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Episcopal City Mission Support

Ad hoc Leaders: Erin Shetler, Rebecca Jones



EPISCOPAL
CITY MISSION

Episcopal City Mission (ECM) is a chaplaincy to youth in detention, providing spiritual care to children and youth, ages eight to about 17. Members of Trinity Church have served on the ECM Board, represented us at ECM Annual meetings, and organized gifts of composition books for the children to use as journals. For many years, we have invited ECM chaplains to preach at both services and to make a presentation at our Sunday Forum for young people and adults. We sent them back to the St. Louis City and County detention centers with homemade cookies for the young people. (We were known as “the cookie church.” For at least six years, our middle-school/high-school Sunday School class created Easter “Basket” Bags to give to the young people. One year, we also did Thanksgiving Bags and Christmas bags.

Activity completed in 2024: In 2024, ECM hired a new director and underwent significant change in its chaplain-staff, so we were unable to work out a chaplain visit in the fall. (For a short time, the Rev. Erika Jackson-Essiem was an ECM Chaplain, and she suggested we consider participating in the monthly birthday parties held for the young people, but we did not pursue that possibility.) What we did in the spring was send 100 Easter Basket Bags to the two detention facilities. For two Sundays, we had bags, cookie cutters for tracing, and other art supplies available in the Reception Area and the St. Hilda room for decorating by any parishioner who wanted to do so. At least twenty people, maybe more, took part. Erin Shetler then took the 100 bags and various treats and objects to fill them to the ECM office at Christ Church Cathedral/St. Louis. Erin, her daughter Amy, Vivian Jones, and Scarlet Jones filled all 100 bags on site. Transporting empty bags was much easier than transporting filled ones, with the bonus of visiting our Cathedral.

Anticipated activity for 2025: We need to identify a person or people to organize a visit by a chaplain and the production of cookies for the young people in detention. We hope to keep doing the Easter bags as a project of our young people and would like to return to gathering composition books at back-to-school sales in the summer, stockpiling them to give to ECM at Christmas or Thanksgiving. It will be necessary to coordinate these efforts with other outreach ministries.



LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Chairperson: Betty Bowen

Eucharistic Visitors: Lori Cooper, Nancy Noel, Judy Hodge, Helen Becker, Jennifer Bax, Millie Oberlin and Lucinda Dennis-Itoka.

Activity completed in 2024: The Ministry of the Lay Eucharistic Visitor (LEV) is to take the Sacraments of Holy Communion to parishioners who are ill or unable to attend Church. This Ministry brings the Church directly into the person’s home, hospital, or nursing home, thereby keeping them in close contact with God and the Church Community.

“In the Name of Trinity Church, I send you forth bearing these Holy Gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ’s Body and Blood. We who are many are One Body, because we share One Bread and One Cup.”

We had four of our parishioners die this year, Robert Blattman, Barbara Gossow, Barbara Ritter and Mildred Wooldridge, so we will have to re-assign our LEV’s to other home bound parishioners.

The Eucharistic Visitor Ministry has now been assigned to the Pastoral Care Ministry as our LEV’s are doing pastoral care when they take the Eucharist to our homebound parishioners, and they will report any concerns to the Pastoral Care Committee.

Anticipated activity for 2025: To continue this Ministry to serve our Homebound parishioners who we include as part of our Worship Service each week.

SHARE A MEAL

Chairpersons: Avril Brudy, Donna Osiecki/Betty Bowen

Members: Team 1 – Avril Brudy, Benisha Brudy, Linnie Arthurton, Jo Anne Harris.
Team 2 – Donna Osiecki, John & Lana Tumbarello, Barbara Parks,
Betty Bowen, Melissa Galbreath, Bonita Tracer



Activity in 2024: Lunches are served at St John UCC on Fifth Street, St Charles, every Saturday, and Trinity serves lunch on the month that has five Saturdays; we therefore serve approximately 4 Saturdays each year. Each Church in the Program plan, shop, and prepare the food to serve whoever comes for lunch, no questions asked.

Since Covid we have noticed that the number of people attending the luncheon has been greatly reduced to between 19-25 people. Trinity now has a reputation for serving very tasty meals and the guests have shown their appreciation for what we serve.

Funds for the purchase of food is drawn from the Quarterman Memorial Fund, for which we are very grateful. **Trinity has been doing this Ministry for the past 12 years, and many of our Team Members have been serving for most of this time; we would like to welcome new members to this Food Ministry and invite anyone interested to speak to Avril, Donna, or Betty.**

Big Thanks to both Teams for all they have done during 2024.

Anticipated Activity in 2025: Both Teams will continue to do this Ministry for as long as there is a need and we are able, on the Fifth Saturday of the year, as we fulfill the Mission of Christ, *“....for when I was hungry you gave me food....”* Matthew 25.34.

PRAYER & HEALING MINISTRY



Chairperson: Betty Bowen, Lori Cooper & Carolyn Stuhlsatz

Members: Donna Osiecki, Lana Tumbrallo, Sandy Lillard, Christy Henke-Ratliff, Robert Brown, Liz Meyer and Debbie Ryan.

The Healing Ministry is a sacred trust given by God to the Church to care for those who are broken in body, mind, and spirit. The Love of God underlies all aspects of this Ministry, and God is the ultimate source of all healing. This is a Ministry of Presence and Grace, with the most important thing being to communicate God's Loving Presence to all people. On the second Sunday of the month, the congregation is invited to the Altar to receive the Anointing of Oil and the Laying on of Hands.

Activity in 2024: This Ministry continues to unfold as more people are willing to come forward for Prayer at the Healing Service. In addition, we are also offering to have One Prayer Minister stay behind after Worship to sit in the Front Pew to offer prayer to anyone who may need it.

This Ministry Sponsored a **Prayer Vigil** on Saturday, **September 28**, this year from 9 am to 1 pm, and all the half-hour slots were filled for people to pray at home or in the Church.

On the Second Sunday in Advent, we include a Service of Solace along with our Healing Service, which took place on December 8 this year. At the Service of Solace, we invite members of the congregation to come forward to light a candle for a loved one who has passed on to God's Heavenly Kingdom.

There is a **PRAYER REQUEST BOX** on a Table in the Narthex (Entrance to the Church) for people to place prayer requests, and the Prayer Team will offer prayer for them.

Anticipated Activity in 2025: As we now have an active Prayer Ministry, we hope, and pray, that our parishioners will take advantage of this Ministry. It is also the Vision of this Ministry to put on workshops on Prayer, to offer Labyrinth Walks, Prayer Vigils, and anything else relating to Prayer so that we all may grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ.



PASTORAL CARE Report for the Annual Parish Meeting

Chairperson/Vestry Liaison: Lucinda Dennis-Itoka.

Members: Helen Becker, Judy Hodge, Millie Oberlin, Betty Bowen, Lori Cooper, Sandra Lillard, Deanna Miller, Kathy Smith, Iris Wright, Christy Henke-Ratliff, Jennifer Bax, Nancy Noel, Jackie Halter, Susan Goddard and Fran Pieper.

Activities completed in 2024:

Pastoral Care is an Outreach Ministry under the direction of the Rector at Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Charles. Our group collaborates to assist and serve the congregation, accomplished through telephone calls, visits and mailings, to those not seen in a while (due to tragedy, illness, bereavement, life events, etc.), which makes people feel cared for and belonged.

In 2024, the pastoral care committee met at least six times throughout the year. To review, follow up, work on our goals from 2023 and plan for 2025. We completed our calendar for the year, our process, procedure, and script to guide members of our group (who volunteered to reach out by telephone). Six of us are Eucharistic Visitors, scheduled to take Communion from worship on Sunday mornings to people who are shut-in at home or otherwise unable to attend church regularly. Hospital/Residential Visits-- our Rector predominantly visits the hospital, or the Deacon or Chairman visits and sends updates prior to the Rector's availability. Members of the congregation make calls to the Church office to inform the Rector of hospitalizations, deaths, etc. The Rector then notifies the Deacon, Chairman and vice-versa.

Card Ministry – several members mailed out cards monthly by category. Deacon Betty received a list from the Secretary each month for members of the congregation celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. Deacon Betty also sent us (the Pastoral Care Team) a monthly list for people not seen in a while. Sandy Lillard sent out cards (get well soon, sympathy, missed you). Millie Oberlin donated stamps and Christmas cards that members of the congregation signed on a Sunday morning. She and the Lay Eucharistic Visitors sent them out. A prayer shawl was given to Carolyn Blattman for the loss of her husband Bob Blattman. She sent a thank-you card to the Church. We have received lots of gratitude, appreciation, and donations to do this work, for which we are grateful to God.

We were asked in 2024 to take on the Ministry of Welcome, greeting and helping new people to Trinity Church become involved in the congregation. We think this is a great idea; we also think that there are too few of us to do a good job with this ministry currently.

Anticipated activity for 2025: Pastoral Care continues to grow in our work with praise to God for the beacon of hope that awaits this ministry in the future. In 2025, we will meet in February and plan the yearly calendar and events. We appreciate the members that remain on the committee and those planning to join in the future. Thanks for all your contributions, resources, time and talent. Blessings!

MARTHA GUILD—FUNERAL RECEPTIONS

Chairperson: Donna Osiecki

Members: Sandy Lillard, Marty Neuman, Betty Bowen, Kathy Smith, Lana Tumbarello, John Tumbarello, and Eleanor McCune.

Activity completed in 2024: During the year our group hosted coffee hour and/or luncheon receptions for three funerals:

Barbara Ritter April 27, 2024

Robert Blattman June 11, 2024

Mildred Wooldridge December 11, 2024

We were very grateful for assistance from others in the church who helped out with one or more of these events, including Barb Parks, Millie Oberlin, Bonita Tracer, Jane Fisher and Judy Hodges.

Anticipated activity for 2025: To continue to be a support to the families through our hospitality of those who have left their earthly home. Volunteers are always welcome to be part of this Ministry... please see Donna if you feel called to help. Thank you!



TRINITY BELOVED GROUP

Coordinators: Lana Tumbarello, Gale McKiddy, Millie Oberlin

Active Members: Betty Bowen, Melissa Galbreath, Shawn Galbreath, Carolyn Hackman,
Nancy Noel, Donna Osiecke, Barbara Parks, John Tumbarello, Bonita Tracer



Activity in 2024: The Trinity Beloved Group grew out of one of the small group sessions organized by Deacon Betty. It's mission is community outreach—identifying needs in the community and meeting those needs when possible.

The first project completed in 2024 was assembling packets for the homeless. Thirty packets containing personal care items: socks, snacks, handwarmers, etc., were prepared and delivered to St. John's United Church of Christ for distribution in their warming shelter for the homeless.

The group prepared and delivered meals to several parishioners who were recovering at home after hospitalization.

The backpack project is continuing and TBG filled backpacks with requested supplies for fourteen students (7 girls and 7 boys). These were delivered to Blackhurst Elementary School on August 7, 2024.

The Laundry of Love project, which had been dormant for several years, was restored in May, 2024. Further explanation of this ministry to follow in its own description.

The name tag project has been completed and will be available for use in 2025.

TBG will be providing certain items for a residential rehab at Preferred Family Health Care (formerly Bridgeway). They have indicated that their greatest need is men's underwear and socks. We have agreed to purchase boxers, t-shirts, and socks up to an amount of \$200.

TBG held two Arts, Crafts, and Goodies fund-raisers in 2024. The first was held April 28 and May 5 and a total of \$1,057 was raised for outreach programs. The second was held in conjunction with the Priceless Sale and raised \$780, of which we directed 20% to the Operating Fund.

Anticipated activity for 2025

- Prepare packets for the homeless as we have done previously. These will be provided to one of the winter warming shelters for distribution.
- Continue the backpack and school supplies program. We plan to offer these to Jefferson Middle School in 2025.
- Continue the Laundry of Love program.
- Take responsibility for the St. Patrick's Day Auction.
- Hold at least one Arts, Crafts, and Goodies fund-raiser.
- Address any needs of which we become aware. We welcome input from members of the congregation.



LAUNDRY LOVE



Chairperson: The Beloved Group

Members: Betty Bowen, Donna Osiecki, Melissa Galbreath, Eleanor McCune, Marty Neuman,
Bonita Tracer

Activities in 2024: This Ministry closed down during Covid, and due to the health of both Bill Cramer and Warlene Reed, it did not start up again. Big thanks to Bill and Warlene for all they did for this Ministry prior to Covid, and earlier this year Bill died, and in his honor we started up this Ministry again in May this year.

We are serving the people who come to wash their clothes at Starcrest Laundromat in St Charles, and we go on the Fourth Tuesday of each month from 4-6:30 pm. Whenever we offer to pay for someone's laundry, they usually look very surprised and wonder if there is some catch to our offer. When we explain who we are and what we do, they thankfully say Yes and appreciate the offer very much.

We work in pairs, and it is a very satisfying experience and, definitely not hard work! If anyone wishes to give 2.1/2 hours a month for a worthwhile cause, please let Donna or myself know, we would love to have you join us.

Anticipated Activities for 2025: God Willing, to continue working this Ministry.