



- Worship Committee
- Worship Leader Scheduling
- Acolytes
- Music Ministry
- Small Group Ministry
- Altar Guild
- Christian Formation
 - Adult Forum and Special Events
 - Christian Formation for Children and Youth
 - Confirmation
- Bible Study
- Stewardship
- Electronic Media
 - Facebook
 - Live-Stream Worship
 - Mass Mailing/Indoor Sign
 - Web Minister
 - Outdoor Sign

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Lori Cooper

Vestry Liaison: Phil Jeffery

Subcommittees: Altar Guild, (Judy Hodge and Carolyn Hackman), Music Ministry, (John Hawn), Acolyte Ministry (Nancy Noel and Phil Jeffery), Worship Leader Scheduling (Lucinda Dennis-Itoka), Livestreaming Coordinators (Lucinda Dennis-Itoka and Harlan Meyer).



Worship Committee

Members: The Rev. Tamsen Whistler, The Rev. Deacon Betty Bowen, Carolyn Hackman, John Hawn, Judy Hodge, Lucinda Dennis-Itoka, Phil Jeffery, Rebecca Jones, Harlan Meyer, Nancy Noel, Kathy Smith.

Activity Completed in 2023: We continue to adjust to changing times and to our new sanctuary. Healing services were held on most second Sundays with intercessions, anointing with oil and the laying on of hands. This year we were able to return to sending out Eucharistic Visitors to those who were unable to get to regular services. Our youth continue to be service leaders on fifth Sundays. A platform was added to the Choir platform so singers in the back can be heard, thanks to John Hawn, Phil Jeffery and Rich Cooper. 8 AM services are in person only, and the 10:15 AM services are both in person and online thanks to the expertise of our tech team. The format for Bulletins was changed, now using less paper and colored ink on regular Sundays to save resources. Bulletins continue to be available online for those who couldn't be present in person. The Altar Guild made many adjustments to the setup of the altar with Fr. Michael Nchimbi, Assisting Priest, and Mother Ericka Essiam assisting at various times.

Special services included

- At the beginning of Lent we held Ash Wednesday Services at Noon and 7pm
- In March we reinstated the Annual Flower Chart and initiated an option to order flowers from Parkhurst, or to have the Altar Guild do the altar flowers at less than half the cost.
- April was overflowing with the work, pain, and joy of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.
- We held a baptism in May on the Sunday after Ascension Day.
- Circa May 20th we hosted a meeting for our Jackson Kemper Convocation. Bishop Deon was present and led antecomunion.
- The first Sunday of Pentecost is Trinity Sunday, our Parish's feast day."Trinitarian Sundaes" were provided by Avril Arthurton-Brudy after the service.
- The Rev. Deacon Barbi Click, Missioner for Jubilee Ministry joined us in August to share information and an invitation to join the Jubilee Ministry.
- Nancy Noel organized the Blessing of the Animals on October 1st,
- Bishop Deon visited on September 10th, he visited with us, he Baptised, Received, Confirmed, and renewed vows. He answered a variety of our questions with clarity and grace.
- On All Saints' Sunday we renewed our baptismal vows, and remembered those who have gone before us, especially those who are resting in our Memorial Garden.
- Thanksgiving service with our siblings in Christ at Transfiguration
- With Advent, Deacon Betty Bowen led a service of consolation. Christy Henke-Ratliff organized wreath making and other fun crafts during a session of "Messy Church" after church, and Hanging of the Greens,
- The Rev. Tamsen and John Hawn put together a special version of Lessons and Carols on Dec. 31st by adapting "The 12 Days of Christmas" song with related Biblical references, facts and hymns.
- An Epiphany service on Jan 6th was followed by Breakfast and de-greening the church

Anticipated Activity for 2023: We look forward to getting the new lighting system installed in the sanctuary, and to continue our joint efforts to assist in making our worship ever more meaningful, beautiful and sacred. Our goals include attracting new members to our team of livestreaming techs and to provide more training and experience for them. We also want to attract and keep new members for our choir - music is such an important part of our tradition and our worship. To sing is to pray twice!

We look forward to fine-tuning how we function in the new worship space, and to continue our joint efforts to assist in making our worship ever more meaningful, beautiful and sacred. Our goals include attracting new members to our team of livestreaming techs and to provide more training and experience for them. We also want to attract and keep new members for our choir - music is such an important part of our tradition and our worship. To sing is to pray twice!

WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULING

Purpose of this ministry: Organizing and scheduling service participants for regular Sunday Worship, as well as for special services. Those included in the schedule are Lay Worship Leaders (Lay Readers & Chalice Bearers), Lectors and other Readers, Acolytes, and Ushers. A schedule is sent out monthly, and special schedules are sent out as needed.

Chairman: Lucinda Dennis-Itoka.

Participants:

Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMS):

Jennifer Bax, Bob Brown, Avril Arthurton-Brudy, Carolyn Hackman, Lucinda Dennis-Itoka, Phil Jeffery, Tom Kuypers, David McCune, Nancy Noel, Gary McKiddy.

Lectors: Helen Becker, Benisha Brudy, Richard Cooper, Keith Dowling, Adam Hansen, JoAnne Harris, Patrice Itoka, Rebecca Jones, Vivian Jones, Alonzo Middleton, Jessica Middleton, Richard Middleton, Mike Nichols, Christy Henke- Ratliff, Erin Shetler, Jacob Taylor, Mark Vogel.

Acolytes: Kyle Bax, Benisha Brudy, Genevieve Eisele, Violet Eisele, Rosie Harlow, Eric Hayes, Patrice Itoka, Scarlett Jones, Vivian Jones, Mark Meyer, Betsy McCune, Richard Middleton, Alonzo Middleton, Amy Shetler.

Ushers: Skip Brownlow, Benisha Brudy, Keith Dowling, Bix Fisher, Shawn Galbreath, Jackie Halter, JoAnne Harris, Lucinda and Patrice Itoka, Bobby Jones, Jeff Leitch, Jamie McCune, Michelle McCune.

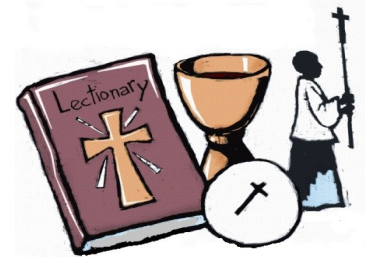
The Worship Leader Volunteers Chairman, Rebecca Jones, withdrew from the position in 2023, after several years of leadership. Lucinda Dennis-Itoka resumed the position as of June 2023. We lost some members from the group due to medical conditions and other life events, but maintained some of our pioneers, and was able to recruit a few new people on board. We have a total of 41 volunteers for Church Services.

GOAL- our goal was to increase the number of volunteers for availability purposes, and to be able to have the required number of people needed to serve in various worship capacities at both services, and to avoid exhausting those actively involved.

CHALLENGES – Obtaining the required number of people needed to serve in various worship capacities at both services. They are very cooperative in serving several times a month and communicating when unable. However, some concerns have been expressed; some participants would like their families to serve once a month on a particular Sunday only. Others would like their children removed for the 2024 year, others would like dual role at a particular service, others prefer to volunteer at the 8:00am or 10:15am service and vice versa, why some prefer both services.

In 2024, our goal is to see a consistent number of participants in various worship capacities at each service. We need more volunteers for Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Acolytes, and Ushers. The increase in volunteers will help us fulfill times when people are away on vacations, life events and during the holidays.

Volunteering in any Ministry needs time and commitment. It takes lots of sacrifice and dedication. The strength of the worship volunteers is communication. They are great at informing me of their availability in a timely manner. We appreciate You. Matthew 9:35-38 – ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”



ACOLYTES

Chairpersons: Nancy Noel

Activities completed in 2023

2023 has been an eventful year for the Acolytes with Genevieve Eisele and Alonzo Middleton joining the ranks as torchbearers. In addition, I am in the process of training Aleah Madsen, the 9 year old granddaughter of the Dowlings.

She will serve at the 8am services along with Mark Meyer, John Barnard, Vivian Jones, Kyle Bax, Scarlet Jones, and myself.

The 10:15 now has 9 dedicated acolytes: Benisha Brudy, Patrice Itoka, Rosalie Harlow, Eric Hayes (Servers and Crucifers); Amy Shetler, Richard Middleton (Crucifers and Torchbearers); Violet Eisele, Alonzo Middleton, Genevieve Eisele (Torchbearers) along with myself.

The Acolytes were outstanding at Bishop Deon Johnson's visit September 10, 2023 and had many new roles to perform for the Baptisms (of future Acolytes Emma and Emily, twin daughters of Oneal Morrison and Christine Ogawa 😊), Confirmations, and Renewal of Baptismal Vows. Thank you for a superb job Benisha Brudy, Vivian Jones, Amy Shetler, Violet Eisele and Genevieve Eisele!

A special thanks to Betsy McCune who has filled in when home from college

It is a joy to work with these young people (and the adults)



MUSIC MINISTRY

Chairperson: John Hawn

Vestry liaison: None

Current choir singers

Sopranos: Jennifer Eislle, Judy Hodge, Rosie Harlow

Altos: Lori Cooper, Marty Neuman

Tenors: Rich Cooper, Xiadong Shi

Bass: Bob Brown, Jacob Taylor



This has been a year of amazing music making here at Trinity. We rebooted our concert series beginning with a Lenten concert on the third Sunday of Lent. I was joined by Jacob Taylor who played piano and organ duets with me and sang a vocal duet form "The Crucifixion" by Sir John Stainer with me as well. Also joining in the music making was Cameron, playing organ solos as well as accompanying Jacob and I as we sang.

As summer approached, we planned our Patriotic concert for Sunday afternoon July 2, we sang and played favorite patriotic pieces and American folk songs the audience participated in a sing-a-long. Autumn came and we presented Fall Festival concert, celebrating Reformation, Halloween, and All Saints. We were joined at this concert by Clarinetist, Adam Unnerstall playing A Baroque Suite arranged by S. Drummond Wolff.

The choir sang anthems at all services during the church year including special music for Advent, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter. The choir sang To Calvary by Everett Titcomb on Passion Sunday as the sermon. On November 26 we opened the Advent season with a quiet meditative Taize service, Christmas Eve was incredibly special with the Children's pageant at 5:00 p.m. and a Candle light Christmas Service arranged by Paul Hamill with extra pieces presented by the choir at the 9:30 Festival Eucharist.

As always, I am profoundly grateful to serve as your Minister of Music here at Trinity Church you are an amazing congregation of God's Children.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Chairpersons: Betty Bowen, Lori Cooper & Carolyn Stuhlsatz

Small Group Ministry

Activities in 2023: The purpose of this Ministry is for people to get to know each other in small groups and to be able to discuss the ups and downs of their spiritual journey. Small Group Ministry has proven to be a very worthwhile Ministry in many Churches.



In Lent we did a Program from Mercy Center, called "Change your Heart" and for Advent, a study on "Light of Hope, A candle lighting ceremony based on the Candles we light in Advent – Hope, Peace, Joy & Love." Both studies were well attended, and people continue to enjoy meeting in Small Groups.

As a result of these Small Group Studies, we have seen emerge (1) a new revised Outreach Ministry called The Beloved Group. (2) collecting Back to School Supplies for children at Blackhurst School whose parents cannot afford to purchase all the supplies needed, and (3) the New Prayer Ministry.

Big Thanks to all the people who signed up, and to our Facilitators. This Ministry is proving to be a very much needed addition to the Ministries offered at Trinity.

Anticipated Activities for 2024: To continue to offer opportunities for people to learn and discuss issues to deepen their spiritual understanding of being in relationship with God and each other as we get to know each other.



ALTAR GUILD

Chairpersons: Judy Hodge, Carolyn Hackman

Vestry liaison: Unknown

Members: Lucinda Dennis-Itoka, Jane Fisher, Carolyn Hackman, Judy Hodge, Jane Lackey, Millie Oberlin, Xiaodong Shi, and Ellen Sundermeyer; Regina Dowling, Lori Cooper

Activities completed in 2023:

1. Altar guild was again very challenging this year. Although the altar is in place, we are still awaiting the return of the credence table shelves and we are using the retable to hold the elements normally placed on the credence table. We had three funerals. We normally polish the brass and silver, make sure all vessels are in proper working order, and dust and clean the woodwork in the sanctuary. We launder and iron the linens. Women are reminded to blot their lipstick as it difficult to get out of the purificators. For altar flowers, we used a combination of ordering flowers from the florist and purchasing cut flowers and arranging them ourselves. Lori Cooper arranges the flowers with occasional help from members of the congregation.

2. We will lose Xiaodong Shi in January 2024 as he returns to his home in Shanghai, China. He will be missed as he cleaned up after the 1015 service most Sundays. We have regular teams for the first, third, fourth and fifth Sundays, which includes members who do double duty on two or three teams. We are grateful for members who also fill in at a moment's notice.

3. A few members met to design a prototype for the new wreaths. Special thanks for Sandy Lillard for her help in this venture, The old ones are decades old and were literally falling apart. Thanks to John Hawn who visited many stores and found the new ones that were decorated and hung in the church this Christmas.

4. We held the Hanging of the Greens on December 22, a Friday evening from 6 to 9pm. A soup/chili meal preceded the decorating. Old and new members alike enjoyed both! Thank you to everyone who participated. We also decorated with poinsettias, which were again very beautiful.

5. We held a general Altar Guild meeting this year, the Saturday before Easter. We did set up the church for the two regular Sunday Easter Day services, and decorated with Easter lilies and geraniums.

Anticipated activity for 2024

1. The overall goal for the altar guild is to continue to prepare for services at Trinity with love and faithful care.

2. We hope to design and order purple vestments, chasuble and stole, sometime in 2024. Extenuating circumstances again prevented us from making the trip downtown to Jeff Wunrow's shop. We also need to purchase new red paraments. We use them only a few times a year, but with age, they are badly faded. We will need to remeasure the altar as its dimensions have changed, a few inches in each direction.

3. Recruit new members. As many members have been on the altar guild going on 20 years or more, we are always seeking new members, women and men. Please prayerfully consider joining us. It'll take an hour of your time one Saturday a month, and a few minutes after which ever service you attend to clean up. You will always have some help!



Christian Formation

Adult Forum and Special Events, Christian Formation for Children and Youth, Confirmation



Adult Forum & Special Events

The Adult Forum met from 9-10 AM most Sundays from January through May. Leaders included The Rev. Elizabeth Bowen, Gary McKiddy, Christy Henke Ratliff, The Rev. Michael Nchimbi, Jemima Nchimbi, and the Rev. Tamsen Whistler. Brother Samuel Kincade, OSF, kicked off our Summer Lunch & Learn Sundays. Br. Sam presented a power point on the Order of St. Francis, the meaning of the robes and cinctures that he wears, how he came to be a part of the OSF, how the rule of life he follows informs his day-to-day decisions, and how the Holy Spirit has led him to the discernment process for the Diaconate. Another Lunch & Learn Sunday featured a short history of Trinity Church in St. Charles and sketched our development from our founding in 1836 to the present. It included a Power Point presentation and a “Scavenger Hunt” to find symbols and signs around the building. The program was good; the lunch was tasty; the attendance was minimal. We discussed how we might present the program again, but with better descriptions of the humor and activities involved.



Christian Formation for Children and Youth

The Vestry had three goals for ministry with children and youth in 2023: increased involvement in worship; special events, both intergenerational and unique to older youth; and return to some version of Sunday youth formation—classes or other group learning and service opportunities on a regular basis. As you read below, you will see that we met part, but not all, of the goals we set. For 2024, we will continue to work on these, with as much input from you as possible.



Christy Henke Ratliff and friends organized an intergenerational Lent Event between and after the second service on The Last Sunday after The Epiphany, Feb 19. Children and adults enjoyed a variety of Lent and Easter-related crafts at several stations, ate doughnuts and other snacks, and decorated a large “Alleluia” banner in preparation for “burying the alleluias” for the Season of Lent. Although we could have buried alleluias on Shrove Tuesday when we also burn palms in preparation for Ash Wednesday, we hung the alleluia banner in the church on the First Sunday in Lent at 10:15 and symbolically buried it at that service, to be returned on Easter Day. The Lent Event shared the Parish Hall with the Fair-Trade Market from xx Coffee Shop, New Town, St. Charles—one long half of the room for each and extra tables for crafts down the middle.

In March, Erin Shetler organized an Easter-Bag decorating event for the Episcopal City Mission, inviting children, youth, and adults to decorate 100 sturdy paper gift bags after the 10:15 AM service. More adults than youth and children attended that event, but everyone who did had a great time. The decorated bags went to Episcopal City Mission filled with candy and small gifts for young people in detention in the City and County of St. Louis—a project of the Middle-School/High-School Sunday School Class members (even without their class having met).

All children and youth were invited to participate in five Youth Sundays in 2023. Young people were readers and ushers at these services, as well as serving as acolytes, as they regularly do. On October 29, young people playing insistent reporters interviewed the Rector, playing an annoyed Moses, about the Ten Commandments. On Dec 31, young people were the readers for Bible passages and references to which the numbers for the days of “The Twelve Days of Christmas” have been interpreted by some bible students to refer. We used the Twelve Days of Christmas as the framework for an unusual service of Lessons & Carols, tied to our 2023 Stewardship campaign *Grow in Gratitude: Share Your Gifts in the 12 Days of Christmas*. On April 30, young people helped with the sermon by providing sound effects for Jesus, God, and thieving bandits with voices and instruments from Africa and Central America. Much to the amusement of the young people, the congregation also provided a sound effect: whenever the Rector mentioned sheep, the adults had to say loudly, “Baa!”

Confirmation Class 2023

Confirmation/Inquirers' Class began this year with eight people, four adults and three teens.

When we rescheduled the Bishop's Visitation from December 10 to September 10, an accelerated pace resulted in two adults and one teen's deciding that 2024 would be a better year to participate in the confirmation process.



We built the class around two books, one for adults, one for teens, with parallel topics and reflection resources, both by Jenifer Gamber: *My Faith, My Life* for young people; *Your Faith, Your Life*, for adults. Reflection on Baptism and Confirmation was at the heart of the book, which included chapters on worship; sacraments, and sacramental rites; the Bible; church history; faith; spirituality; mission—God's mission for the Church in the world and the individual Christian disciple's role in sharing that work and discovering a particular calling.

We had a Confirmation Retreat to focus on the spirituality chapter, with six people, including a member of the class, providing opportunity for the group to experience different kinds of prayer and spiritual expression, rather than simply reading about them. The Rev. Michael Nchimbi, The Rev. Elizabeth Bowen, Christy Henke-Ratliff, Carolyn Stuhlsatz (class member and leader), Lori Cooper, and The Rev. Tamsen Whistler, all took part as presenters. Topics included the Daily Office in the *Book of Common Prayer*, the Labyrinth, Centering Prayer, Mandalas and Mantras, the Anglican Rosary, journaling, and a Rule of Life.

Confirmed by the Bishop at his Visitation: Patrice Itoka and Scarlet Jones.

Received by the Bishop: Carolyn Stuhlsatz (from the Roman Catholic Church)

Individual Renewal of Baptismal Vows: Lucinda Dennis-Itoka

For the 2024 Confirmation/Inquirers' Class, we will use the books by Jenifer Gamber again, but at a less accelerated pace to allow more time for reflection, a group service/outreach project, and a spiritual gifts inventory with opportunities to explore the gifts we discover.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

The Wednesday AM Bible Study group was formed in 2002 with 18 people and has been meeting regularly from 10- 11:15 almost ever since. In the past 21 years, the group has read all the books of Hebrew and Christian scriptures (OT and NT) at least once and reread many several times. The group is always mixed in the prior knowledge members bring to the study of Holy Scripture. Although we have reading assignments ahead of each week's class, we also read chapters aloud from a variety of biblical translations during our class time. Hearing the different translations helps us recognize the breadth of interpretation scholars bring to the Bible. During COVID-19 shutdown, we began experimenting with online Bible study. That worked very well for us and allowed us to do some hymn and related bible study with musical clips we could use from YouTube. Our classes are now hybrid, both online and in person. In 2023, The Rev. Michael Nchimbi led a study of Romans. In the fall, the group tackled The Apocrypha, a study led by the Rev. Tamsen Whistler and Fr. Michael together. Regularly attending, either online or in person during 2023 were Millie Oberlin, Ellen Sundermeyer, Helen Becker, Kathy Smith, Linn Arthurton, Gale McKiddy, and Judy Hodge. We invite new and "old" members to jump in (or back in) and enjoy learning the Bible together. Plans for 2024 include the study of the Gospel according to Mark beginning in January. We continue to begin and end each class with prayer.

2023 Stewardship

The Creation Story in Genesis 1:1 – 2:4 begins with a deep void into which God speaks, “Let there be light.” God creates everything about the world and the cosmos day by day, concluding with the creation of humankind in God’s image—every human being, no matter how different is created in the image of God. God gives the human beings a special role. The word often translated, “dominion” is better translated, “stewardship.” God gives humankind stewardship over the earth; and God saw that it was very good. There was evening and morning, the sixth day—and then, on the seventh day, God rested from the work of creation, hard work, even for God.

Stewardship is an awesome responsibility, and one we human beings often take too lightly. In the church, we tend to narrow the concept of stewardship to a few weeks in the fall—the Every-Member Canvas or the Stewardship Campaign. In those few weeks, we invite people to share their Wealth, Wisdom, and Work—their Treasure, Time, and Talent. We thank people for the gifts they offer for the coming year; we invite them to share the time and talent they’ve offered. And then, we stop using the word stewardship to describe the rest of what we are called to do.

At Trinity Church, we know better, but we, your leaders, fell into the trap of conflating finances with stewardship. Late in the fall, when we finally recognized how seriously we were spending beyond our means, we approached the congregation and asked for help. The resulting gifts to the Cash Flow Crunch were overwhelmingly generous—THANK YOU!! Those gifts made a huge difference and showed us how deeply the people of Trinity love this church and how seriously we do—and must—take our responsibility as stewards.

Finances are resources we are called to nurture and use wisely, but they are not our only resources, nor our most important resources—God’s people, called to God’s work, called to nurture each other in that work—and we are called to grow in God.

Your stewardship Committee morphed in December into Rebecca Jones, John Hawn, Jacob Taylor, and Tamsen Whistler. We began planning for Year-Round Stewardship in 2024. We decided to ask for Estimated Giving for 2024 Operating Budget, and set three goals:

- Every person at Trinity Church, youngest to oldest, grows in a habit of gratitude
- Estimated Giving Cards from 100 parishioners
- Eliminating the difference between our revenue and our anticipated expenses

We focused on the concept, *Trinity Grows*.

We created an Advent Tree poster: *Trinity Grows in Appreciation*

We created a Christmas Tree poster: *Grow in Gratitude – Giving Thanks in the 12 Days of Christmas*

We created new cards for Estimated Giving and asked new questions on those cards.

We asked that we all use the 12 Days after Christmas—Dec 26 to Jan 6—to estimate monetary gifts.

We made plans for a Wisdom & Work / Time & Talent Gift-Share event in March.

Details of 2024 Estimated Giving and 2023 Cash Flow Crunch will be shared at the Annual Meeting.



GROW IN APPRECIATION
GROW IN GRATITUDE
GROW IN SERVICE
GROW IN LOVE
GROW!



Electronic Media



Facebook

Chairperson: Michelle Heitman

Members: Erin Shetler, Judy Hodge, Tamsen Whistler

Activity in 2023

There was a measured “jump” in the engagement with our Facebook page in 2023. The “star” of the show, without question, is Morning Prayer, offered on Saturday morning by Christy Henke Ratliff. This weekly gathering has a “core” group of “in real time” participants, but also has a significant number of viewers after the fact. In addition, the posting of the sermons from our Sunday services have been very well received. We also “followed along” with Lent Madness early in the year, “Advent Word” all through the Advent season, and are currently following the “Good Book Club” study of Genesis.

Anticipated Activity for 2024

We will again be following *Lent Madness* starting on Ash Wednesday. We are in the process of determining the best way of reaching out to the people who are not current parishioners, who regularly view our Morning Prayer and Sunday sermons. We anticipate that methods of “virtual connection” will continue to be important in the coming year.



LIVE-STREAM WORSHIP

Technical Lead: Harlan Meyer

Administrative Lead: Lucinda Dennis-Itoka

Members: Rich and Lori Cooper, Avril Arthurton-Brudy, Benisha Brudy, Patrice Itoka, Shawn and Melissa Galbreath.

Livestreaming Ministry has been made available for online worshippers at Trinity, since the COVID 19 pandemic. Throughout the year, there have been various technical challenges which were immediately resolved.

Livestreaming continues to thrive and meet the needs of the people. The numbers fluctuate, especially during inclement weather and services during the season. However, every Sunday, we maintained constant views of ten to twelve participants, take screenshots of the list to track online attendance and for Pastoral Care follow up.

ELECTRONIC MASS MEDIA

Chairperson: Michelle Heitman

Activity in 2023

Our mass mailing list, handled through Mail Chimp, has added 3 subscribers in 2023, and an equal number of unsubscribes. Identical to last year, our total of contacts is 210 contacts with 159 subscribers. For “one of” announcements (such as notices of the passing of a member of our community, or a special event) we average between an 80-88% open rate. For repeat announcements (such as the weekly “worship links” mailing)

our open rate is between 55 and 70%. Both of these are *high* engagement rates for a group mass mailing.

Anticipated activity for 2024

We have returned to providing a “Tuesday morning ‘News Flash’,” which informs the subscribers of the readings, Worship Leaders and any special news for the upcoming week. We will continue to provide the Saturday morning “Worship Link and Announcements” email. We plan to return to having a “scrolling announcement board” in the reception hall.

OUR WEBSITE: <https://www.trinity-stcharles.org>

Chairpersons: David Westfall, Michelle Heitman

The website is found at www.trinity-stcharles.org and is hosted by DotEasy. The site is updated weekly with worship service information – times, bulletins, and on-line connection information.



The website includes additional information on staffing, current vestry membership, visitor instructions for worship, and an on-line donation service via Tithe.ly. The News page includes a weekly calendar, the Episcopal News Service (ENS) news feed, and Red Wagon - FISH wish list for the month.

Trinity uses two different streaming capabilities: Zoom and GoToMeeting (GTM). Zoom is used for the worship services, educational programming, vestry, and finance committee meetings. GTM is available for Christian formation programs and is also available for special meetings. The vestry meetings (ZOOM) are on the second Thursday of the month beginning at 6:30pm and everyone is invited either in-person or on-line.

Development of the DotEasy email system is in progress. The first group to have email will be the Prayer Ministry. Our goal is to move all church email accounts to the DotEasy system.

Visitors to the website seem to average about 1300 per month, with February 2023 our best month with over 1700 visits.

OUTDOOR SIGN

Chairperson: David Westfall

David Westfall

The sign continues to operate successfully. It really is quite easy to operate and is controlled by a dedicated laptop with no internet access. The sign was updated about 30 times in the past year. Currently the sign has at least 8 rotating slides including: the Diocese of Missouri logo & Jubilee Ministry Center, worship times, local address and phone number, Saturday morning prayer, website address, Labyrinth information, and special worship services (Christmas/Lent/Easter/some funerals). Limited information is provided for building users, advertising their meetings.