



 HOLY  
TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

*2021 Report to the Congregation*



# Message from the 2021 Church Council President

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

Here we are after another year of Covid-19 challenging our health and our faith. Yes, we are impatient to get back to “normal” as we protect ourselves from infection during meetings and services, but our Ministry is flourishing, in spite of, or because of, this challenge. There are many instances in the Bible where God dealt with the impatience of His people – we are no different. We all yearn for more in person contact with each other, singing at services, not wearing masks. It WILL come; Praise the Lord!

We have continued to grow worshipers thanks to our on-line Sunday services, our multiple offerings for: Morning Devotions, Prayers for all People, Faith Formation, Sunday Lift, Faith 5, Book Club, Mid-Week Study, Story Time with Miss Rachel, Music Offerings, Coffee and Conversation, Luther & Lager, Hike & Seek, Family Promise, Links, Women’s and Men’s Bible Studies, Robinson CLC, DLM Food and Resources and all their partners, and Arts @ Holy Trinity.

I am humbled by all that we do for our Community of Faith and our Community at large. I celebrate our Ministry and our Volunteers, as we touch so many of our neighbors and members in need. Our virtual capabilities have continued to expand, thanks to Bob Foutty and his band of merry helpers! We will miss Jess and Bob as they move on to new endeavors. May God continue to bless our programming and all the people that we touch!

Major improvements and repairs have been made to our beautiful building while we have been away. Repairs to the organ, upgrade the sound system, roof, widows, exterior lighting, security, Park Street face of the Sanctuary, fellowship hall ceiling, new computers installed; work on improving the electrical capacity and A/C for DLM and the offices in the education wing, re-surfacing the Park Street parking lot are in the works.

This year we have sought grants to help fund DLM and Arts @ Holy Trinity. To date, thanks to the efforts of Cam Turner, Darlene and Stefan, Ruth, and Pastor, we have received grants totaling, (with more in process):

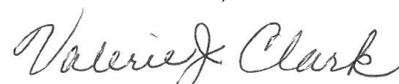
DLM = Oasis, \$15,000; ELCA Hunger Grant, \$24,000 (over 3 years); Personal Gift, \$15,000

Arts@HolyTrinity = Ohio Arts Council, \$2,000; Corporate Sponsors, \$8,000

In 2022, we will be launching a new initiative through the Renaissance Committee. The “Invite-Welcome-Connect Initiative Mission” has core values that are “Intentional, Relational, and Accountable” including key concepts: Invite-Evangelism, Welcome-Hospitality, and Connect-Belonging. The purpose of this mission is to offer strategies in building up the congregation. Council has committed our congregation/community of faith to implement and actively support this initiative through the guidance of the Renaissance Committee and our Cabinet. Be on the look-out for opportunities to eagerly participate in this initiative!

Thank you for allowing me the honor to serve as President of Church Council this year.

In God’s Service,

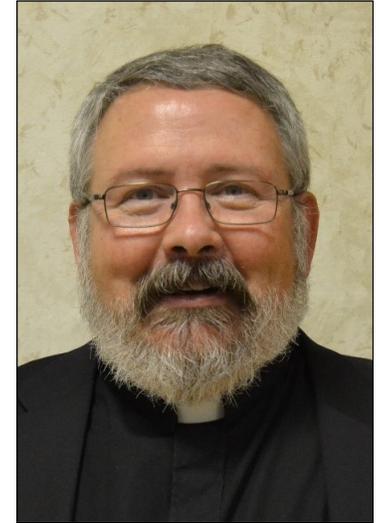


Valerie J. Clark  
2021 Council President



# Message from the Senior Pastor

*"...for it is God who is at work in you, enable you both to will  
and to work for his good pleasure."*



Dear friends in Christ,

The words above (Philippians 2:13) are ones not often read. They come immediately after the marvelous and often-heard hymn for which this chapter is deservedly more famous: "Let the same mind be in you which is in Christ Jesus..." Paul writes these words to a congregation which he deeply loves, in spite of their propensity for internal discord. And he reminds them of the great humility of Christ which leads to the cross, but also to the resurrection that is the foundation for their own hope and joy.

Then, at the conclusion of that hymn, Paul challenges/invites/encourages the Philippians to "work out" their own salvation...not in the sense of manufacturing for themselves what Christ has already accomplished, but to reckon it. To understand it. To make the meaning of that salvation alive every day. And they should do this because "it is God who is at work in you..."

The challenge laid before the Philippians is our challenge, too. Christ has, indeed, done all that is necessary to repair the breach between earth and heaven, and to guide us into redeemed relationship with God and with our neighbors. But it is up to us to figure out what that looks like in 2022 in downtown Akron, Ohio. Where is it that we meet God here? Who are these neighbors to whom we are sent? How best can we speak and truly embody the Good News?

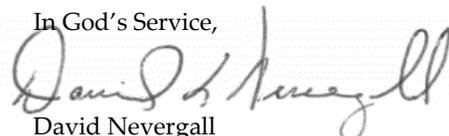
The ministry of the Church is one important place...shared among us...where those questions are answered. We meet God in the transcendent holiness of worship, in the beauty of art and music, in the faces of our neighbors in need, in the words of Holy Scripture that we study. And we love God and neighbor by attending to those valuable things, expending ourselves and our resources in ways that honor God and that care for our fellow human beings and the creation we inhabit.

This is the church's mission. And we undertake that mission with the courage of the Holy Spirit, the mutual support of our members and friends, and the model of selflessness that is Jesus Christ. It does not matter whether there is Covid or political turmoil or economic upset. It doesn't even matter if we are tired and uncertain. Those events and attitudes might modify our strategies. But they do not deter us from that central focus on God and neighbor.

And the reason that is possible is because it is God who is at work in us...God who has lavished us with creativity and resources...God who ultimately enables us, in spite of the challenges, to work for good and for love and for a future with hope for all people.

The last two years have put us to the test. The year ahead will likely be no easier a hill to climb. But we have this God who is at work in us, enabling us every step of the way. For that we say thanks be to God.

Together with you in Christ.

In God's Service,  
  
David Nevergall  
Senior Pastor

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# Care & Fellowship Ministry

Because of the lingering pandemic, Care & Fellowship social gatherings were put on hold for most of the year, however, we stayed connected by sending notes & cards in the mail, phone calls, emails, and a few Zoom Sunday morning fellowship gatherings. We provided several bereavement meals/receptions and meals for DLM Staff & Volunteers on delivery days and also hosted a few in-person fellowship gatherings in Chapel Lounge when in-person worship returned.

We are always looking for people to join this team. You do not have to commit to an entire year. You may help with specific events such as Easter Breakfast, Bereavement meals, special receptions or be involved in everything. Contact Rachel Núñez by calling the church office 330-376-5154 or by emailing her at [rnunez@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holytrinityakron.org) for more information.

## **TEAM MEMBERS:**

Rachel Nunez, Chair ... are you interested in serving?

# Faith Formation Ministry

The Faith Formation team's efforts through 2021 have been centered around supporting Rachel Núñez and other staff-led Faith Formation activities both "virtually" (over Zoom and Facebook) and in-person as seemed prudent based shifting circumstances with COVID-19 throughout the year. We are always grateful for the leadership gifts of Rachel Núñez, but that has been especially apparent this year as virtually all of our programming has been staff-led, due to COVID-19 circumstances.

A variety of Zoom and Facebook-based opportunities for faith formation, fellowship, connection and support that began in 2020 were continued all throughout 2021, which included:

- Scheduled LIFT (Living in Faith Together) activities, including activities after service on certain Sundays as well as a new "Hike and Seek" on some Saturday mornings (led by Rachel Núñez)
- Daily Devotionals on Facebook Monday – Friday (led by Pastor David Nevergall, Rachel Núñez, and Rev. Lor Breyley)
- Weekly Prayer meeting with Pastor David Nevergall on Facebook (Tuesday afternoons)
- Mid-Week Faith Formation in person/on Zoom (various topics throughout the year, including Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name (Max Lucado), Lenten study of Matthew, Blessed to Follow: The Beattitudes as a Compass for Discipleship (Martha E Stortz - including a session with the author over Zoom!), Living Lutheran articles, Baptized, We Live: A Congregational Guide to Lutheranism as a Way of Life (Daniel Erlander), Taking Faith Home worksheets, and Waiting for the Shepherd (Advent Study)) (Rachel Núñez and Pastor David Nevergall)
- Luther and Lager Hour on Zoom led by Pastor David Nevergall (Monday/Thursday evenings)
- Friday Check-in and Devotions led by Rachel Núñez on Zoom
- Scheduled Bedtime Story and Prayer with Ms. Rachel (Rachel Núñez) on Facebook as well as some in-person home visits in the Fall

Additionally, materials for Faith Formation at home were provided to families for Epiphany, Lent/Easter, Fall, and Advent/Christmas, and service projects were available for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday in September. Starting in the Fall, Rachel Núñez and Pastor Nevergall began Tuesday and Wednesday morning "Coffee and Conversation" times at local Panera Bread locations - please stop in to say hello!

Women's Bible study and Holy Trinity Book Club continued to meet throughout 2021, both in person and over Zoom, as needed.

Finally, Faith Formation team hosted a reception in November for the newest confirmands - Abbigail Mormino, Luke Nagle, and Camdynn Stevens - warmest congratulations and best wishes to each of them.

We continue to invite everyone to join in on the "virtual" or in person opportunities available not only on Sunday mornings but also regularly held through the week. Please contact Rachel Núñez or Amanda Archbold with any questions about any of these opportunities, or to join us on the Faith Formation team.

## TEAM MEMBERS:

Amanda Archbold, Chair; Amy Indorf, LJ Kimble, Rachel Núñez and Rich Williams

# Finance Ministry

## Highlighted activities and accomplishments:

- Finalized transition of financial management of the Endowments to Vanguard, reducing significant annual fees by in house collaborative management of these funds.
- Implemented procedures for the offering count process and trained new members to ensure security and accountability of offerings. We are also finalizing the procedures for online deposit of offerings. Thank you Connie Archbold, Steven White, Gloria Woodford and Laurel Heath for serving in this way.
- Karen Nevergall, Audit Committee Chair, working with Financial Secretary James Minisall met with additional members, Lesli Eisenhart and Robert Kempke to discuss the Auditing of the Church Financials in 2022. If you are interested in joining this team, please reach out to Lesli Eisenhart at 330-696-7460.
- Collaborated with the Personnel Team regarding personnel salary impact on budget in line with the current ELCA guideline changes for rostered staff.



**\$16,427**

Amount collected in  
Love Offerings  
throughout 2021

I want to thank the committee for their active involvement. They have been willing to address alternate budget challenges, implement and monitor new procedures to further enhance our internal financial practices and work on legacy giving options that will be presented in 2022.

## TEAM MEMBERS:

Lesli Eisenhart, Chair, Treasurer; Jim Minisall, Financial Secretary; Pastor David Nevergall; Bob Keener, Karen Nevergall & Jack Harig

Endowment Committee: Bob Keener, Chair; Dennis Dick, Lesli Eisenhart, Jim Minisall, and Don Perrine

Budget Committee: Bob Keener, Chair; Lesli Eisenhart, Bob Hoskins, Jim Minisall and Pastor David Nevergall

Stewardship Committee: Tom Baumgardner, Alexa Sandmann and Pastor David Nevergall

Financial Practices Review Committee: Karen Nevergall, Chair; Lesli Eisenhart, Jack Harig, Bob Kempke and Jim Minisall

# Outreach & Social Concerns Ministry

*Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.*

~ Proverbs 22:9

**Responsibilities of the Outreach/Social Concerns Team included** distributing benevolences generated by the TLC Endowment Fund, coordinating volunteers for Family Promise and Habitat for Humanity, delivering canned soups and stews donated by the congregation to OPEN M, and providing funds for congregational participation in missions and projects that serve others.

**Over \$18,000 in Benevolences were used to support** many events at Robinson Community Learning Center and for the Robinson Family Resource Center, South Street Ministries, OPEN M, and the MLK Laundry Day. The team also provided support of the Lutheran Summer Music program at Valparaiso University, and the DLM food pantry.

**Due to the pandemic** Trinity did not host any Family Promise families in our church building, nor did we participate in any house-building for Summit County Habitat for Humanity.



**\$18,000**

Amount of benevolences distributed to local organizations

## TEAM MEMBERS:

Gregg Loesch, Chair; Sandy DeLuca, Jenn Dillard, Elizabeth Liska, Betty Oberdorfer, and Velma Pomrenke

# Support provided to Robinson CLC in 2021



Renewal of Math and Reading Software Programs



24 Teacher Supply Baskets



Supporter of To-Go Family Meals



Two Parent Engagement Events



20 Food Boxes & \$20 Gift Cards for Families



Transportation Funds for Field Trips



NEW—Weekly Reader for Kindergarten & 1st Grade



Books for Student Recognition Events



DLM Food & Resources continued to prepare and deliver food boxes twice each month to families involved with Project Rise and to others throughout the community. Each food box always contains fresh produce, dairy products, meat, and a wide variety of non-perishable food items.

When the pandemic hit in March 2020, DLM quickly adapted its processes and began delivering food boxes, the only food pantry to do so in Summit County ... and continues to be throughout the past year. Deliveries were expanded in 2021 to also include delivery of personal care kits, infant care kits that included diapers and wipes as well as needed laundry and household supplies.

DLM continues to increase its partnerships with local businesses, agencies and organizations in order to best meet the needs of families. In 2021 new partnerships included: Street Outreach Services (SOS) Program, The Highlands Pregnancy Center, OASIS Outreach Opportunity, MKC Diaper Bank, Vantage Aging, Oak Street Health and Molina Health Care.

DLM is coordinated by Darlene Katz, whose position changed to DLM Director in 2021, and by Stefan Katz, DLM Operations Manager. In addition, OhioGuidestone provided a paid staff person throughout most of the year and additional staff support was provided by Project Rise.

Volunteers from Holy Trinity, Faith Lutheran Church, Hudson High School, IBH Addiction Recovery as well as Project Rise and OhioGuidestone served each month at DLM.

For the first time, DLM hosted an online fundraising event on Giving Day, November 30. As a result, more than \$47,000 was raised. DLM also received a three-year \$24,000 ELCA Hunger Grant to be paid \$10,000 in 2022, \$8,000 in 2023 and \$6,000 in 2024.

Below and on the next page are statistical recaps for 2021: more than 60,000 pounds of food were distributed to 7,368 individuals (2,042 households) during the year. The peak distribution was during the first quarter.

## Food Pantry - Summary of Families Served

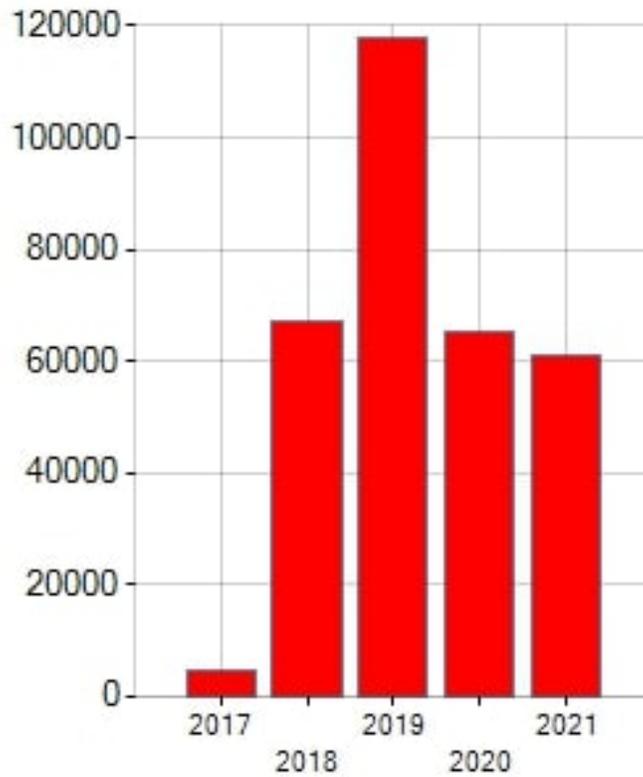
Report created for Dates: 2021-01 through 2021-12 for Location - Holy Trinity

<b>LOCAL AGENCY STATISTICAL REPORT</b>	<b>A With minor children</b>	<b>B Without minor children</b>	<b>C TOTALS (Column A+B)</b>
1. Number of Households	1344	698	2042
2. Number of Seniors Served (age 60+)	174	416	590
3. Number of Adults Served (18 - 59)	2531	873	3404
4. Number of Children Served (birth - 17)	3374	0	3374
5. TOTAL Number of People Served (2+3+4)	6079	1289	7368

<b>Senior Citizen details</b>	<b>A With senior citizens</b>	<b>B Without senior citizens</b>	<b>C TOTALS (Column A+B)</b>
1. Number of Households	508	1534	2042
2. Seniors & Children ( Grandparent Households)	51	0	51

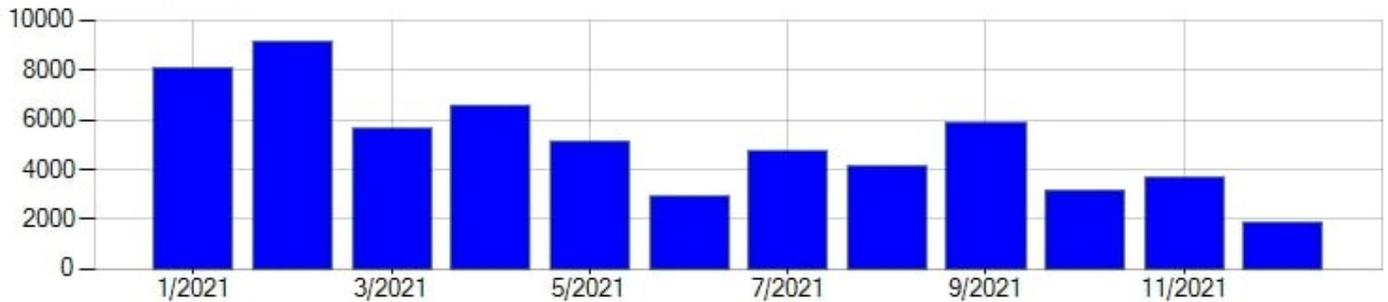
## Pounds of Food Distribution - 2017-2021

### Total Pounds Distributed



### Pounds of Food Distribution - 2021 by Month

#### Pounds Distributed



These two charts only reflect food obtained from the Akron Canton Regional Food Bank. It does not reflect produce obtained from Cornerstone Market in Munroe Falls and meat from Acme Fresh Markets.

# Personnel Ministry

*There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.*

~ 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7

Under the Constitution and Bylaws of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, the Personnel Team is responsible for developing personnel practices for staff, developing and implementing plans for administering those practices, recommending all rates of pay and other benefits for employees, and considering how volunteers can be involved in the mission and ministry of the church. The Personnel Team also conducts reviews of the Personnel Practices Guide, staff salaries and/or rates of pay, and any employment contracts that might be in effect. As an ongoing part of these duties, the Personnel Team interprets the contents of the Personnel Practices Guide and monitors compliance with its provisions. The Personnel Team collaborates with all other ministry teams, reviewing requests and recommendations for employment and forwarding its recommendations to the Congregation Council for consideration. All decisions on staff employment rest with Council.

With the ongoing restrictions imposed by COVID-19 on social gatherings, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church continued to minister to its members and the community by utilizing alternative approaches in its effort “to bring Jesus to people, through love and the word of God.” Holy Trinity staff, including called members, employees, and volunteers, used a variety of approaches, which often involved virtual meetings with computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices, rather than in-person group sessions at the church. Awkward at first, this approach became the norm, and is still in use as the pandemic refuses to abate.

Staff Notes:

- During 2021, some former staff positions continued to be vacant, including the Director of Mission Development (former Director of Congregational Ministries) and various youth positions. Some staff continued to be furloughed (Sextons and Nursery Attendants), with one Sexton leaving to take another job.
- The role of the Financial Secretary continues to evolve, now assuming greater responsibilities in the management of invested funds. Revised hours and compensation for this position were approved by the Finance Team and Council.
- The DLM Food and Resources program has seen tremendous growth during 2021. The DLM Coordinator position was changed to become the DLM Director, and a new DLM Operations Manager position was added. Stefan Katz has been employed in this capacity. His expertise and creative talents in helping to set up processes for the storage and distribution of food and household resources have been instrumental in the success and growth of DLM this past year.
- Volunteers at Holy Trinity have spent many hours providing ongoing service to maintain our facilities, assist with worship, complement the music program, and provide the manpower for community ministries:
  - The DLM food program and many events serving Robinson School have provided ongoing hours of volunteer service in the community;
  - Special thanks are given to those musicians who share their vocal and instrumental talents to enhance worship;
  - Also, Holy Trinity would like to commend Bob Foutty for generously volunteering his time and leadership in helping to develop our media ministry and online web productions. With Bob moving out of state, his talents behind the scenes will be missed.
- Pastor Nevergall and his staff maintain their online presence through worship, bible studies, devotions, and prayer.

The Personnel Team continues to act as a resource to the Congregation Council, ministry teams, and staff. The Personnel Practices Guides serves as a reference for issues that impact Holy Trinity staff, which include paid employees, rostered staff (serving under a call through the Northeastern Ohio Synod), and non-paid volunteers.

Members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church who are interested in helping to support staff are encouraged to serve on the Personnel Team as it works to carry out its duties under the Constitution and Bylaws.

## TEAM MEMBERS:

John Stefanik, Chair; Valerie Clark, Dennis Dick, Sophia Morton and Alexa Sandmann

# Property Ministry

1. Broken and missing slate roofing tile were replaced and /or repaired.
2. Replaced the two large flood lights focused on front of church's (east) elevation. Existing lights haven't worked and were beyond repair.
3. Repair and replace missing and damaged fire rated ceiling in Fellowship Hall. Ceiling rating has been compromised in the past when work was done above the ceiling. Because of the plasters age there were small areas throughout that needed repaired also. A two-hour ceiling rating was originally designed and is required.
4. New vinyl coated fencing between alley and playground has been installed.
5. Office computer equipment replaced, and new software installed.
6. Camera and security system improved and working. We are checking on a maintenance agreement.
7. Phase one. We had major water leaking on south side wall of church. Leak involved five stained glass windows, brick and stone trims. Work has been completed on Phase One.
8. We contracted a second phase. Phase Two has started. Project involves same work repairing windows and masonry, stone and brick on the balance of south elevation including stair well and elevator exterior. Phase Two was started and Frost completed 30% before weather shut the work down for 2021 season.
9. Three replacements windows were ordered for the first-floor music room. The existing six windows couldn't be repaired and no longer operated but remaining three units are functioning as fixed windows. Operating windows were requested to provide fresh air ventilation to the music room. Windows due for February install.
10. Greg Frost Proposal dated July 2020 was approved by Council. Proposal was for 1954 addition parking lot side, the alley side and the playground sides of the building. Masonry repair includes top floor lintel exposure and flashing, three individual lintel replacement and pointing and caulking. This work is now scheduled for 2022 building season. We put this work on hold with covid in 2020. In 2021, Phase one, two, above, pushed this work to 2022 building season.

## TEAM MEMBERS:

Dan Detwiler, Chair; Mike Ameling, John Hamilton, Bruce Mansour, Don Parsisson, Ben Ruhlin, and Lorin Sickafoose

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## Meditation and Memorial Garden

The Meditation and Memorial Garden Committee convened on June 10, 2021, to assess immediate needs of the Memorial Garden and align on future vision and next steps. Additional Meetings were held in July, August, October and December where the following needs were identified:

- A plan for regular maintenance
- Fountain cleaning and preservation
- Assessment of assets
- Outline of administrative responsibilities: (ordering of plaques, calligrapher, collection of fees and paperwork)
- Sourcing a Liaison from HTLC Property Team
- Update fee schedule

### Actions and Next Steps:

- Regular maintenance needs have been identified, and the committee is exploring options for the work.
- Fountain was cleaned, and rust was identified. The committee is obtaining quotes for Powder coating of the fountain and four benches.
- An asset consolidation plan for the Memorial Garden was presented by Jim Minisall and the committee voted to approve the plan.
- Administrative responsibilities have been outlined and documented.
- Don Parsisson agreed to serve as Liaison for Property Team.
- The committee voted to increase the fee schedule to \$2000 to include the plaque effective January 1, 2022
- Re-envisioning of the lower-level grass area.
- Exploring Bibb line access.
- A request was made to Council to recognize the Memorial Garden as an official committee in the constitution (resolution was passed at the October 2021 Council Meeting).

We remember those who were interred this past year: Chuck Bond, Joan Kull and Robert Leddon.

### TEAM MEMBERS:

Sonya Nagle, Chair; LJ Kimble, Jan Parry, Nan Riemenschneider, Jay Riemenschneider, Judy Samuelson, Deb Spencer, Stephen White, and Don Parsisson, Property Team Liaison

# Welcome Ministry

*“Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” Romans 15:7*

Our purpose is to provide a welcoming atmosphere at Holy Trinity for both our members and our visitors. 2021 presented continued challenges as Holy Trinity fully reopened its doors and incorporated hybrid worship as a regular part of services. We further extended this hybrid style to congregational meetings, outdoor worship in the summer, funerals, and all Arts @ Holy Trinity Concerts.

After the initial purchase and installation of equipment in 2020, 2021 saw further expansion to “fine tune” and add additional camera angles, capabilities, and work flow. One side of the rear balcony has been successfully converted into a production “nest” to allow the live stream operators a line of site with the Nave floor. We also installed 2 new mics above the choir to improve audio pick up for the live stream, and installed a new, fully digital soundboard to allow for additional flexibility and expansion during services and concerts. 2021 also saw an expansion of capability to allow remote operation of the live stream equipment.

The Welcome Team would like to thank Ann Lawson, Lorin Sickafoose, and Alex DeLuca for serving as live stream operators at various times during 2021, and to Lesli Eisenhart for serving as our Technology Usher during our various online events. At present, we are still in need of additional volunteers to learn the live stream system in order to cover vacations, illness, holidays, etc., and to serve as Technology Ushers. Please contact Bob Foutty if you are able to serve in this manner.

In 2022, Welcome Team will undergo a change in leadership as Bob & Jess Foutty have relocated to Orlando, Florida.

The Welcome budget includes funds for promotional items, advertising, software, new-member events, evangelism, miscellaneous communications materials, and live streaming software and subscriptions.

## TEAM MEMBERS:

Bob Foutty, Chair; Stephanie Black, Donna Carroll, Sandy DeLuca, Ricki Ethington, Kristin Forbes, Sandy Hamilton, Pat Keller, Ann Lawson, Sylvia Leddon, Pete Seltzer, and Linda Vowles

# Worship & Music Ministry

The Worship and Music Team continued to meet throughout this past year to collaborate on ideas to enhance your worship experience as we continue to live stream the weekly service at 9:30 am. We “broadcast live” on Facebook, we live-stream on our website, and have a YouTube Channel with 150 subscribers to date. Weather permitting, we were able to meet outdoors this past summer on the front lawn for two Sundays and enjoyed the percussion circle and special music provided.

We continue to utilize this online format for worship, concerts, and weekly study events. Our outreach has grown exponentially. We have many weekly viewers from other states, as well as Europe and other countries. Our weekly average online attendance hovers at 500+ and an increase in online giving from those viewers was also greatly appreciated. We can truly continue to live our mission statement.

We also advised several other teams on matters of sound and lighting improvements in the sanctuary as we continue to enhance our broadcast experience.

Music served an integral part in our worship at Holy Trinity. A mixed quartet carried the majority load of singing on behalf of the congregation through the Spring term. We were delighted to expand that leadership after Labor Day. Seven to ten singers served weekly on a rotating basis. Following pandemic protocols set forth by our parish leaders, all musicians remained masked and physically distanced. Trinity Bell Choir returned in full force and gained two new ringers for a total of eleven participants. Our drum circle continued to meet and lead in worship periodically, enhancing both indoor and outdoor services. Other instrumentalists shared their gifts in meaningful ways, taking extra precautions to help keep us safe.

We firmly established Arts @ Holy Trinity as a recognized and respected venue/presenter for world-acclaimed artists in ways that set Holy Trinity apart from ticketed-commercial events throughout the Midwest. We strengthened essential ties with universities and colleges as outreach, educational and service-provider institutions. Our concert series proceeded online through the Spring term and in person in the Fall. Award-winning and award-nominated artists brought inspiring music to our community and offered outreach opportunities to area students. Our online presence continues to add hundreds of additional audience members with each presentation. Bob & Jessica Foutty worked tirelessly to see that viewers experienced quality sound as well as close-up views of presenters and beautiful sights from our sanctuary. We are grateful for the many underwriters and donors who generously contributed to this 37<sup>th</sup> season, and those who contributed to our 38<sup>th</sup> season which began in September. We welcomed new sponsoring partners and rejoiced to receive a grant from the Ohio Arts Council. Artists who presented in the Spring semester included:

- Guy Van Duser & Billy Novick (guitar & clarinet; Robinson CLC & Firestone outreach)
- Stasera Duo (flute & bayan; Kent State University outreach)
- *Joining Hands, Joining Voices* featuring Jan Kraybill (organist & song leader; a community service project & music celebration with 4 other area congregations)

Our fall term welcomed the following musical treats:

- Anthony Newman (legendary organist and composer, featuring a world premiere)
- Prism Percussion (with award-winning composer/keyboardist Nicholas Pavkovic, also featuring a world premiere; Meet-the-Artist meal; University of Akron outreach)
- Advent Procession of Lessons & Carols (with St. Sebastian Parish, community instrumentalists, and Holy Trinity choirs)

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# Worship & Music Ministry *continued ...*

The Worship and Music team thanks the many volunteers who contributed time, talent, and skills to support the HTLC worship ministry. We engaged several new volunteers to bring the Word to you. Lorin Sickafoose, Alex DeLuca, Ann Lawson, we could not have done this without you!!! Your shared gifts have allowed our church family to remain connected in worship, study, and fellowship.

The Ushers, Altar Guild, and the volunteers that jumped in for specific events and projects, we could not have done it without you. Your assistance and ongoing involvement in our worship experience makes everything run smooth. We look forward to our continued team efforts in 2022.

We gratefully acknowledge the faithful leadership of outgoing co-Team Leaders Lesli Eisenhart and Bob Foutty.

New volunteers who wish to be a part of any of these groups are encouraged to contact Frederica Cohen at 330-535-3037. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, currently via Zoom at 6:30 p.m.

## TEAM MEMBERS:

Deacon Ruth Anderson, Director of Music Ministries & Artistic Director of Arts @ Holy Trinity;  
Lesli Eisenhart & Robert Foutty Co-Chairs; Frederica Cohen, Ron Nockengost, Jacquie Wert, Deborah Ickes, Molly Phelps, and Pastor David Nevergall; *Sandy DeLuca also attended meetings*

*Continued on next page ...*

# Worship & Music Ministry *continued ...*

## Liturgical Arts Team

The liturgical year begins with Advent, and in December 2020 we didn't know what would lay ahead with COVID-19. Planning began in October 2020 with supplies being gathered with work sessions being scheduled. The December 2020 banners are being reused this year since we didn't have in-person worship last year at this time. By Easter 2021, no decision had been made about in-person worship. So the team made simple cloth banners with growing slivers of light to display through Lent. Easter banners included one that read Alleluia and the other with a large gold and white fabric cross. Pentecost followed with a banner of a large flame, and for the lectern banners of emerging and descending doves for the Holy Spirit.

In the future, we hope to create pieces we can re-use, and mix in new ways so that just one new piece is created in a year.

### TEAM MEMBERS:

Deb Ickes, Jacquie Wert and Molly Phelps ... the group is open to any who would like to join in this effort!

## Altar Guild

The first part of the year the Altar Guild met via Zoom. The first meeting held in person was in June and the responsibilities of Communion prep and paraments were resumed. Altar flowers were provided weekly throughout this past year. Lilies for Easter adorned our sanctuary and were delivered to our homebound members.

New Advent/ Christmas decorations for the Chancel were purchased and installed. They enhanced the Liturgical Banners for our festival seasons.

An invitation to purchase Poinsettias was extended to the Congregation in the Highlights. The poinsettias were delivered to donors and to our homebound the first of January 2022. Doners also picked up their Poinsettias after attending any service.

Election of officers for 2022 were held, and the new officers will assume duties in January. They include: President—Deb Ickes, Vice President—Pat McRowe, Secretary—Donna Carroll, and Treasurer—Sophia Morton.

~ Respectively submitted - Deborah Ickes, President

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**Congregational Meeting**  
**January 24, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Valerie Clark with Pastor Nevergall offering devotions based on Paul's letter to the Ephesians about a fledgling congregation and appreciation of God's blessing through this past year and prayer at 11:08 a.m.

**Attendance via zoom:** 57 members

Valerie led us in reciting our Mission Statement: *The mission of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is to bring Jesus to the people through love and the word of God.*

Valerie appointed Lorin Sickafoose Parliamentarian.

**\*A motion was made by Bob Hoskins and seconded by Paul Anacki to approve the agenda. \*The motion passed unanimously.**

Valerie welcomed the congregation and gave special recognition to our Video/Digital Tech Team, Sound Tech Team, Technology Ushers, Musicians, Special Service Assistants, and Covid Ushers for making it possible for us to participate in our services during this crazy time. Thank you all so much.

**\*A motion was made by Stephen White and seconded by Debra Anderson to approve the minutes from the January 2020 Congregational Meeting. \*The motion passed: 48 Yes, 2 Abstain.**

**\*A motion was made by Linda Vowles and seconded by Sally Richenbacher to approve the minutes from the October 2020 Semi-Annual Congregational meeting. \*The motion passed: 45 Yes, 5 Abstain.**

Ministry Team reports were received with comments by Team Leaders:

Care and Fellowship - Rachel Nunez added that the goal for their team is to meet in person as soon as it is safe to do so; visitation, phone calls, cards continue in the mail; looking forward to Koinonia Dinners to re-start with food and fellowship in 2021.

Finance - Jack Harig, No additional comments; Valerie thanked Team committees for work on stewardship, budget, audit.

Outreach and Social Concerns - Greg Loesch, No additional comments; Valerie noted the impressive, amazing, and encouraging things we are doing for ourselves and our community.

Personnel - John Stefanik, Trying to support the church and holding our breath that we will be able to maintain our staff in 2021.

Property - Dan Detwiler, No additional comments: Valerie thanked team for all they are doing to care for our building even though we are not in it.

Welcome - Bob Foutty added that their goal is to welcome everyone back in person, like Rachel. Noted upgrades to the sound system, and additional upgrades coming to our streaming service to take advantage of our wider reach. Thanked congregation for the gifts.

Worship and Music - Lesli Eisenhart added special thanks to section leaders and Ruth; 200+ new email accounts for The Arts at Holy Trinity Series were added including folks in other states and from abroad; HTLC was able to live-stream all the concerts and have had a wonderful turnout: over 800 for Lessons and Carols; thanked video/sound ushers, alter guild and volunteers.

Youth and Education - Amanda Archbold encouraged everyone to take advantage of the programs available online; thanked Rachel and others for all the opportunities for faith formation and fellowship during the week.

**\*A motion was made by Ann Lawson and seconded by Paul Anacki to Receive the Report to the Congregation and Ministry Team reports. \*The motion passed unanimously.**

*Continued on next page ...*

Bob Keener presented the Investment in Mission/Budget for 2021, giving a thorough explanation of the spreadsheet, including income sources and expenses.

**\*A motion was made by Bob Keener and seconded by Stephen White to approve the Investment in Mission/Budget for 2021 as presented.**

Discussion ensued with Bob answering concerns: the use of Contingency Fund monies to balance the budget at the end of the year – reviewed rules for use; the high amount considered for non-pledge income – based on a five-year average. Valerie thanked the Budget Committee for their work. **\*The motion passed: 44 Yes, 1 No, 5 Abstain.**

**Open Forum** – Lorin referenced a continuing resolution from 2014 requiring all surviving past pastors to be extended greetings at all Congregational Meetings. Greetings were extended.

Valerie led us in reciting our Vision Statement: *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a faith community grounded in God's word, called to worship, and committed to serve as disciples of Jesus Christ.*

The meeting closed with Pastor Nevergall leading us in Prayer. Valerie expressed appreciation for all participating in the meeting.

**\*A motion was made by Bob Foutty and seconded by Stephen White to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m. \*The motion passed: 46 Yes, 1 No.**

Respectfully submitted by Marsha Asente, Council Secretary

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes**  
**October 24, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by Valerie Clark at 11 a.m. with a welcome message and prayer led by Pastor Nevergall. Trinity members were able to join the meeting in person or via Zoom.

There were 44 members attending in person and nine people attending via Zoom for a total of 53 members.

**\*A motion was made by Paul Anacki and seconded by Bob Keener to approve the agenda. \*The motion passed.**

Valerie thanked the 2021 Nominating Committee for their work: Tom Baumgardner, Lesli Eisenhart, Jacinto Nunez, and Jennifer Seltzer.

**Election of Council Members for a two-year term beginning January 2022.**

The nominees for Church Council: Frederica Cohen, John Guran, Bob Hoskins, and Rick Kimble

Valerie asked for nominations from the floor; receiving none, the slate of nominees was elected by acclamation.

**Election of the 2022 Nomination Committee for a one-year term:**

The nominees for the Nominating Committee: Lesli Eisenhart, Debbie Ickes, and Molly Phelps

Valerie asked for nominations from the floor; receiving none, the slate of nominees was elected by acclamation.

NOTE: An appointed Council member will also serve on this committee in 2022.

**Bob Keener, Chair of the Budget Committee, presented a review of the 2022 Draft Mission Investment (attached).**

He pointed out increases in Worship and Music, Outreach, Personnel, and Property. He also noted a Budget Endowment Contribution of \$203,322, and the Offerings needed of \$466,623. He also explained that we are expecting over \$50,000 in grants for DLM and Arts @ Holy Trinity. Expenditures for Personnel is projected at \$464,000. Our tithe to the Synod is 10%. The total Mission Investment Draft is \$1,221,699. Bob stated that this is a challenge, but quite doable.

Valerie thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and for their willingness to serve in the important mission of HTLC. She also thanked the outgoing Council Members for their service: Marsha Asente, Lesli Eisenhart, and Ann Lawson.

Pastor David led us in a closing Prayer.

**\*A motion was made by John Guran and seconded by John Stefanik to adjourn the meeting. \*The motion passed.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Marsha Asente, Council Secretary



# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Praising. Loving. Serving in Jesus' name.*

## Mission Statement

The mission of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is to bring Jesus to people through love and the word of God.

## Vision Statement

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a faith community grounded in God's word, called to worship and committed to serve as disciples of Jesus Christ.

## 2021 Council

**Valerie Clark**, *President*  
**Ann Lawson**, *Vice President*  
**Marsha Asente**, *Secretary*  
**Lesli Eisenhart**, *Treasurer*  
**Paul Anacki**  
**Connie Archbold**  
**Bob Hoskins**  
**Fred Rieman**  
**Pastor David Nevergall**

## 2021 Cabinet (Ministry Teams)

*Care & Fellowship*, **Rachel Núñez**  
*Faith Formation*, **Amanda Archbold**  
*Finance*, **Lesli Eisenhart**  
*Outreach & Social Concerns*, **Gregg Loesch**  
*Personnel*, **John Stefanik**  
*Property*, **Dan Detwiler**  
*Welcome*, **Bob Foutty**  
*Worship & Music*, **Lesli Eisenhart & Bob Foutty**  
*Council Liaison*, **Ann Lawson**, *Vice President*

## 2021 Groups

*Acolytes*, **Judy Eisenhart**  
*Altar Guild*, **Sophia Morton**  
*Archives*, **Ricki Ethington**  
*Book Club*, **Diane Chambers & Amy Indorf**  
*Communion Assistants*, **Marcy Nagy & Deborah Ickes**  
*Friendly Visitors*, **Peter Lisius**  
*Lutheran Loafers*, **Fletcher Carroll**  
*Memorial Garden*, **Sonya Nagle**  
*Men's Bible Study*, **Pastor David Nevergall**  
*Parish Nurse Program*, **Sally Richenbacher**  
*Prayer Chain*, **Sally Richenbacher & Wanda Clark**  
*Renaissance Team*, **Bob Keener**  
*Readers*, **Nan Riemenschneider**  
*Stream Team*, **Bob Foutty**  
*Trinity Stampers*, **VACANT**  
*Ushers*, **Gregg Loesch**  
*Women's Bible Study*, **Velma Pomrenke**

## 2021 Staff (as of 12/31/2021)

**Pastor David Nevergall**, *Senior Pastor*  
**Rachel Núñez**, *Director of Faith Formation*  
**Deacon Ruth Anderson**, *Director of Music Ministries*  
**Darlene Katz**, *DLM Director*  
**Stefan Katz**, *DLM Operations Manager*  
**Jim Minisall**, *Financial Secretary*  
**Sandy DeLuca**, *Communications Coordinator*  
**Annmarie Demko**, *Parish Secretary*  
**Bruce Mansour**, *Maintenance Coordinator*  
**Vince Simmons**, *Sexton*



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50 N. Prospect Street  
Akron, Ohio 44304  
(330) 376-5154 | [holytrinityakron.org](http://holytrinityakron.org)

