmed by Bishop Elizabeth in 2023.

- What service do you usually attend?

I have grown up attending the 9 o'clock service and regularly attend the 5 p.m. Saturday service during the ski season. I have attended Sunday School since its most recent start-up and went through confirmation classes in 2023.

- What ministries are you involved with at Trinity and what others are you passionate about?

I am involved in the lay leadership of the 9 a.m. service, having served as a crucifer and server and currently serving as a Eucharistic Minister. I also serve as a thurifer for holiday services.

I am an active member of the Episcopal Youth Community. I attend meetings and activities regularly and participate in community projects including the Craft/Bake Fair and assist in set-up/clean-up at Trinity gatherings.

I participate in the Sack Lunch program with my family by delivering water to the Parish Hall whenever needed.

- Why do you want to serve on Vestry and what strengths will you bring?

I am looking forward to serving on Vestry because I want to participate in the planning and direction of our community. It feels like I have watched my mom participate in these aspects of Trinity for my whole life and I'm excited to have my own opportunity to participate now.

I pride myself on being a strong, reliable team member and I hope to bring a youthful perspective to Vestry conversations.

- What do you think God is calling us to be and do in the next year?

I think that God is calling us to be a welcoming and loving community for families. I remember when I was little that the 9 a.m. service was a little chaotic but always fun and full of love; I think it is important that we make sure the younger kids at Trinity feel that way now. I also think it's important to honor and cherish the beautiful building that is our cathedral.

- Where would you like to see Trinity Cathedral in three years?

I would like to see us continuing to grow, particularly with families and young adults (like I will be by then).

### **Endowment Board Trustee**

The Endowment Board manages Trinity's endowment of more than \$1 million. Unlike operational funds, which pay for day-to-day needs, endowment funds are maintained on a long-term basis, providing support for Trinity's mission into the future. Kurt Mische's three-year term is up, and the Board has requested that he be nominated for a second term.

### **Delegates to Diocesan Convention**

The annual convention of the Diocese of Nevada takes place in October. This year Trinity can elect four delegates to represent the Cathedral. Delegates elect diocesan officials, hear reports to the convention, approve the budget of the diocese, and establish diocesan policy and procedure by considering and voting on resolutions and approving changes to the diocesan constitution and canons. Delegates also attend periodic meetings of the Northwest Mission District, composed of seven Episcopal churches in the region.

The following candidates are standing for election as delegates to the 55th annual diocesan convention to be held Oct. 9-11 in Reno: Sarah Britt, Sara Oliver Erwine, Julie Martinson and Carol Clarke. Ann Morgan is standing for election as an alternate delegate.

### **2025 Nominating Committee**

Two at-large congregation members who are elected at the Annual Meeting serve with outgoing Vestry members on the Nominating Committee each year. Ginny Nelson and Marné McKimmey have been nominated to serve as the at-large members of the 2025 Nominating Committee.

## **Diocesan Matters**

### **Annual Diocesan Convention**

Ten Trinity parishioners and clergy attended the 54th Annual Diocesan Convention October 10-12 in Las Vegas.

A standout was Bishop Elizabeth's address in which she reiterated her call on congregations and clergy to be "bold, brave, and better." Another highlight was the screening of "A Case for Love," a documentary that explores whether unselfish love is the solution to our world's societal and political divide. Six diocesan canon amendments, largely aimed at rightsizing, were approved, as was a balanced budget for 2025.

Delegates participated in worship services and workshops on such topics as growing our congregations and the Creation Care ministry. Bishop Elizabeth reappointed Trinity parishioner Reynolds Cafferata diocesan chancellor. And as part of the annual tradition of honoring clergy and lay members for outstanding service to the diocese, the bishop named Trinity parishioner Howard Bennett recipient of the St. Simeon award.

Trinity delegates at the convention were Elizabeth Bethke, Bruce Bethke, Lindsay Campbell, Cleta Dillard, Marné McKimmey, Nancy Petersen, Nancy Richards and Carol Roman. Other parishioners attending were Barbara Marquand, senior warden, and Terry Cain, Diocesan Standing Committee president. Next year's convention will be October 9-11 in Reno.



*Attendees with Bishop Elizabeth at the 2024 Diocesan Convention*

### **Northwest Mission District**

The Northwest Mission District is one of five mission districts in the diocese and includes these Episcopal churches: St. Peter's (Carson City), St. John's in the Wilderness (Glenbrook), St. Patrick's (Incline Village), Coventry Cross (Minden), St. Catherine of Siena (Reno), Trinity Cathedral, and St. Paul's (Sparks).

The purpose of a mission district is to bring together clergy, wardens, and convention delegates from geographically similar churches to foster communication, plan events and elect representatives to the Diocesan Standing Committee.

Trinity clergy, delegates and wardens attended both Mission District meetings in 2024. At the March meeting at Coventry Cross in Minden, the bishop gave an update on the diocese, and representatives from each church shared examples of bold and brave things their parishes were doing. Trinity hosted the August meeting, where proposed diocesan canon amendments and a draft 2025 diocesan budget were presented.

# Trinity Cathedral Report

## Dean's Report

Dean Timothy Watt

We are many parts drawn together into one body through the one Spirit in Christ. As we were told in the letter to the Ephesians today:

*Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.*

Over the course of the past 11 months, I have learned so much about so many of you. We are an impressive collection of human beings, called here out of many places. When you ask people what the point of the church is, you will almost categorically hear that it is a place to worship. This is true, but not quite the point of this building and collections of ministries we tend together.

I recently started watching "The Chosen," a crowdsourced streaming series that presents the gospels in a uniquely modern and fresh way, almost focusing more on the disciples and the life-changing effect Jesus had on each of them. I've been very struck by a repeated theme throughout the first two seasons. And that is Jesus simply asking the disciples, and us through them, to follow him. Follow him. Yes, we worship him, but his main hope is that we follow him in his way: Loving God and Loving our Neighbors as ourselves. This aligns well to the notion underlying our parish mission to know Jesus and to make him known in others. The only way to really know Jesus is to follow him into the places he goes and tending to the people he shows us we should help. And he has knit us into one body, one communion, to do so.

And that is the purpose of the Church, and of her little embassy here at Trinity- to follow Jesus and share his love. When we do so without reservation, we make him known.

In 1870, our forebears and fellow Episcopal saints stood forth in Reno to found an Episcopal parish, then built a landmark church on the banks of the Truckee that became a diocesan cathedral. In today's dollars the amounts that they spent to build our place of worship would be nearly six and a half million dollars by my quick estimate, excluding upkeep expenses. The 2020 renovation costs are also not included in that figure, which came in at nearly 2 million.

Does that expenditure surprise you? Horrify you? The world teaches you that it should. The world, like Judas, will tell you it's a terrible waste of money. BUT WHAT A BEAUTIFUL WASTE OF MONEY! Because as much as we love our cathedral church, we know it is not about the building, not really, but about the countless baptisms, weddings, funerals, Eucharists, evensongs, concerts, and community celebrations she has held within her. Trinity has borne witness to great things, powerful human moments, and her walls drip in the prayers offered through the happiness and sorrow of them all.

In the end? That is what matters! That is why we are HERE! That is what Church is about! Church provides the space and time that allows for the experience of our human encounter with God. This cathedral stands as a testimony that something greater exists when we



gather together instead of insisting on individualism. There is the love of Christ witnessing all that we do and accepting us. Always. And with great love.

Our charge as Trinity Cathedral, and my charge as your dean, is to demonstrate the power of God's love, which is difficult to measure and quantify for a four-color prospectus to attract investors and philanthropists. The true profit of this place is seen in how each one of you acts with love, towards each other and all our neighbors.

That said, we are on sound financial footing, finishing 2024 with a healthy surplus we can plow back into God's field. In 2025 we will move forward with renovating our building space to meet our stated needs of a modernized commercial kitchen, classroom, and nursery spaces that are up to code, and offices that are accessible to those with mobility issues. Because of your commitment this year we are on our way!

Your stewardship increased over the last year, which is so very needed to expand our offerings for the world. Our attendance on Sundays returned to near pre-pandemic levels as we neared Christmas, with routine Sundays averaging around 225 worshipers. These are the things that the National Church asks us to measure, and by every count we are doing far better than most.

Since the pandemic, many of my fellow church leaders have watched their congregations and budgets shrink instead of recover, feeling a pinch of fear about the financial future of their congregations. Much of this predates the pandemic, and churches have long been making a strange move toward non-profit management tactics and economics for the last 20 years in response.

In seminary we have full courses about this. In our ongoing education we take seminars and conferences on it. These courses teach ministers how to learn from Starbucks to be third spaces and how to brand from Southwest Airlines- as if the Church wasn't the first multinational organization to do both! Recently I was in a series of stewardship seminars that told us how to think like Gen Z givers, who want to see tangible results about what they're getting for their money. I have learned from all these things that, as a priest, I must always be hustling for your dollars.

Several sources tell me I should reward donors in tiered systems of awards and certificates to let them know they are appreciated to spur more giving; and some others, that I must simply demand more effort in terms of active service because that is what really motivates giving. But others instruct me that in the end it's all really about connection, and those rewards programs are cynically received. In other words, no one really knows. And yet Trinity is once again growing after facing a hurricane wind over the past four years. I haven't been here nearly long enough to start any of those programs the experts say I should. So, all their advice leaves me scratching my head. The Spirit is DOING something here, with us, now. I feel it in my bones, in that place that zings within me every time I anoint a newly baptized soul and proclaim that they are sealed as Christ's own, forever.

We are not a non-profit, at least not in the formal sense of targeting a specific issue in our community to impact the vulnerable; then formulating and funding specific solutions for them. The closest we come is feeding people, thousands of meals a year, yet we know that doing so is merely sending out an ambulance of human comfort as opposed to dealing with the social and structural issues that lead to their food instability.

Hear me on this. I am grateful for non-profits. I have served on the board of several and still donate to their missions, as well as several other non-profits. I know several of our parishioners are even more generous than I can be with both their time and treasure. I am glad they are, for the need is great. But Trinity is not a siphon to gather and redistribute money to the community's non-profits. People can give directly to them without Trinity's name attached, and our parishioners do so.

The Church's work is different than being just another United Way or Boys and Girls Club. We are a worshipping community, people drawn together in following Jesus and creating a particular way of living out His love in this tired old world, seeking out the lost.

In fact, what we do most often together, worshipping our Lord, looks like a waste of time and money in the broader American gospel of Utilitarianism. We sing together, retell ancient stories, teach, and share bread and wine at table. We purposely form people to be very bad at capitalism.

We are all inundated with the message that our worth is tied to our production and consumption; that we are what we make, what we have made of ourselves, and how we use our potential to create value for ourselves and others. On Sunday mornings, we're told, we should be working to get us or our kids ahead in our dog-eat-dog society playing sports and filling service hours to pad their college applications, not wasting our precious time recounting God's story of love to encourage one another towards more selfless living. Where is the profit in that?

Nevertheless, we worship. We recall that we are in the care of our God who is our castle to keep us safe, our crag and stronghold. We remind one another that we are infinitely loved by the one Being who can gain nothing from us; and who tells us that, in turn, we are to love others the way we have been loved, selflessly and without expectation. We are to be demonstrators to the world of an unconditional love that can never be earned. It is at church that we come to remember that we are creatures, mortal and limited, yet eternally sustained in existence through the love of God. It is at church that we learn to be grateful. And I doubt we can make a logical case to wealthy donors for the reason of our existence with loving-kindness as our cause. That love is a truth the world rejects, a stumbling block and a folly, as St. Paul put it.

I should say, through the discretionary account you provide me we do give away some money. But I am afraid I must report to you that it usually goes to people the world regards as very poor investments. That is the power of your faithfulness in giving. We paid rent for four people who could not pay rent for themselves, without qualification. You have paid off medical bills, made a car payment for a single mother, and provided a way to safety for a woman previously stuck in a domestic violence situation. Because we follow Jesus, we pay attention to these places where people have been abandoned by our society.

Here's the awkward thing for me: by far the most expensive thing on our budget is me, your dean. My stipend and insurance and retirement pension payments come from the collective decision you all have made to call someone like me to offer you spiritual leadership. Occasionally, that leadership means I have to say difficult things, to create a space for positive conflict and call us back to living lives in the example of Jesus. If I give people exactly what they want or what conforms to the world's expectations, or if I merely rant to the outrage of the moment but never preach the Gospel of the lectionary into it,

week after week, I would not be doing my job. If I upset you, please talk to me. Believe me, others have, and the fact that they appear to be on both ends of the political spectrum gives me some relief. As I said in my interviews, I truly try to avoid partisanship, but the Gospel is often political, in ways that make each end of spectrum unhappy at some point or another, if it's being preached faithfully.

We have good preachers here, but there are others in this parish who also preach eloquently through action. We have loving parishioners who offer others pastoral care, showing up when needed, holding one another through the messy sorrows of life. We have people who feed those whom the world disregards, as well as many neighbors momentarily put into food insecurities by the changes and chances of life. These faithful take what we do in sharing a meal of the Lord's table here and extend it into a thanksgiving for others.

In other words, aside from presiding at sacraments, others here can also do most of what I do. On most days your clergy's activities, if they were assessed by an HR manager, would surely be considered redundant. They fail to understand the power of the prayers we offer for you every day. And yet you call us here to help you pay attention to yourselves, your spiritual gifts, our worship together, and the needs of the world around us. You have called us here because you wanted someone who will show up when your world is falling apart.

And in those moments, we will remind you that there is no shame and that you are loved with wild abandon. Ruth, and I to a lesser extent, have made over 50 pastoral and sick calls, and we helped twelve families say their last goodbyes as we returned their loved ones into Jesus' loving arms. Together we welcomed three souls who joined the church through the waters of baptism. Four couples began their wedded lives under the Church's blessing. And six people entered deeper life in the Holy Spirit through Confirmation.

You have called me to give attention to the collective life of this place that flows out of our worship with one another. Most of the press for Christianity goes to those churches with opulent spending and absurd theatrics. We don't have lasers or a fog machine. We've never produced fake rain during one of my sermons. Instead, week after week, we gather for a good, simple broad-church liturgy of word and table, rightly ordered to the Book of Common Prayer and assisted in beauty through the glorious praise of organ and voice in our growing choir.

We have an exceptional parish musician in our Music Director, Dr. Bryan Chuan. I am astounded and grateful for the immediate love he has demonstrated in his ministry. It is rare to find church musicians who embrace ministry as well as art, and we have found an embarrassment of riches in him. Through his skill and love he is reinvigorating Trinity's historic commitment to Music as Art in addition to worship. The Faith Like a River concert series presents the beauty of Organ repertory, as well as the art of several gifted musicians who share their craft with us as we share our sacred space with Reno. And those concerts help to fund the music program itself, through the generosity of contributors and the guests who come to experience their beauty. I'd be remiss in not mentioning the pervasive presence of Howard Bennett, Margaret Zuccarini, and Jim Heller in their support of Bryan in all these things, as well as others who lift hymns of praise, helping us to sing twice. Thank you to Bryan and our choirs, you are all very much appreciated!

And I am not alone in leadership. You have a strong vestry with members and leaders who got you through the stormy departure of a Rector, an interim period, calling me, and

leading this parish in her recovery from pandemic and conflict. There are so many to thank on the vestry and those in leadership over our ministries in this place. Thank you all for everything you do! But today, I will focus on those departing the vestry today.

I am grateful especially to Senior Warden Barb Marquand for her care, leadership, and counsel these past months. Barb is the most calm and centered Senior Warden with whom I've ever worked. Her steadfast hand on the tiller during this first year for me has allowed me the space needed to learn about this parish and all of you who comprise it. Thank you for loving us through your ministry, Barb. Enjoy your much deserved rest, good and faithful servant!

Thanks also to Marné McKimmey for three years of leadership and wisdom shared with the vestry and parish, yes, but also for stepping into the breach for our children and youth when Judy retired. You are consistently the voice for the Spirit in your counsel and it has been much appreciated. It was Marne's voice that was the loudest proponent for Gospel mission of this place and that counsel will be missed.

Dr. Dave Bennum's years of vestry leadership experience were a great boon to us. Dave, thank you for always being one to bring up great questions, helping improve our work on the council, and just generally being one of the kindest men I have ever met.

Nancy Peterson, whose uncanny knack for asking questions that make me think long and hard before answering, is likewise hanging up her vestry cap today. I am grateful that she has shared her opinions with fortitude. Her curiosity and thinking outside the box shall be missed in our deliberations. They helped us make better decisions.

Margaret Brown has been an indefatigable Junior Warden. From leading the search committee, a constant leader in the feeding ministry, and gathering the many parts of a fallow facilities committee to coordinate and move us forward. Margaret has been an incredible saint, but her work is not done, having agreed to serve as Senior Warden and assist me as we pivot toward planning to complete our resurrected capital campaign. Today, in your hearing, I make that appointment official. Margaret Brown shall be Senior Warden this year.

I'd be remiss if I did not thank my fellow clergy in this place.

Ruth has been a great resource in this first year for me. Her years of ministry experience and her ability to share some of the oral history of this place have helped me quickly understand where to put my energy and work. Every time she preaches, I learn something or gain new insight into the scripture. And I never have to doubt that when one of you is having the worst day of your life, she will jump up and tend to your wounds and needs the moment the phone rings.

Father Julius has likewise proven to be a gem and font of wisdom. Having outlasted several deans has its advantages, and I was well able to take advantage of his counsel as things arose. I am very grateful.

To mis-paraphrase Sir Isaac Newton, if I have gotten further than other priests, it is because I stood upon the shoulders of giants. Thank you all and God Bless you.

Trinity may not produce results that the key performance indicators world values. We are not making anyone wealthy by any worldly metrics. Our gospel probably does not make people better citizens or more productive widget-makers. I can't rightly say that we're giving everyone their bang for the buck in the way the world thinks of it, or in a way that makes us an essential service in the community.

But I fervently believe we are carving out something amazingly important in the barking marketplace of this world, providing space to rest our lives in the care of the living God and in which others can find a warm invitation to that rest as well. May meeting God in this space forge your path into the beat-down weary places to find the world-forgotten people, hiding their desperate shame, and may you be the reflection of that light for which they are desperately hoping.

I will continue to strive to be a pastor worthy of your trust and call, tending to the light of Trinity Cathedral shining in the dark night. Love one another, be of one body, and let us follow Jesus on the way, together.

### **2024 Parish Statistics**

Dean Timothy Watt

An active member is defined as a baptized, communing member who contributed any amount during the preceding three years. Accordingly, 498 individuals are active members of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, of whom 52 are children.

As noted below, three individuals were baptized, and six individuals were confirmed in 2024. Four couples were united in marriage. 12 individuals were buried from Trinity.

#### Baptisms in 2024:

Jacob Macaluso  
Matthew Krieger  
Aaron Humphries

#### Confirmations in 2024:

Katherine Lee  
Michelle Lee  
Olivia Flocchini  
John Harjer  
Elijah Walquist  
Jack Wolfe

#### Buried from Trinity Cathedral in 2024:

Phillip Herrington  
Beverly Herrington  
Robert Soms  
Joy Hamilton  
Mary Gainey  
Lash Turville

Lawrence Kirk  
Donna Schroedl  
Ronald Lienau  
Carol Haydis  
Milton Sharp  
James Dickey

### **Worship Notes**

Trinity Cathedral offered the following weekly and monthly in-person worship opportunities in 2024:

Saturday at 5:00 p.m. — Holy Eucharist Rite II liturgy without music or congregational singing.

Sunday at 7:30 a.m. — Holy Eucharist Rite I liturgy without music or congregational singing. This service moved to 8 a.m. during the summer.

Sunday at 9:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharistic Rite II liturgy with music. While children are welcome at all services, they fully take part in this family-oriented service.

Sunday at 11:00 a.m. — Holy Eucharist Rite II liturgy including choral music and congregational singing. The service is also live streamed on our YouTube channel and subsequently posted to our Facebook page.

Summer Sundays at 10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist Rite II liturgy with congregational singing. The service was offered from June to August instead of separate 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Each Sunday offered a chancel talk for children and a sermon for adults.

Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. — Morning prayer, a short worship service reflecting the ancient tradition of the Daily Office. The service is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays in person in the Bishop Lewis Chapel and via Zoom on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

First Wednesday of each month, noon — Holy Eucharist with a focus on healing. The service is held in the Bishop Lewis Chapel.

## **Vestry & Committee Reports**

### **Senior Warden's Message**

Senior Warden Barbara Marquand

The year 2024 was marked by important transitions. As we look ahead, Trinity Cathedral stands on a strong foundation for continued growth and service.

In February we welcomed our new Dean Tim Watt shortly after saying farewell to Interim Dean Stephen Brehe.

Dean Tim brought a strong voice to the pulpit and behind the scenes put his substantial administrative experience to work. We celebrated his arrival with a joyful induction and reception in May, and we are grateful he is here!

Canon Ruth Hanusa continued her ministry comforting and supporting parishioners in times of need, and her inspired preaching touched souls throughout the year.

We celebrated the ministry of our former Christian education director Judy Landis as she retired in June. Powered by energetic and committed volunteers, the Children, Youth, and Family ministry continued to thrive.

The music ministry, under the talented leadership of music director Dr. Bryan Chuan, brought joy to the congregation and the larger community.

Meanwhile, our new administrative assistant, Sarah Wheeler, hit the ground running upon her arrival in the spring and provided excellent support.

Parishioners gave their time, talent and treasure to serve the Cathedral and larger community.

With loving attention to detail, members of St. Martha's Altar Guild and the Flower Guild prepared and beautified the Cathedral for worship.

Our outreach ministries served the lives of children, the hungry, the newborn, and the grieving.

Existing ministries such as A Lot of Good Men flourished, and other ministries found new life, such as the Labyrinth, Prayer Shawl and Library ministries as well as the Divinely Fine Women group.

Parishioner Harold Campbell provided maintenance expertise and worked with a renewed Facilities Committee to undertake a number of deferred repair projects. The Capital Campaign Building Committee began meeting to plan a new Parish Hall.

Co-treasurers Carol Roman and Lindsay Campbell, with assistance from Joan Peyser, devoted many hundreds of volunteer hours to staff the finance office.

The Vestry worked together in a friendly and collegial atmosphere. Members gathered monthly for a shared dinner and regular business meeting and met additionally as needed.

Attendance at our weekend services grew and by the end of the year reached pre-pandemic levels.

Today Trinity is on solid financial footing, having ended the year with a surplus. A strong stewardship campaign allowed the Vestry to step into 2025 with confidence.

Through it all we had a good time. We enjoyed each other's company at events such as picnics, dinners, Second Friday gatherings, and coffee hours.

It was a fruitful year. Thanks be to God!

### **Dean's Induction**

Junior Warden Margeret Brown

On Saturday, May 11, 2024, The Reverend Timothy J. Watt was inducted as the new Dean of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. Approximately 200 people were present to welcome him as Bishop Elizabeth conducted the Celebration of a New Ministry. Representatives of various ministries presented him with symbolic gifts, and a close friend, the Reverend Kevin Laskowski from Centreville, VA, preached the sermon.

Following the service was a joyous reception in the Parish Hall. Having learned that Dean Tim loves tacos, Sandi Brooke and a crew of volunteers provided a taco bar, among other delicious foods. Amid much laughter and celebration, Dean Tim was given many gifts, including a gag cowboy hat, gift cards for Buenos Grill, Reno Fly Shop, and a Western clothing store. He also received a trip to Galilee for a stay in October and Aces tickets, among other gifts. His wife, Tanya, was given a beautiful pair of turquoise earrings. Finally, Howard Bennett led everyone in singing *Home Means Nevada*, warmly welcoming Dean Tim and Rev. Tanya to their new home.

Many people organized the event, including members of the transition team: Kait Flocchini, Gary Fuller, Jessie Clark, Mimi Butler, David Bennum, Nancy Petersen, Sandi Brooke, Josette Dornoff, Tom Anderson, Barb Marquand, Howard Bennett, and Margaret Brown. The youth of Trinity provided help during the reception and cleanup, ushers assisted with

parking and seating, and Ann Morgan kept the party moving as our emcee. Many thanks to all who helped welcome Dean Tim and Rev. Tanya to Trinity and Nevada!



*Bishop Elizabeth leading Dean Tim's Induction*

## **Committees**

### Finance Administration Committee

The Finance Administration Committee supports the financial administrative operations of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and makes recommendations to the Vestry and/or Dean as appropriate. In 2024 the committee comprised the following: Betse Bethke (chair), Co-Treasurers Carol Roman and Lindsay Campbell, Junior Warden Margaret Brown, Frank Baird, Eric Meagher, Joan Peyser, Marné McKimmey (Vestry representative), Senior Warden Barbara Marquand (ex-officio), and Dean Tim Watt (ex-officio). In 2024, the committee reviewed monthly financial reports, conducted a mid-year review of the 2024 budget, recommended a draft 2025 budget, and reviewed and recommended changes to its charter.

### Human Resources Committee

The Human Resources Committee advises the Dean, Wardens, and Vestry on matters related to personnel policies and management. The Committee includes the following members: Ann Morgan, Gary Fuller, and Senior Warden Barbara Marquand. In 2024, the committee considered personnel issues as they arose. It is expressly understood that all Cathedral employees report to and are supervised by the Dean.

### Stewardship Committee

Kait Flocchini

The Pledge Campaign for 2025 was "Walk in Love." The Stewardship Committee, comprising Mikkel Bassett, Bruce Bethke, Cleta Dillard, Kait Flocchini, Kathryn Landreth,



and Jacob Macaluso, kicked off the pledge collection with a letter to the parish inviting each person to contemplate how they “walk in love” as a part of Trinity.

The committee used materials organized by TENS – The Episcopal Network for Stewardship – as the foundation for the campaign. The campaign was highlighted by ministry moments from Jim Heller, Barbara Marquand, Audrey Buccola, Betsy Bethke, Cindy Humphries, and Kurt Mische. Each person shared how they experience God’s love at Trinity and walk with others in that love. We thank them for inspiring us with their heartfelt words. A reception followed each service during in-gathering week as well.

Finally, a magnet reminding everyone to join us in walking in love was sent to all pledgers as a thank you.

As of the writing of this summary, Trinity has received 165 pledges for a total of \$636,608. Thank you to everyone who has committed to financially supporting Trinity in the coming year. We could not welcome others to know and live as Christ in the world as well as we do without this support complementing all of the gifts of talent and time.



Facilities Committee

Junior Warden Margaret Brown

The Facilities Committee, formerly the Building Committee, resumed meetings in July 2024 after a hiatus. Members include Harold Campbell, Lisa Otterson, Bruce Bethke, Janice Williams, and Dean Timothy Watt (ex-officio). The chair is Jr. Warden Margaret Brown.

The committee met (and continues) at least monthly to address areas of concern around the Trinity campus. Major projects in 2024 included replacement of the sidewalk to the west of the river door, replacement of curbing that had deteriorated badly, rebuild of the window well next to the door in the parking lot, and repair of a significant crack in the ramp leading to the tower door. Bruce Bethke contacted the City of Reno regarding sewer work, and installing a manhole and other sewer improvements began January 8, 2025. (Our apologies for all the disruption!)

A key box for the Reno Fire Department is installed on the church building. During a visit from the fire department, we found the correct key was missing, and there was no box for the Parish Hall. The correct key has now been added to the church box, and a new box for the Parish Hall has been ordered. The fire department representative added the

new key to the church box, and Harold will install the new box on the Parish Hall, with correct keys to be added by the fire department.

Lawn Salon removed shrubbery on the Court Street side of the Parish Hall, resulting in a more attractive appearance and a safer area.

Lisa Otterson is soliciting bids for two water fountains and is working with a contractor on lighting issues in the church. Harold Campbell has solicited bids for roof repair and will schedule it soon. Harold has completed other, more minor repairs, and major deferred maintenance repairs have either been completed or are in process.

Much credit goes to the members of this committee, who have brought considerable expertise and time to accomplish needed repairs and maintenance.

#### Capital Campaign Building Committee

Harvey Fennell

The Building Committee was reconstituted in 2024 to review the current needs of the Cathedral for a new parish hall or renovation of the existing parish hall. The Committee members include Harvey Fennell, Chairman, Mimi Butler, Bruce Bethke, Gerrie Lilley, John Lilley, Ann Morgan, Barbara Small, Reynolds Cafferata, Howard Bennett, Steve Peake and Marné McKimmey. Ex-officio members include Dean Tim, Senior Warden Barbara Marquand, and Junior Warden Margaret Brown.

At the time of this writing, a review of the existing structure by a structural engineer was scheduled to take place on Jan 10, 2025. The structural report will be key to the decision to renovate or build new. If the decision is to build new, the next step will be to engage an architect to develop a site plan and building concepts. Funding for an architectural review has been provided. The funding for the new building provided by the Faith Like a River capital campaign is currently about \$3,900,000 in-hand. The previous plans that were developed, while not currently feasible, will be very helpful in contemplating a new structure.

#### Columbarium Committee

Created in December 2023 by former Interim Dean Steve, the committee worked diligently through 2024 with Dean Tim to streamline and update record-keeping and oversee the columbarium. The members are Karen Henke-Hill, Nan Marie Wollam, Linda Richards and Howard Craig-Aakervik.

#### Stained Glass Window Restoration Committee

Karen Henke

In 2024 a sizeable donation of almost \$100,000 was bequeathed to the Window Restoration Fund. What a fabulous start to protecting our stained-glass treasures.

The book on the history of Trinity's stained-glass windows is currently with a publisher. The manuscript is complete, but details regarding the hard cover version versus the paperback one are still being discussed.

The committee will meet in the first quarter of this year to determine which windows to start restoring first.

## Communications

### The Carillon

The Carillon continues to provide a weekly means of communicating information about upcoming services and events. It also includes the readings and identifies the worship leaders for the week. This newsletter is sent electronically every Friday to approximately 490 email addresses and by traditional mail to parishioners who do not have computer access.

### Facebook and YouTube

Trinity's online services are live streamed on our YouTube channel and subsequently posted to our Facebook page. These pages represent a great potential to enhance our community presence in the future.

### Trinity Website

Trinity's website – [www.trinityreno.org](http://www.trinityreno.org) – underwent a redesign in 2024. The site provides information about upcoming events, ministries, service times, and more.

## Program Reports

### Canon for Pastoral Care

Rev. Ruth Hanusa

In 2024 my three-quarter-time position was full with a variety of pastoral care activities. In addition to the four program groups that I organize and lead, I planned and conducted weddings and funerals; provided marital, family, and grief counseling; and made hospital and home communion visits.

This past fall I finished up my training for Interim Ministry. As a part of that training I created a project, "Caring for the Forgetful Ones." The ongoing goal is to provide support for spouses and others who are caring for a family member with some form of dementia. A texting group was formed so that the caregivers can easily connect with one another. In January, an in-person support group for the caregivers will be rolled out. Both groups enable the participants to share good ideas with each other as well as be supported in what can sometimes feel a lonely role.

I continue to be grateful to be the Canon at this Cathedral. Preaching, leading worship, listening to your joys and sorrows, deepening our sense of community — all give me a sense of great joy. Thank you for all your support and interest in the ministry I have in this place.

### Adult Forums

Dean Timothy Watt

In between the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services, Trinity regularly holds forums for adult conversation about theological or community topics. This year's forums included learning about the psychology and theology of elections. We also held an advent silent retreat on the Magnificat, The Blessed Virgin Mary's prophetic song.

## Music Ministry

Dr. Bryan Chuan

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral continues to uphold a high standard of liturgical worship in the Anglican tradition within the Diocese of Nevada, and to serve as a center for the musical arts in Northern Nevada. The St. Cecilia Choir sings during the 11 a.m. Choral Eucharist from September - June and for additional services during Holy Week. Each week, the choir performs an offertory anthem and leads congregational singing of hymns and psalms. Membership has remained steady with about 12-15 members, and UNR students and faculty are sometimes invited to sing with the choir for festival days or special anthems. These special events included Dean Tim's installation and Advent Lessons and Carols.

Jim Heller leads the Trinity Hand Chimes Choir, which performs about once a month for the 11 a.m. service. His contributions, along with those from pianists/organists Pat Gardner and Howard Bennett, are greatly appreciated, as their thoughtfully chosen music centers the congregation around worship.

Several youth and parents volunteer to sing a monthly rotation of hymns for the family service, and I continue to hope for growth in the music ministry from aspects other than our 11 a.m. choral eucharist. I appreciate the support of many parents and youth for our Dia de los Muertos celebration.

The St. Cecilia Guild assists me with daily tasks, outreach, and planning, especially for our Pipes on the River Concert Series, which celebrated its 25th anniversary season. Continued volunteer support and donations will be essential for sustaining the usual schedule of two concerts per month.



*Dr. Chuan at the piano during a service*

It has been a year full of growth and change in The Children, Youth and Family Ministry.

In June our director, Judy Landis, retired and began a new chapter in her life. The effort, time and vision she gave to our program is remembered and deeply valued. Over the last seven months we have been preparing our hearts and our space for a new director. During this time of preparation and transition, we have received an outpouring of love and support from the Trinity community at large, and our volunteers stepped up to make sure the Children, Youth and Family Ministry continued to provide a nurturing and supportive space for our children and their families to grow in Christ's love.

#### New Volunteers

This August we held an open house where folks were treated to a beautiful brunch, demonstration lessons, and a tour of our space. As a result of this gathering, we have welcomed six new volunteers into our ministry. Sandy Madura, Michelle Lee, Katherine Mahannah, Michele Peterson, Emma Waldren and Becca Baker – the gifts each of you bring have enriched our ministry in so many ways. Thank you for all you do.

#### Expanded Sunday Curriculum and Programming

Children, and those who care for them, matter. They matter to God, they matter in our world, and they matter at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. One of the ways we show our children, youth and families that they matter to us is by providing high-quality faith formation opportunities and investing in the best resources available.

StoryMakers, NYC – We are currently in our second year of offering the StoryMakers Curriculum to the families of Trinity. We love the stories, art and social-emotional support that is offered through StoryMakers!

Godly Play – Godly Play has been used in the past here at Trinity and was dearly loved by those who had experience with it. This summer we organized and refurbished our old Godly Play materials and secured donations that allowed us to update materials and complete the core lesson series. We created a lovely Godly Playroom for our children ages 4-7 years. When you walk in this space it looks like the stories of the Bible have spilled out, and onto our shelves. To provide the best offering possible, several of our volunteers have completed Godly Play training courses or full certifications through the Godly Play Foundation. One of the treasures we learned about in our training is that Godly Play now offers "Godly Play Anywhere" materials to encourage stories to be shared at home and in larger intergenerational settings. We were able to develop our Advent program this year using these materials and present the Godly Play Advent Series at the 9 a.m. service, as well as provide home storytelling boxes for families who can't regularly make it to services or Sunday School or want to incorporate Christian storytelling into their family tradition.

Nursery – We expanded our nursery space this year and invested in additional high-quality, developmentally appropriate toys and books for our families to enjoy.

Community Room – Finally, this fall we introduced a new space called the Community Room for friends and families to gather while their children are in Sunday School.

## Lay Ministry

We believe that Christian formation goes beyond the Sunday School classroom and together, with other dedicated ministries, provide opportunities for our youth to take part in the church's life, work and governance.

One of the primary ways the Children, Youth and Family Ministry encourages our youngest members to live out their baptismal covenant is through lay ministry opportunities at our 9 a.m. service. Through the mentorship of parent volunteers including Kait Flocchini, Gretchen Wolfe, and Cindy Humphries, our children serve as lay readers and acolytes. This year, Margaret Brown and Aaron Koning led a small group of impromptu cantors at our 9 a.m. service who fill our hearts with joy each Sunday.

## Episcopal Youth Group (EYC)

The Children, Youth, and Family ministry fully supports Trinity's Episcopal Youth Group (EYC). EYC is a group for teens who meet for social, service and fundraising activities. This group is a long-standing tradition here at Trinity. Parents, teens and volunteers from our ministry come together to fund the activities for this amazing group. This year Luke Wolfe, our Youth Vestry representative, has been leading and organizing EYC. We are delighted to have a caring circle of adults who support our EYC group: Bruce and Betsy Bethke, Doug and Gretchen Wolfe, Katherine Mahannah and Cindy Humphries. Thank you for your guidance and time.

## Hospitality

The Children, Youth, and Family Ministry is responsible for a lot of the little magic that happens at our 9 a.m. service, such as providing worship bags and maintaining an art table for our youngest members. In addition to our involvement in the 9 a.m. service and Sunday School, we have poured our hearts into hosting events for our Trinity community at large. This past year we hosted a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner in February, our Annual Egg Hunt in March, Trinity's Summer Picnic in June, a Spaghetti Dinner in September, and in October we co-hosted The Dia de los Muertos Concert with the Music program. We ended the year by hosting an Advent Family workshop, a holiday bake and craft fair, and the presentation of The Nativity Pageant on Christmas Eve.



*Sunday School students participating in their Christmas Eve Nativity Pageant*

## **Ministry Reports**

### **Worship Ministries**

The guilds and ministries described here provide invaluable support for the many aspects of worship at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact the Cathedral office at 775-329-4279.

#### Altar Guild

Juliette Leneaux

2024 has been a year of growth and learning for Altar Guild. We continue to have four teams and two co-captains. A couple of members are on hiatus for health reasons, and we have gained two new members, one of whom has sewing skills. Hooray!

Last year we sorted through, winnowed out, and donated no-longer-needed vestments to parishes that did. This process will continue under our new Dean's and the Bishop's guidance. Trinity also needs to replace some of its linens due to many years of long and loving usage. We also need to look at acquiring some new vestments and completing incomplete sets.

Dean Tim's arrival and guidance this past year has been grounding. We welcome his clear, decisive vision, experience, and knowledge. As worship numbers and services increase, we look forward to formalizing any changes in our tasks.

Our Altar Guild members are a dedicated, flexible group of myriad talents. They are hardworking, steadfast, and spiritual people whose fellowship is much valued. We will be resuming regular meetings where we can air our concerns and foster both the Martha and Mary aspects of Altar Guild.

The Flower Guild has sought to supply flowers to all services (except Lent and Advent) for the Liturgical Year. Led by Sandi Brooke and Howard Bennett, the team is now being augmented by Joan Peyser, Ginny Nelson, Margaret Brown, Jean Hudson, Michelle Wilson, Julie Pace, Jeannie Pace and Margot Davison. Additional folks are always welcome to join us, and we are most happy to give some basic training. We do have a good time together!

All Soul's Chapel is routinely furnished with flowers thanks to the dedicated offerings by Karen and John Hill. The flowers found every week at the entrances to the church are from the previous week's large arrangements. We strive to get our money's worth each week!

The fee charged for the flowers is currently \$50 per large vase at the front of the church. The flowers are purchased fresh from Bill Doran Wholesalers in Sparks. We appreciate the continued support of the ministry by all who have utilized the flower chart in the tower entrance to commit to having flowers dedicated. Please visit the new flower chart for 2025.

It is not the intention of the Flower Guild to make money on this ministry, but rather to just cover the costs.

With concerts in our church, we are routinely visited by guests. The beauty of the flowers is regularly commented on.



*A beautiful example of the work of the Flower Guild*



5 p.m. Saturday: There is no formal schedule of ushers at the Saturday service, but parishioners – most frequently John Winnett – step forward to distribute bulletins, collect the offering, and secure the building after the service.

7:30 a.m. Sunday: Gary Warren and Joe Nishikida have been coordinating ushers for this service.

9:00 a.m. Sunday: Adult volunteers work together to ensure that the collection is done. Each week children are selected to present the offering.

11:00 am Sunday: The main duties of the ushers for this service are as follows:

- Greet congregants as they enter the sanctuary and distribute the bulletins for the service.
- Make a count of the congregation during the service.
- Collect the offering and deliver it to the altar.
- Direct congregants to Communion in the front of the sanctuary.
- During the service, be vigilant for disturbances.
- Sort and deposit the offering in the safe in the Sacristy after the service.
- Pick up bulletins left in the pews and at the doors.
- Check the basement, turn off the lights, and, after a reasonable time, dim and then turn out the lights and lock the front and ramp doors.
- Put the "Reserve Parking" signs along the parking lot away.
- Close the gate below the Tower door and put the chain up across the ramp after all services conclude.
- Additional duties are to usher at special services for Easter and Christmas.

The following have been active in ushering at this service and on special occasions: Ron Wolff, Harold Campbell, Clyde Ikehara, Gary Parks, Steve Peeck, Kurt Mische, Laura Dilley, Karen Henke-Hill, and Tom Anderson. We could use a few more ushers. If interested, please contact Tom Anderson at [renoretired@yahoo.com](mailto:renoretired@yahoo.com).

#### Eucharistic Ministers

Eucharistic ministers are trained members who serve the consecrated wine during Communion. They also assist by lighting and extinguishing candles, carrying the Cross or torches, ringing bells, serving as the thurifer (censor), or assisting with setting the table at Eucharist. They participate in all the church services, including each Saturday, Sunday and weekday Eucharist, weddings, funerals, and additional celebrations and Feast Days.

Eucharistic ministers include Susan Lombardi, Barbara Marquand, Betsy Bethke, Ann Morgan, Gary Warren, Dennise Howard, Frank Baird, Dave Bennum, Cathy Brewster, Terry Cain, Lindsay Campbell, Juliette Leneaux, Lisa Otterson, Linda Richards, Anne Towner, Sofia Zepeda, Rayann Pezonella-Brown, Tod Brown, Matthew Brown, Raymond Brown, Christina Pezonella, Gretchen Wolfe, Kait Flocchini, Josephine Flocchini (thurifer as well), Luke Wolfe, Natalie Humphries, Aubrey Dixon, Aaron Humphries (crucifer/server), Elijah Walquist (crucifer/server), Jack Wolfe (crucifer/server), Brandon Dexter Kihorny (crucifer/server), and John Harjer (crucifer/server).

#### Lectors and Intercessors

Lectors and intercessors read the scriptures or lead the prayers of the people. With the resumption of regular services this year, more parishioners are participating in all these roles.

Lectors and intercessors include Mikkel Bassett, Lee Ryan, Alexandra Dyer, Mimi Butler, Julie Martinson, Michelle Wilson, Jody Baden, Gary Fuller, Barbara Marquand, John Seelmeyer, Betsy Bethke, Bruce Bethke, Jessie Clark, Randy Wright, Jill Reid, Russ Eldridge, Ann Morgan, Gary Warren, Margaret Brown, Kait Flocchini, Olivia Flocchini, Dennise Howard, Doug Wolfe, Gretchen Wolfe, Jack Wolfe, Luke Wolfe, Margaret Brown, Reynolds Cafferetta, Susan Kim, Natalie Humphries, Frank Baird, Dave Bennum, Cathy Brewster, Lindsay Campbell, Pat Gardner, Juliette Leneaux, Kurt Mische, Lisa Otterson, Nancy Petersen, Joan Peyser, Nancy Richards, Anne Towner, Nan Marie Wollam, Sarah Harjer, Julie Martinson, Kathryn Landreth, Sean Smith, and Jane Harjer.

#### Eucharistic Visitors

Trained members of the parish bring the Eucharist to the homebound or infirm. This ministry is critical in that it keeps us bound together as a community and assures that those who are unable to be with us are visited by parishioners as well as by clergy.

### **Outreach Ministries**

#### Sack Lunch Program

Nancy Richards

As those without homes have increased steadily in our community, so have the numbers of men and women coming to our doors. Some of these people have found modest housing but this high cost does not allow them to also purchase sustainable food.

Along with a paper bag of non-perishable food, our brothers and sisters are welcomed with faces filled with kindness and love, voices of concern and compassion, and the treatment of dignity.

But we do not do this alone. We start with the teachings of Jesus Christ as our guide, and we give thanks for our incredible support system.

Our cathedral Vestry budgets our basic food expenses but there are so many more who contribute. Ministry volunteers buy coffee and all coffee supplies so that we can give everyone a cup of strong, hot coffee, all year long. The Flocchini family purchases and delivers to us all the bottles of water in every lunch. For those who have the gift of a companion dog, healthy dog food and chewy bones are donated by Robyn Powell so precious food need not be shared. We gratefully pick up 40 pounds of fresh bananas

every week donated by Trader Joe's. Because we are Bombas Giving Partners, we have received 3000 pairs of socks each year for the past two years. We not only hand them out to our clients but share this gift of socks with Our Place, the shelter for women and families, and Crossroads, a program treating addiction, both recently desperate for them. In addition, we deliver some nonperishable food supplies weekly to the Eddy House, the program for homeless youth. Not to be forgotten are the monetary donations from Trinity parishioners helping to defray the costs to our ministry. Some parishioners also stop by with treats for special holidays. Several of our ministry volunteers buy hats and gloves during the coldest months to cover cold heads and freezing fingers. Recognizing a need, a volunteer family also supplies small bars of soap when able. All this generosity allows us to provide much more to the many with so very little. We hear blessings of appreciation and thanks every day for our ministry being here.

For five days a week, the generosity to this program is shown through our dedicated crew of volunteers: Nancy Aalberg, Karen and Jack Barney, Betsy and Bruce Bethke, Julie Brown, Margaret Brown, Audrey Buccola, Catherine Carlson-Croke, Carol Clarke, Erika Dunson, Steve Gladfelter, Barbara and Hal Goss, Ken Hines, Joan Johnson, Cristina and Jacob Macaluso, Eric Meagher, Ginny Nelson, Linda Newman, Gary Parks, Steve Peeck, Kathy Pettit, Nancy Petersen, Joan Peyser, Lee Ryan, Sally Sapunor, Diane Sheldon, Barbara Small, Marty Stancil and Elizabeth White. We embody the grace and spirit of our faith in our interactions with all those coming to our doors.

For the year 2024, we have given out 13,267 lunches, exceeding the 2023 total by 2,394 lunches.

May the love of God, peace, and hope continue to sustain us all on our journey.

Daughters of the King/Angel Tree

Ginny Nelson

The Daughters of the King is an order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal, Anglican, Lutheran, (ELCA) and Roman Catholic Churches. Members undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. By reaffirmation of the promises made at Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service, and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish.

St. Hildegard Chapter met the second Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m. in Conference Room A of the Parish Hall at Trinity Cathedral (Zoom attendance was made available). We held a 6-week Spring Discernment class in May, and were delighted to admit Margaret Brown as a member, making us a chapter of 12. Currently, we have daughters serving on the Vestry, helping with the Sack Lunch Ministry, the knitting of prayer shawls, and teaching our Christian education classes. We pray for the clergy, staff and congregation of the Cathedral and share concerns and thanksgivings among members. *Illusions* by Mary Sharratt - a novel of Hildegard von Bingen - was the choice for our first chapter book club. Members took turns hosting and researching additional information about our chapter's namesake. In February 2025 we will begin reading *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr.

St. Hildegard's took on the responsibility of organizing The Angel Tree Program at Trinity again this year with Debbie Zalmana as chairwoman extraordinaire. The annual Angel Tree dinner was held on Nov. 16th. We thank Sandi Brooke for preparing the feast.

Trinity's generous congregation filled the wishes of 146 children from Stead Elementary School, including a \$100 Walmart gift card for each of the 56 families. A heartfelt thank you to Sandi Brooke, Howard Bennett, Hal Goss, Cindy and Aaron Humphries and Gretchen, Doug and Jack Wolfe for their assistance with delivering the gifts.



*Debbie Zalmana and Ginny Nelson surrounded by Angel Tree gifts*

### St. Paul's Food Pantry

Each week Trinity parishioners support the Community Food Pantry at St. Paul's Episcopal Church through donations of nonperishable food. Members deposit the items in the red barrels in the church and Parish Hall, and Trinity volunteers Jacob Macaluso and Cristina Robles deliver the goods to the pantry each month. The Food Pantry offers food to those in need in the greater Reno/Sparks area and serves 65,000 people each year, half of whom are children and seniors.

### Labyrinth

The Labyrinth Ministry returned in 2024 after lying dormant for a number of years. Coordinated by parishioner Sean Smith, a team of volunteers set up the labyrinth in the Parish Hall on All Saints Day weekend and plan to make it available at appointed times during 2025.

Labyrinths are an ancient tool designed for an embodied approach to meditation. Walking the labyrinth can lead to personal renewal and a deeper connection with the Spirit.

Trinity's labyrinth — originally a gift from the Women's Spirituality Group led by Rev. Kristin Richardson — was part of a vibrant outreach ministry for many years. The labyrinth itself is composed of three large canvas pieces that are easily assembled. The path is outlined in purple. The labyrinth can be set up anywhere with enough space and

in previous years traveled to Camp Galilee, the Carmelite Monastery, the Diocesan Convention and other locations.



*The labyrinth in use in the Parish Hall*

#### Baby Bundles

Ann Crase and Susan Lombardi

The Baby Bundles Ministry provides layettes of basic baby necessities to mothers in need at Renown Hospital. After being closed for a couple of years due to COVID-19, we resumed delivery in 2024 and provided 56 bundles to new mothers last year.

Thanks to a limited budget from Trinity and generous donations from St. Catherine's and Trinity parishioners, we are happily back in business.

#### Prayer Shawls

Jodie Rossi

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a gathering of knitters and crocheters (both new learners and experienced) who enjoy creating shawls, blankets, mittens, hats, and other items to warm both body and soul. The items are prayed over and blessed, then given to anyone who is in need of physical or emotional comfort. For further information, call Jodie Rossi 775-324-2308 or Helen Heller 706-887-3964.

#### Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful

Barbara Marquand

Trinity members volunteered for the annual Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful River Cleanup in September. The volunteers enjoyed fellowship with one another as they joined the larger community to pick up litter at nearby Wingfield Park. Trinity's participation in the event tied into the national Episcopal Church's Creation Care ministry, a commitment to "form and restore loving, liberating, and life-giving relationships with all of creation."

## Support Ministries

Circle of Friends

Dorothy Walrath

This small group of parishioners living alone support one another through a phone chain. Each member makes and receives a brief daily call to check in and make sure that others are doing well. The contact enables members to stay in touch and minister to one another.

Centering Prayer

Joan Peyser

Centering Prayer is a daily spiritual practice that is encouraged by a weekly support group, a time when we pray in silence for 20 minutes together. For 12 years Trinity Episcopal Cathedral has offered this spiritual practice in a sacred space to an ecumenical community.

After our 20-minute prayer in silence, we are currently reading together, contemplatively, Sr. Joan Chittister's book, *The Monastery of the Heart – Benedictine Spirituality for Contemporary Seekers*. This book offers a "powerful spiritual guide for all of us who are longing for a more purposeful life in this time of social upheavals and global transformations. It is written for seekers of any faith or none – individuals, couples, families, and small groups – who are looking for new ways of meaningful living in the very center of our world – without ever withdrawing from it."

We meet in person, and on Zoom, in the Cathedral Library on Mondays at noon (silence begins at 12:10). Please contact Joan if you want to be added to the email list. All are welcome!

Many thanks to all those folks who have participated so faithfully in this ministry that we do together from various faith traditions, and for the gift Trinity Episcopal Cathedral gives to the community by offering this sacred space for the opportunity to be in union with the Divine Presence and with each other through contemplative prayer!

Prayer Team

Betsy Bethke

The prayer team is a group of lay members of the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral who agree to pray regularly for those among our families and friends with prayer needs. The current team contains over 50 Trinity members. The dean and other priests from the Cathedral provide oversight to this ministry. The current Prayer Team coordinator is Betsy Bethke. Persons experiencing a health crisis may contact one of our Cathedral priests or the Prayer Team coordinator to request prayer. It is best practice for the person with the prayer need to reach out directly to ask for prayer.

There are several options for persons desiring prayers through this ministry:

1. They can ask for their first name to be included within the weekly newsletter (Carillon) and church bulletin. These are documents shared throughout our church community. Once a name has been included in the Carillon or bulletin, it will remain up to one month.
2. They can request the Prayer Team to pray for them. This occurs via a confidential email to all members of the Prayer Team. Information given to the Team can be vague

or specific, and will be passed on in kind. However, the person asking for prayer should specify their desires regarding how much information to divulge to the team.

3. Both of the above options can occur.

The Prayer Team regards their membership on the team to be a sacred calling. All information they receive about prayer needs is held in confidence. Team members do not discuss the prayer needs with anyone outside of the group, or in public places. Members hold up the individual's needs to God in their daily intercessions.

The Lord hears and answers all prayers. We are all blessed to be a part of this special ministry.

Grief Support Groups

Rev. Ruth Hanusa

The Zoom Grief Support Group began meeting during 2020 and has continued without fail since then. It is an open group (new people can join at any time) and a drop-in group (people attend when they are able). Twelve persons attended in 2024. The group is for those who have lost someone through death and in each session, they share the stories of their grief process. There are tears and laughter and before long a sense of community forms and members feel supported and sustained by one another. Meetings are every other Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. A reminder email with a Zoom link goes out before each session.

The In-Person Grief Support Group began in December 2022 and meets every other Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at Trinity. Seventeen people — and one dog — attended in 2024. Except for meeting in person, this grief group is in every other way just like the Zoom Grief Support group that meets on Tuesday evenings.

Walking Group

Rev. Ruth Hanusa

In the summer of 2022, a new widow wanted Rev. Hanusa to take walks along the Truckee River with her, which was something she had done with her husband. Very quickly others heard of the group and in 2024, fourteen people and six dogs walked with the group. A group text goes out the day before as a reminder. We meet on Wednesday mornings near the California Building in Idlewild Park and walk the paths along the river. Conversations vary and are not necessarily focused on grief concerns. Walking in nature can be so stabilizing for those who have been unmoored by the death of a loved one. But everybody can benefit from a walk outdoors, so we are a mixed group, defined more by a love of walking than by a recent death.

Cathedral Library

Carol Clarke

In 2023, the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Library was in some disarray owing to the consequences of a general renovation, COVID, and the passing of the former librarian, Lucy Bouldin. The work of Lucy on the Cathedral Library was immense and a work of great dedication. But, during the time in which the Cathedral was closed for renovations — which occurred at the same time as the pandemic — things had become somewhat disordered.

Joan Peyser suggested to some of the members of the Centering Prayer group, which meets in the Library, that it would be a service to begin to shuffle through boxes of

books, tapes, CDs, etc. to clear the space around the room's table and remove items blocking the bookcases that lined the walls. Several people took her suggestion to heart with a clearing and winnowing of the scrambled materials. This led to a much broader evaluation of the organization of the materials already shelved and catalogued. It was clear that there had been general cataloging in the past, but that documentation was, at the time, not available. Over half of the nine bookcases had been organized into the Dewey Decimal system. While the Library contained between 1,400 and 1,600 books, the Dewey Decimal system is really designed for libraries of much greater depth and does not suit the casual client to the Trinity Library, especially when lacking the cataloging list.

A group of those interested in the future use of the Library or those with a vested interest in its future were brought together by Dean Steven Brehe. This group included Dean Stephen, Howard Craig-Aakervik, Carol Clarke, and Olufemi Erinoso (Femi). During the meeting it was decided that the entire Library required reorganization of the shelving, which Carol Clarke took up, and a renewed cataloging of all the current books, which Olufemi Erinoso took upon himself. By the time both major tasks were accomplished, the following had joined in with Carol and Femi to manage these requirements: Becca Baker, Juliette Leneaux and Joan Peyser, though this is not the complete list of those who joined in at various times. Dean Tim Watt provided discerning and astute guidance as well as not a little amount of culling of Church Management tomes.

With the result of 12-plus months of work by a resolute team, the Library is now open to Parish membership (though not as often as the collection warrants). Much of the collection has been reorganized into a color coding that facilitates the casual client. Valuable books have been placed into a large and beautiful glass breakfront for viewing by visitors while simultaneously protecting the fragile condition of many of these books. The breakfront, donated by Consign Furniture, also contains a lower cupboard for storing historical documents, which the reorganization of the Library revealed. In the coming year, a plaque recognizing the generosity of one of the many community groups that support our community will be placed on the breakfront.

Much has been done, and I wish to recognize the following for the invaluable contributions they have made.

Financial:

Bruce Bethke

Julie Demler

Guidance and Direction:

Howard Craig-Aakervik

Interim Dean Stephen Brehe

Dean Tim Watt



Material donations:

Melody Luetkehans

Laura Northway

Staff members without whom much would not have come to pass:

Harold Campbell

Sarah Wheeler

## **Social Activities**

Second Fridays

Rev. Ruth Hanusa

Inspired by Holy Cow's admonishment to create more social activities for the members of Trinity, and fueled by an off-hand comment, Second Fridays was launched in 2023 when forty people said they were interested. Starting in May of that year, the group has gathered at various watering holes around town the second Friday of each month from 4:00-6:30. Rev. Hanusa scouts out the venues ahead of time. Many locations have been considered, but most haven't made the cut. We need easy parking, no steps, chairs with backs, food available, not too much noise, enough space for moving and mixing, and a pleasing ambiance. In 2024 we visited the Renaissance Hotel, the Jesse Hotel, Belleville Wine Bar, Whitney Peak, 1864, Skyline Kitchen and Vine and Archive Wine + Beer. Seventy-one people participated during the year.

A Lot of Good Men

Clyde Ikehara

ALOGM (resurrected in 2009 by Joe Duggan from a prior existence) continues to meet twice a month. The second and fourth Saturdays are our normal schedule, with breakfast on the second Saturdays and lunch on the fourth Saturdays. We have been averaging about 20 individuals for each event.

The "no agenda" gatherings are for all men. The social aspect is important, but the underlying theme continues to be the support of each other. There are numerous occasions where individuals have visited or helped another in need. This is an important part of our mission. Thank you to all who do this. God knows who you are.

The group hosted the August end-of-summer picnic at Whitaker Park. Special thanks to the crew that did a great job: BBQ expert Doug Wolfe; numerous members who provided liquid refreshments; Bruce Bethke and Gary Parks for setting up the canopies; John Seelmeyer for coordinating the games; Ginny Nelson for her creative award medals and the Flocchini family for the burgers and dogs.

Bless us all in the coming year.



*Members of ALOGM at their December Lunch*

#### Parish Picnics

Trinity held two picnics this year, one in June and the other in August, bookending the summer worship schedule. Volunteers from the Children, Youth, and Family Ministry organized and hosted the June picnic, which included a spirited cornhole tournament. A Lot of Good Men planned and hosted the August picnic, which featured a round of old-fashioned picnic games and relays.

#### Divinely Fine Women

Helen Wright

Divinely Fine Women is meeting again on the second Saturday of each month for lunch at the home of one of the members or at a local restaurant. The group gathered for many years with great success and popularity, but one thing led to another, and meetings went on a pause. The social group reconvened beginning January 11, 2025. The gathering is for women of the parish with its goal being to establish new and renew old friendships within our church. Please come back if you attended in the past and come if you have not attended or are new to the church. Contact Helen Wright at [hlwrno@gmail.com](mailto:hlwrno@gmail.com) for more information.

#### Coffee Hour

Coffee hours are about more than hot beverages. They bring us together after services for fellowship and connection. Newcomers and long-time members alike get a chance to visit and get to know one another better. Many thanks to Helen Heller, Sandi Brooke, and all those who have helped prepare and serve coffee and snacks.

## Financial Reports

### Treasurers' Report

Lindsay Campbell and Carol Roman

This is drafted before January 15, 2025, and is of necessity a preliminary report, as all the information to complete it has not yet been received.

The year-end operating fund reflects revenues of \$734,273, including pledges of \$652,851. Your giving exceeded the budget by \$32,791!

The operating expenditures were \$657,734, consisting of personnel of \$337,887, ministry of \$152,601 and facilities of \$167,246.

In summary, Trinity parishioners were very generous, and receipts have kept pace with expenditures.

We are so grateful to the posting crew of Bob Snavelly, Joan Peyser and Ann Crase, and to the counting crew of Frank Baird, Cathy Brewster, Richard McCoy, Jody Robinson, Diane Sheldon, Gary Warren, DeeAnn Verdi, Janice Williams and Leslie Wittkopp. Also, a special thanks to Joan Peyser for assisting in the finance office on a regular basis.

A full financial report will be completed by the end of March 2025 and will be available on request by contacting the treasurer's office.

### Operating Fund Revenues and Expenditures

<b>Operating Budget Summary</b>	<b>2024 Budgeted</b>	<b>2024 Actual</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>			
Pledge Commitments	\$615,482	\$652,851	\$675,000
Contributor Offering & Open Plate	\$67,500	\$68,320	\$59,000
Facilities Revenue	\$13,500	\$10,450	\$10,000
Other Receipts	\$5,000	\$2,651	\$3,000
<i>Total Operating Revenues</i>	<i>\$701,482</i>	<i>\$734,273</i>	<i>\$747,000</i>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Personnel Expenses	\$372,066	\$337,887	\$429,221

Ministry Expenses	\$141,946	\$152,601	\$154,337
Facilities and Administration Expenses	\$189,756	\$167,246	\$167,292
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<i>\$703,768</i>	<i>\$657,734</i>	<i>\$750,850</i>
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	<b>\$(2,286)</b>	<b>\$76,539</b>	<b>\$(3,850)</b>

**Donor-Restricted and Vestry-Designated Funds**

Trinity Cathedral has restricted or designated assets such as the following:

- Memorial Funds, consisting of donations (memorials, altar guild, or flowers) given in honor or memory of someone.
- Donor-Restricted Funds, consisting of donations made and earmarked for a specific purpose by the donor. These funds may not be repurposed without the specific approval of the donor as well as the Vestry.
- Vestry-Designated Funds, consisting of funds set aside and designated for specific purposes by the Vestry. Such action may be reversed or modified at any time by the Vestry.

Of these funds, in 2024, \$3,685 was given to support the flower ministry and \$3,127 was given to specifically provide additional support to the music ministry. The additional funds contributed to music were used for the additional festival musicians and as stipends for choir support. In addition, the youth raised \$7,731 to be used to fund the triennial Episcopal Youth Event expense; the next EYE is in 2026.

The ending balance for a fund established this year to repair and restore the stained-glass windows held \$131,237 as of the time of this writing.

**Discretionary Fund**

The Discretionary Fund is a resource all Trinity clergy use to help the needy that come to our door. Funds are owned by Trinity and may be distributed at the sole discretion of clergy for charitable purposes. The Discretionary Fund is funded by congregant donations, the plate offering from the fourth Sunday of the month (required by canon law as one Sunday a month), and by fees paid to the clergy for weddings and funerals and baptisms. Trinity donated \$10,884 specifically to the discretionary fund in 2024.

Individuals request funds on a one-time basis to assist with emergency housing, food, gas, utilities, or transportation. In 2024, a total of \$4,043 was provided to meet individual emergencies, support social services agencies locally or nationally, and/or provide grants, including a \$2,000 donation to Camp Galilee.

## **Faith Like a River**

For many generations, faithful parishioners have loved and lifted Trinity, laying a firm foundation for today's dynamic worship and ministries. Today, even more possibilities emerge as Trinity embraces its wider role as Trinity Cathedral. Accordingly, we are at the end of a five-year capital campaign to fund renovations to the Cathedral and a new Parish Hall.

Now that Dean Tim has joined us, we are moving forward with planning a new Parish Hall. The current Parish Hall suffers from several problems including structural weakness of the roof. We need a new or remodeled building that has inviting space for fellowship and celebrations, clergy and staff offices with modern technological capabilities. We seek a building that allows us to better minister to downtown needs.

Faith Like a River campaign pledges could be paid over a five-year period (2019-2024). The 2024 ending balance of available funds was \$3,966,130. We are very grateful that donors faithfully continued to fulfill their pledges to the Faith Like a River Capital Campaign in 2024.

## **Trinity Endowment Fund**

The Endowment Fund was established in 1999 to promote Trinity's mission of proclaiming by work and example the Good News of God and Christ, seeking and serving Christ in all persons and respecting the dignity of every human being.

In 2024, the Endowment Fund distributions totaled \$31,000 to fund requests by the Vestry. The distributions funded or will fund the purchase of equipment for the education ministry, repairs to the Cathedral, water fountains, a grant to Camp Galilee, and expenses of Trinity youth to attend the 2026 Episcopal Youth Event.

The Endowment Trustees meet quarterly and include three lay members (who serve a three-year term), Junior Warden/Vestry Liaison, Dean of the Cathedral, and the Treasurer. Each member attends meetings, reviews financial statements and manages the Fund to ensure the best net return on the investments, with the goal of growing the Fund's holdings to promote Trinity's mission. Except for a small investment held by the Community Foundation, the rest of the funds are invested through the Episcopal Church Foundation with State Street Global Advisors. The Endowment Fund had a balance of \$1,150,815 at the close of 2024.

Please join your fellow parishioners who contributed \$11,520 to the Fund in 2024 and consider contributing to the Endowment Fund.

## **Audit**

Trinity retained local CPA firm Silva, Sceirine & Associates, LLC to perform an audit of its 2022 and 2023 financial statements. The concluding report of the 2022 financial audit stated that such "financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, as of December 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America." In common-speak, Trinity received a clean audit for 2022 indicating that all assets are appropriately accounted for and protected.

A final report of the 2023 audit is pending and will be reported to the congregation when completed.

## **Commissioning New Parish Leaders**

The newly elected leaders are introduced.

*Dean Tim:* On behalf of the congregation of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, I present:

**Margaret Brown** for Senior Warden

**Rebecca Dixon, Josette Dornoff, Katherine Mahannah, Gary Warren, Nan Marie Wollam, and Josephine Flocchini** for Vestry

**Sarah Britt, Sara Oliver Erwine, Julie Martinson, Carol Clarke and Ann Morgan (alternate)** for delegates to the Diocesan Convention

**Kurt Mische** for membership on the Endowment Board and

**Ginny Nelson and Marné McKimmey** for at-large membership on the 2024 Nominating Committee

These leaders have been duly elected by the congregation, or appointed by the Vestry, in accordance with the constitution and canons of the Episcopal church, the constitution and canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada, and the bylaws of our congregation.

Leaders, do you commit yourselves to carry out the responsibilities of the office to which you have been appointed?

*Leaders:* I do.

*Dean Tim:* Do you reaffirm your commitment to follow Christ and to serve this congregation, and all people, in his name?

*Leaders:* I do.

*Dean Tim:* (to the congregation) Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these leaders with your prayers, your honest, yet gracious, communication with them, and your willingness to help them carry out Christ's ministry in this church?

*Congregation:* **We will.**

*Dean Tim:* In the name of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, I commission you for this work, and pledge you our prayers, encouragement, and support. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in this, and in all things, you may do God's will in the service of the kingdom of Christ. Amen.

Let us pray. Almighty God, look with favor upon these persons who have now affirmed their commitment to follow Christ and to serve as leaders in his name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world, and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.