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LINDENWOOD INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OUTREACH

Chairperson: Betty Bowen

Members: Rev. Michael Nchimbi, John & Vicki Barnard

Activities in 2023: We had only two events this year with the students.

On February 11th we hosted a Valentines Day dinner for 21 students, which was very successful. We catered the food and played some fun games, and everyone had an enjoyable time.

On April 1st we hosted an Easter Egg decorating party, and the students dyed and decorated their eggs. This was a much smaller Event, but those who came enjoyed themselves as they had never dyed eggs before.

Funding for this Program is from the \$1,000 Trinity received from the Diocese which each Church was given due to an excess in their budget.

We have worked with the two Co-Ordinators of the ISF Program at Lindenwood, Ava Schaeffer and Mary Ann Vest, and even though we offered to do more events with the students, we have been told that they have very busy schedules. Part of Father Michael's work at Trinity was to try to start an Episcopal Campus Ministry at Lindenwood, but this was not to be as he was told by the authorities at Lindenwood.

Anticipated Activities for 2024: We will continue to reach out to the International Students through the IFS Program and do what we can, when we can. We have scheduled another Valentine's Day dinner on **February 10** this year, as this is an Event they requested we do again because of the success last year.

GREEN THUMB SQUAD

Chairperson: Robert Brown

Members: Robert Brown, Nancy Noel, Susan Perry, Janie Jones, Eleanor McCune, Angela Rose

The Green Thumb Squad has a ministry of caring for the flower beds on the front side of the church and parish hall. Some of the beds have been adopted by individuals or households. It is at their discretion as to what to plant and how to care for the beds. The remaining beds, or "orphans," are cared for as a joint project of the squad. Care for the beds includes planting, weeding, watering, and cleaning in the fall or winter.



For the past several years we have been emphasizing the planting of perennials native to Missouri that can tolerate our climate with minimal human intervention. Coincidentally, this has also worked toward another goal to provide habitat for pollinators. Part of the challenge is to balance our plantings with annuals that are currently in bloom in order to make the beds colorful all season long.

We do have some long-range goals, For some time the cinder block flower beds along the parking spaces have needed repair or replacement. They were an Eagle Scout project from a couple decades ago. It was a major undertaking then and will be a major undertaking to do the work needed. The bed nearest the sidewalk ramp will be dug out this spring to deal with a poison ivy infestation. We would also like to replant the bed beneath the parish hall windows, perhaps with ornamental shrubbery. All of these projects would be ideal for gift-giving, honoring or memorializing our favorite gardeners.

We would be remiss not to thank the group of young adults from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints who gave up one of their Saturdays this spring to work not only in the Community Garden but also to clean up our flower beds.

We would also like to remember Angela Rose, a member of our parish who passed away this April. Angela put in a lot of hours, a lot of energy, a lot of sweat, and a lot of love over the years to do the small, but necessary, tasks like weeding, deadheading, watering, and cleaning the flowerbeds. She did these things quietly and without fanfare and often when no one was around to see her do it. May she rest in peace in a heavenly garden.

As always, we welcome anyone wishing to reconnect with the soil or just looking for a way to give of their time to volunteer as a member of the squad. No green thumb is necessary. If interested, talk to Robert Brown.

Giving Garden 2023

Chairpersons: Sarah Horning, Rev. Betty Bowen

Members:

- *Trinity Episcopal Church:* Eleanor McCune, John Barnard, Jennifer Bax, Robert Bowen, Bix Fisher, Ben Horning, Calvin Horning, Rich Lackey, David Westfall, Rev. Tamsen Whistler Brown
- *The Church of The Shepherd :* Cheryl Leas, Jill Adkinson, Patty Staff, Rosie,
- *Susan Cooper Neighbors:* Emma, Robert Gould, Mike Ruffino, Mike Ramirez
- *Church of Latter Day Saints:* President McKay and 30 plus missionaries
- *The Crossing at Mid Rivers:* fifty plus volunteers
- *Frieden's United Church of Christ:* several volunteers



Goals for 2023

- Provide fresh food to area food pantries.
- Build relationships with other churches.
- Transform the Tranquility Garden into a Pollinator Garden.
- Plant donated flowers to attract more pollinators.
- Take a field trip to University of Missouri Extension Gardens.
- **Install a new shed. Please pray that a miracle occurs.**

“Holy Smokes” best describes how we started 2023. In March, we officially opened the garden on a sunny cold day. John arrived early to start a roaring fire for the brave souls raking mulch and moving rich black dirt to our new pollinator garden! Spring focused efforts to earn money for a new shed. Betty and I talked and prayed often. As I drove to Coca Cola to deliver another pamphlet, Betty called to say that she found money for the shed. Joyful tears overwhelmed me. Thank you Betty and David for the new shed.

Building relationships with other churches was another goal for the garden. With a pamphlet in hand I visited many churches and sent letters introducing myself and the garden. Only one church opened their doors with positive energy and listened. Upon my second visit they actually remembered me and the heavens opened. The Crossing Church at Mid Rivers took our garden project on for their “Serve in the Lou” Week.

In early May a group of hardy souls and our Trinity family said goodbye to the old shed. With the assistance of Cheryl, Patty, Susan, and Jill we welcomed 43 individuals both adults and children to plant the garden. An energetic group brought the pollinator garden to life with bricks, landscaping fabric, plants, and mulch. Some groups finished planting early and raked the pine tree debris and/ or pulled out honeysuckle. Another group cleaned up the flower gardens in the front.

The blessings and love were phenomenal! The miraculous gift of a new shed 8’ x 20’ arrived in June. Over the roots, through the low hanging branches and down the hill traveled the new shed! Leveled, roomy and bug free. A true miracle! Immediately, Mr G. Hog dug a hole and moved into his new abode. For dietary needs, Mr. G. Hog dined on fat juicy tomatoes. He prepared for a long winter’s nap by lining his home with old landscaping fabric. Broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage started the harvest. The potato harvest was down but beans exploded. Peppers, tomatoes and herbs did well. We finished the season with pumpkins. The final harvest was greater than 1445 lbs of fresh food which was welcomed at area food pantries.

The Giving Garden (new name) ladies took a field trip to the Missouri Extension Gardens in St. Peters. These gardens are as diverse as the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis. At Shamrocks we enjoyed good conversation, laughter, and made friendships. Tamsen helped us connect with The Church of the Latter Day Saints through The Ministerial Alliance. President McKay brought three groups of young missionaries to work in the gardens. On the first visit these young adults built a path and mostly completed the pollinator garden. On their second visit another group tackled the hill next to the parking lot. The final group helped prepare the gardens for winter.

As we started the year with “Holy Smokes”, we ended the year with “Heavenly Scents.” Both of these expressions were created by Eleanor McCune for the church sale in October. The Giving Garden sold bundles of mulberry wood, scented pine cones, dried herbs, and tomatoes. It is always a beautiful day to work in The Giving Garden!

Goals for 2024

- Provide fresh food to area food pantries.
- Build friendships with other churches.
- Invite area churches to plant the garden.
- Plant more flowers that attract pollinators.
- Encourage Trinity parishioners to deliver food to area pantries.
- Take another field trip to a community garden

MEMORIAL GARDEN

Chairpersons: Betty Bowen & Jane Lackey

Members: Rick Lackey, Robert Brown, Skip Brownlow, Jo-Anne Harris.

Activity in 2023: We met in the Spring to clean up the Garden, and Rick and Jane continue to do this as their Ministry throughout the year.

We interred five people in the Garden this year, Angela Rose, and her parents John & Norma Fanto, Nancy Aehele and Denise Funderburk.

We give Thanks to The Rev. Tamsen Whistler who continues to measure to find the exact spot for an Internment, and to Bob Brown and Skip Brownlow for digging the holes for Internments. It is very important that a Committee Member be able to learn how to do the measurement that is now being done by our Rector. Volunteers anyone?

We had a meeting on September 24 to discuss ways we could extend the Garden for future growth. Several ideas were put forward which need to be further discussed.

The Monument Company came out to engrave some new names and dates on the columns. We asked for a quotation to have some additional ground vases placed by columns that did not have any, and we were quoted \$1200.00 each. A decision has to be made about how to pay for these ground vases.

We give thanks to the faithful members of this Committee who keep the Garden maintained throughout the year.

On All Saints Sunday we processed out to the Garden to place our crosses in the ground with the names of our beloved Saints who have gone before us.

Keith Hazelwood was asked to join this Committee and he has accepted. Welcome Keith!

Anticipated Activities in 2024: To continue to care for the Garden to make it a place of Peaceful Solitude for all, and to discuss how and when we should do a further extension of the Garden.



ROMEIO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)

Chairperson: John Barnard and Bill Warren

Members: All Retired men at Trinity and friends

Activity in 2023: ROMEIO continues to meet on the second Saturday of each month for breakfast at JJ's Restaurant on South Duchesne, We meet at 8:30 and sit together at one table to eat and talk and joke and laugh.

Anticipated Activity in 2024: Anyone is welcome to join us---you don't have to be retired or old or even a member of the parish. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow Trinitarians and meet new friends. If you would like a reminder before each second Saturday, talk to Bill Warren or John Barnard.



THE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT (HAYNES) FUND

Chairperson: Helen Becker

Vestry liaison: Rebecca Jones

Members: Millie Oberlin, Helen Becker. Ex officio: Tamsen Whistler, Phil Jeffery, David Westfall

Activities completed in 2023: This fund was established by two families in 1998 to encourage development of new programs and/or enhance existing programs and ministries at Trinity Church. In grants from interest earned, the fund has supported a variety of efforts, including creation of the Parish Library, hosting speakers and workshops including the community beyond Trinity Church, sending young parishioners to Camp Phoenix, the Community Garden irrigation system and special materials for group study.

In 2022, our old shed was hit by lightning. By this Act of God, a new shed was badly needed, as our Community Garden has grown (no pun intended) and produced beyond our wildest dreams. So in March of 2023, \$6,000 was appropriated from the Haynes Fund to pay for a new shed.

Anticipated activity of 2024: We plan to meet during this year to discuss whatever may be needed within the boundaries of this fund.



TEA (TRINITY EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE) FUND

TRINITY EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE (TEA) FUND was created several years ago to assist in small ways with post-high school education or training for parishioners up to age 26. To be eligible, a young person must be an active parishioner at Trinity Church. Persons who have received grants since the fund was established have been acolytes, choir members, lectors, involved in Sunday school service projects and/or an outreach effort, such as Share-A-Meal. Applications are available for graduating high school seniors and/or others who are involved in post high school training or undergraduate education.



ACE and TEA Funds share the same three At-Large members, but with one Vestry liaison for the TEA and one for the ACE Fund. Each At-large member serves for 3 years and serves as chairperson the third year, before rotating off. Members ex officio are the Rector and Wardens.

Chairperson: Rebecca Jones

Members at Large: Rebecca Jones, Millie Oberlin, Judy Hodge, each elected in successive years by Annual parish Meeting. There was no Vestry liaison.

Activity in 2023: We did not meet in 2023. We anticipate applications in this coming year.

Anticipated Activity for 2024: Elect one at large member to serve a three year term. Appoint a Vestry liaison. Have an in person meeting and create applications for this fund. Advertise the fund for those who wish to donate, as well as those who wish to apply for a small grant. We will hold a meeting early in the year to create application form(s) for this fund.

ADULT CHRISTIAN ENRICHMENT (ACE) FUND was approved by the Vestry in late 2021 to encourage parishioners over the age of 26 (no upper age limit) in their ongoing spiritual formation.

ACE and TEA Funds share the same three At-Large members, but with one Vestry liaison for the TEA and one for the ACE Fund. Each At-large member serves for 3 years and serves as chairperson the third year, before rotating off. Members ex officio are the Rector and Wardens.



Chairperson: Rebecca Jones

Members at Large: Rebecca Jones, Millie Oberlin, Judy Hodge. There was no Vestry liaison.

Activity in 2023: We did not meet in 2023, but a small grant was made for a Small Group Activity to Deacon Betty Bowen.

Anticipated Activity for 2024: Elect one at-large member to serve a three year term. Appoint a Vestry liaison. Have an in person meeting and create applications for this fund.

Jackson Kemper Convocation 2023

Jackson Kemper Convocation is one of four groups of congregations in the Diocese of Missouri, named for a bishop, a priest, a deacon, and a lay person: Jackson Kemper, Emery Washington, Jane Dey, and xx. Trinity Church/St. Charles, Trinity Church/Hannibal, Transfiguration Church/LSL, St. Timothy's Church/Creve Coeur, St. Martin's Church/Ellisville, Hope Church/Town & Country, Calvary Church/Louisiana, St. John's Church/Eolia, Faith Church of India/Manchester, and St. Francis Church/Eureka are the congregations in Jackson Kemper Convocation. Convocation members include all Diocesan Convention Delegates and Alternates from each congregation, all clergy in each congregation, and all other members of the churches who are interested in gathering with each other to share mission and fellowship beyond our own localities.

Convocations are expected to meet four times each year, elect a Dean (ordained person) and a Warden (lay person) to share equally in leadership of the Convocation, serving two-year staggered terms, so that one of the two is always in a second year of leadership. Convocations also elect representatives to Diocesan Council. At each Convocation meeting, Diocesan Council representatives report on the work of the Council and solicit both feedback and new ideas to take to future Council meetings. In addition, each Convocation has a sum of money provided by the diocesan budget to use for work on special projects together.

The Jackson Kemper Convocation began 2023 with a second-year Warden, our own Lori Cooper, and a first year Dean, The Rev. Shug Goodlow, then on the staff of St. Martin's Church/Ellisville. We held one regular meeting of the Convocation, May xx, to celebrate the feast of our namesake, The Rt. Rev. Jackson Kemper, first missionary bishop for the Episcopal Church, founder of Trinity/St. Charles, three other churches in our Convocation, Grace Church in Jefferson City, and several other churches in our diocese no longer open. Our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, joined us for the celebration and spoke with us afterward about his hopes for the work we could be doing. Present were members of Trinity/St. Charles, St. Martin's, Transfiguration, St. John's, and St. Tim's. Because the Dean and the Warden did not agree on the meaning of equally shared leadership, the business portion of our gathering foundered. The only meeting we held in 2023 was an informal gathering at the Diocesan Convention in November. At that time, we viewed a quilt created by three people to represent all the congregations of the Jackson Kemper Convocation. Plans for 2024 are TBD.