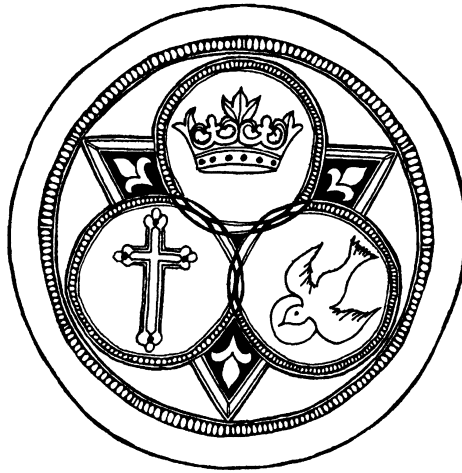


ANNUAL REPORT 2009



The Mission of Trinity Episcopal Church is:

To be formed as the Body of Christ in our Anglican tradition

To care for one another and the stranger alike

To seek with passion God=s call for us

Our core values are

Openness

Compassion

Generosity

Hospitality

Reverence

Our Vision is

**To be the Episcopal presence in Ashland, welcoming all who seek
Christ in a parish family, where all of God=s children can find,
celebrate, and grow in God=s grace.**

Adopted by Vestry the 13th day of November in the year of our Lord, 2001.

ANNUAL MEETING OF TRINITY PARISH

January 24, 2010

10:30 A.M. Trinity Parish Hall

AGENDA

Opening Prayer and Call to Order

Report of Nominating Committee & Balloting – *Tony Hess*

Approval of Minutes

Rector’s Report – *The Rev. Anne K. Bartlett*

Senior Warden’s Report – *Steve Clinton*

Junior Warden’s Report – *James Johnson*

Financial Reports

2009 Financial Report – *Jim Littlefield, Co-Treasurer*

Endowment Fund – *Kathy Griffin*

Presentation of Vestry-approved Budget for 2010 – *Roger Graves*

Outreach Funding Report – *Carolyn Anderson*

Music Report – *Dr. Paul French*

Altar Guild Report – *Chris Amorelli*

Other Business

Closing Prayer

ELIGIBILITY FOR VOTING

Anyone is eligible to vote who:

(1) is sixteen years of age or older,

AND

(2) has been regularly worshipping at Trinity for at least six months prior to the Annual Meeting

OR

(3) has been recorded on the Treasurer’s books as a regular contributor to Trinity for at least six months prior to the Annual Meeting.

RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rev. Anne K. Bartlett

Every annual report, I try to find a phrase or metaphor to describe the year just passed. For 2009, I'm suggesting *Faithfully Dealing with the Downturn*. The economic recession has affected all of us, including Trinity Church.

We are so blessed at Trinity with the generous priestly presence of our retired "wise guys," who enable ministry in the pulpit, in pastoral care, and in small groups far beyond what our budget could sustain. Thank you, especially, to Fr. Tom Murphy and Fr. Morgan Silbaugh for their generosity and care of us all.

The 2009 budget not only necessitated the elimination of the very part-time pastoral associate paid position, but also a 10% reduction in all program expenses. Every group and program has creatively found ways to continue our levels of ministry with reduced monetary resources. Our hospitality was just as warm, our communications more creative and cost-effective, and our programs as nourishing for the journey. Aided by the Finance Committee and our treasurers, the Vestry kept a sharp eye on expenses throughout the year and we came in under budget.

But what is most remarkable about 2009, it seems to me, is not the fact of fewer resources but the increased generosity of this parish family. In a year of economic scarcity, we blew the top off of giving to those outside our parish who are in need. Check out the report from the Outreach Funding Committee, and see how many dollars we have poured into this community and those in great need in the world. Check out the report of the Outreach Ministries Committees and tally up the number of hours we have given in hands-on ministries and the number of practical gifts we have been privileged to give to those who are cold and hungry. Mosquito nets to prevent malaria in sub-Saharan Africa, the purchase of fabric art to aid women in Zimbabwe, the donation of quilts for children and young people, the outpouring of generosity at Christmastime for the Giving Tree project and the White Gifts ingathering — well, there has been no signs of recession at Trinity Church when it comes to our ministry of caring for those in need. It is our Christian mission to do so, and we did it, all year long.

This year more than any other I have been aware of the amount of lay ministry that happens at Trinity. Think of all the committees and teams and groups and guilds it takes to make Trinity the vibrant parish that it is. So many of you give so very much of your time and your talent to make this parish alive. We know that we're all in this together, in Christ's name. There has been no downturn in ministry around here.

As with other years, we had our share of sorrows and joys as a parish family. It seemed we suffered more deaths than usual, some expected, others untimely. For a while this summer, we kept the faith through our tears, as one funeral followed another in far too rapid succession. The Litany of Remembrance on All Saints Sunday was especially poignant this past year.

But along with the losses came new joys, in the form of new members (and many with children) and 19 confirmations when Assisting Bishop Sandy Hampton came to visit last April, and new life in our Church School program. We let go of the Family Eucharist but we added the *Godly Play* program that is drawing new children and families to our midst. We said "goodbye, and a heartfelt thank you" to Dr. Charles Friesen in November as we celebrated the richness of his ministry to us through music, and we said "hello, and a warm welcome" to Dr. Paul French, who became Trinity's new director of music in Advent.

Which brings me to the heart of this place and to the heart of our lives, which is worship. Whatever else we do as a church, the most important thing we do is to worship the God who is made known to us through Jesus the Christ. Through our prayers and our music, through Scripture and Sacrament, we are made One when we gather in Christ's name.

For the record, in 2009 attendance at worship totaled nearly 13,000, averaging 185 persons each Sunday. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated 190 times, and the sacrament was taken by our Lay Eucharistic Ministers 102 times to those unable to attend. We had four baptisms, two marriages and nine funerals.

As always I end this annual report with an expression of deep gratitude for those with whom I am honored to share ministry in this place: our resident Wise Guys, The Revs. Bert Anderson, Bobbi Parini, Tom Murphy, Doug Spence, Harvey Ray, and Morgan Silbaugh; Trinity's faithful deacons, The Revs. Carol Howser and Meredith Pech; our ministers of music, Dr. Paul and Jodi French; our sexton, Jacob Wyatt; and special gratitude to our parish administrator, Huberta Murphy, who holds us all together with such efficiency and grace.

But it is *you*, Trinity's laity, who are the true ministers of this faith community. Your generous service in Christ's name within the parish and beyond our doors is what makes Trinity Church the alive and vibrant church that it is, no matter the challenges.

It continues to be the privilege of my life to serve as your rector in this, my 10th year.

Pax Christi,

Rev. Anne+

DEACON'S REPORT

Carol Howser

Starting my 13th year as Deacon makes me aware that good things do sometimes last. It's always humbling to look back. My work with the LEMs is particularly inspiring. These good people, devoted and faithful are examples to me of what it truly means to serve Christ. The same can be said for my time with the Pastoral Care Committee. Someone said "if you're going to be sick, Trinity is the place to be."

A deacon's role is to serve Christ in the world as well as in the parish. My work as hospice chaplain continues to be what stretches me and affirms my faith. I'm looking forward to this next year as more of the same.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Steve Clinton

Steve Clinton, Senior Warden, is in India visiting his brother. His report will be given at the Annual Meeting.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

James Johnson

Again, right on cue again this year, the sewer line backed up following the annual meeting. We had a new cleanout installed right above the problem (small tree roots) and started scheduled applications of environmentally friendly root killer to suppress the roots. Inspection of the interior of the line showed it to be in good condition, including the original clay pipe out to sidewalk/city main. New this year is a Building and Grounds committee to support the Junior Warden with advice, organization, and manual assistance. The initial members were James Johnson (Junior Warden), Peter McBennett, Jeff LaLande, Dean Ritchie, Cliff Edwards, and Kevin Jenkins. James Johnson will stay on the committee for at least a year as a Junior Warden /emeritus/ to help with the transition over to the next Junior Warden. Three major projects over this year were replacing the wooden cross that fell from the steeple, removing the ramp in front of the Parish Hall for safety reasons, and replacing the large screen TV when finally gave up with a LCD projector. The cross fell due poor flashing and gradual rot of the base. A metal brace/cap was installed on the peak of the steeple to seal the opening and to hold the original cross back in place. The Parish Hall ramp, no longer providing wheelchair access since Trinity Respite Center left and the Parish Hall remodel, was beginning to show its age and was a slipping hazard in wet or icy weather. Fortunately, Nick Amorelli and Ray Childers installed it with a mind to being easily removed later. Thanks to our Sexton Jacob Wyatt, Jim Cox, and Peter McBennett for helping remove it in one afternoon. The Parish Hall TV suffered a second and fatal failure in November, recalling the similar problem the year before. Since we only use the TV for DVDs and need to frequently borrow a LCD projector for an increasing number of computer presentations, it was suggested to replace the TV with our own projector, since it will still work with the DVD player as well. Bill Bartlett put in a considerable time researching models and desired features, and for a good price.

GARDEN/COLUMBARIUM

Maggie McCartney

The Garden/Columbarium Committee (Charlotte Rising, Frank Lang, Donna Ritchie, Dean Ritchie, Sue Harmon, Morgan Silbaugh, Vicki Gardner, Helen De Martinez, and Rev. Anne Bartlett, chaired by Maggie McCartney) met formally twice during the year. Topics of special interest were the removal of a diseased maple tree in the Sacred Ground (to be removed early in 2010) and reassessment of the irrigation system to improve its efficiency and overall function. Professional landscapers continue to do weeding and maintain the shrubs and trees; a subgroup of the Garden Committee plants seasonal flowers. Fall pruning was done by a professional pruner with volunteers providing the cleanup.

There were three interments in the columbarium during 2009 and one interment in the Sacred Ground. Eight new reservations were received for niches in the columbarium. Activities in the labyrinth, including solstice events and a St. Francis Day blessing of the animals, were well received by the community

GARDEN GIRLS

Sue Harmon

As usual, these "girls" take care of planting the annual color spots in our church gardens. These include the corner at Lithia and Second and the planter boxes in front of the church and office buildings. Planting times are late spring and early fall. Workers include Sue Harmon, Vicki Gardner, Carolyn Edwards, Kathy Griffin, Maggie McCartney and Diana Quirk.

LABYRINTH

Sue Harmon

Labyrinth: Trinity hosted its 6th annual Winter Solstice Labyrinth Walk and Solstice Talk. In spite of the rain, about 60 walkers participated outside, and the Parish Hall was filled with guests who enjoyed the speakers and refreshments. Sue Harmon and Deacon Meredith also invited parishioners to a series of five "Walks with Christ," one for each season of the church year. This series is being repeated during five Sunday forums, starting with Advent 2009 and ending with Pentecost 2010.

WORSHIP

ACOLYTES

James Johnson

Thanks to Acolytes Emma Frantz, Ellia Shelton, Hunter Bradshaw, Claire McBennett, Sabina Schilling (and thanks to their parents for getting them to the church on time), Jim Martin, and Chris Bogh for their ministry and service over the year. And thanks to Deacon Meredith Pech and Verger James Johnson for scheduling and supervising the youth acolytes.

ALTAR GUILD

Chris Amorelli

Thanks to the generosity of a former parishioner's estate, we were able to purchase a new pair of candelabra. The old ones were losing their finish and it was determined that it would be very costly to re-finish them. They were also made for wax candles which meant the oil candles we now use were a poor fit, resulting in candles that never sat quite straight in their sockets unless well-padded with bits of paper (usually torn from the previous Sunday's bulletin). We also bought new linens, so now we have an ample supply to replace the old ones that need to be discarded when worn beyond repair.

Our numbers remain fairly steady at 12, though we'd like more if anyone is interested. Illness and accidents among the current members often means double, and even triple, duty for the rest of us. If any Trinity newcomers (or even old-timers) are looking for a quiet, gentle ministry, Altar Guild may be what you're looking for. Please contact the Altar Guild director for information.

ALTAR GUILD "FLOWER COMMITTEE"

Sue Harmon

Composed of 6 members, this committee is responsible for the flowers that decorate the church on Sundays. Working with 3 teams of 2 members each, we take turns with the responsibilities of obtaining and arranging the flowers. We also are instrumental in decorating the church at Christmas and Easter. Your donations to the Flower Fund allow us to have beautiful flowers in the church almost every week (Lent and Advent are excepted). We are always grateful for donations of garden flowers, please feel free to call and offer whatever you have in your garden that we may be able to use.

LAY EUCHARIST MINISTERS *The Rev. Carol Howser*

In 2009 four new Lay Eucharistic Ministers were approved by the vestry and licensed by the bishop which brings our total to 15 now. We welcomed Milt Morgan, Catherine Windsor, James Johnson and Ward Wilson to our ministry to Trinity's shut ins. Our LEMs serve at the altar on Sundays (and on Thursdays at the healing service too) administering the chalice for Eucharist and then they take the sacrament directly out to those who cannot be with us thus connecting them to the gathered Body of Christ. This year Charlotte Rising retired as LEM. She will be missed, but her gifts have been many and we learned a lot from her years with us.

LECTORS

Bonnie Oliver

Trinity Parish has 60 regular readers; at present the lector list is almost evenly divided between men and women, although we can always use a few more men, especially at the 8:00am service. This is a joyous ministry of proclamation, so anyone with an interest in this ministry should contact the church office to be added to the active list.

MUSIC

Paul French

The fundamental goal of the Music Ministry at Trinity is to aid and enhance our weekly worship services. Toward that end the choir, organist, cantors, and Music Director unite together with the congregation in singing the great musical liturgy of the church. All we do in worship is directed to God, both those musical elements corporately sung, and those portions of the liturgy offered to God on behalf of the congregation. It is the goal of the Music Ministry that, by humbly offering God the very best music we can, we will encourage the congregation to experience God in ways the spoken word alone can not, and inspire all who worship at Trinity to a deeper understanding of the love of God.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC

Mindy Ferris

It has been a positive year for the Friends of Music. The sole purpose of this board is to raise money to support Trinity's music program. The funds raised are used to pay a portion of the salaries of our organist and music director, the full cost of the section leaders/cantors and the additional musicians that make our festival services so special. Without your generous contributions this powerful and joyful ministry would not be possible. Although the amount of money raised this past year was down slightly we will be able to maintain our programs at the current level. The Friends of Music board is looking forward to an exciting new year with a new board chair, Emily Cox, and a new director of music, Paul French. Thank you Trinitarians for a wonderful year.

USHERS

Tharwat and Pat Ghaly

We have 24 ushers making 8 teams of threes. The schedule is usually prepared three months in advance. We are very grateful to all Trinity Ushers for their dedicated service.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/FORMATION

CHURCH SCHOOL/GODLY PLAY

The Rev. Anne K. Bartlett

In 2009, we assessed the state of Christian formation for our parish children and based on the age demographics of those children, decided to put our resources into the highly-acclaimed *Godly Play* program, designed for children pre-school through 4th grade. Thanks to a generous gift from the SWAT team and a distribution from the Memorial Gifts Fund, we were able to purchase the beautiful *Godly Play* materials for the fall sessions.

By September, the large classroom had been de-cluttered and re-vamped. Appropriate shelving was generously donated and arranged. Diocesan Christian Education staff came to Ashland to train the teachers in the sacred art of *Godly Play*. Jean McDonald, Madolyn Molloy, Ellen Siem, and Peter McBennett are the core of the teaching team; in 2010 they will be joined by Melinda Bukey, Bill Bartlett, and Carol Harvey.

We are delighted to report that the program is proving to be excellent in every way. Attendance by this age group has increased significantly: we now average 5-9 children each week in *Godly Play* and another 5 in the Nursery under the guidance of Margaret Pech, our Nursery Director, and assisted by a helper each week. We are truly growing the next generation of Trinitarians.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The Rev. Anne K. Bartlett

In our *9:00 Sunday Forums*, we began the year by focusing on economic issues with a presentation by our resident economist, Rick Holt, on *The Economy: What Happened?* followed by a provocative 4-part DVD lecture series by Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggeman, *Countering Pharaoh's Production-Consumption Society*.

After Easter we spend three months learning about early church history through the lives and ministries of Peter and Paul. Summer Sundays found us exploring, via DVD presentations, three medieval women saints: Hilda of Whitby, Hildegard of Bingen, and Julian of Norwich.

In the fall, the Pastoral Care Team coordinated a 9-week series on facing our own mortality. Chaplain Fred Grewe talked about visiting the sick and the dying, our parish nurses (Sarah Seybold and Sandy Cruz) presented two sessions on how to deal with the flu season and two more sessions on filling out an advance directive, our parish social worker Diana Quirk led two sessions on preparing for older age living, and I wrapped up the series with information on how to fill out Trinity's *Last Choices* funeral form.

During December, we watched *The Nativity* film over three Advent Sundays.

Many thanks to all who participated in our discussions, for those who made presentations, and especially to James Johnson for being our resident audio-visual expert.

Our *ongoing groups and classes* had a productive year of study. The *Thursday Morning Bible Study* group averaged upwards of 15 folk who, under Fr. Morgan's leadership, led them through Matthew's Gospel. The *Early Bird Friday Morning Bible Study*, lay-led by James Johnson and

Bonnie Oliver, studied the Book of Exodus. The twice-a-month *Monday Men's Group*, facilitated by Fr. Tom Murphy, met to discuss whatever was on their collective minds. *Centering Prayer* continues to meet twice-a-month on Tuesdays for shared meditation. The monthly *Book Club* now meets in the Parish Library to discuss contemporary novels and non-fiction. The *Retreat Day at Suncrest* was again offered on the first Tuesday of every month.

Seminars and short courses are the third leg of our Adult Formation program. In 2009, Rev. Anne taught a six-week *Everything Episcopal* confirmation class, a summer seminar on “emerging church” phenomena, and *Beginning Bible Study* in the fall. Our *Lenten Wednesday Night Program* this year was *Art and Spirituality*, with guest presenters helping us to explore our faith through paintings, poetry, photography, fabric art, and music. A special presentation by the Ariana String Quartet before their concert of Haydn's *Seven Last Words from the Cross* was a highlight. Our visiting priest from England, Fr. Chris Rowberry, regaled us with *Faith and Film*. Other short courses included *Basic Biblical Narratives*, taught by Linda Wilson, *Chanting and Psalmody* with Dave Winters, *English Country Dancing* with Elizabeth Hallett Sr. Our Labyrinth facilitators Sue Harmon and Deacon Meredith Pech arranged five afternoons of guided labyrinth walks based on the life of Christ.

The year ended with our 6th annual Winter Solstice Labyrinth walk and talk on *Light in the Darkness* from the perspective of our interfaith friends, Rabbi David Zaslow, Lama Yeshe Parke, and Rev. Pam Shepherd joining Rev. Anne.

It was a very full year!

COMMUNITY OF HOPE

Cathie Roy

The Community of Hope (COH) trains people to serve as lay chaplains. Benedictine spirituality lays the foundation for intensive 12 week training in ways to be present(with Presence) to each other in difficult times. We meet regularly to support each other and grow in Christ together. Graduates continue to serve in various ways....hospice. hospitals, schools, assisted care facilities, home visits....and in daily life. We are so grateful for these times we spend with Spirit, and feel such joy to be able to respond to God's love in this ministry. This year we did not have enough candidates to form a class. However, our graduates continue to open to God in their ministries with others. May we each find our way to keep opening....and opening....to God's will, love and joy in our lives.

NURSERY

Huberta Murphy

Nursery care is provided for infants and young children through age 3 each Sunday morning from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and as needed for Adult Education events and dinners held in the evenings. Our Nursery Care is managed by Margaret Pech. Margaret is assisted by Calynn Jenkins, Emma Frantz, and Zoe Smolen. Two attendants each week care for our burgeoning ranks of preschoolers. Average weekly attendance is 5 youngsters. Thank you to the young women for their faithfulness to this ministry that both allows families with young children to participate in our worship and activities and gives the young their earliest experience of the Church.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Diana Quirk

The Pastoral Care Team (PCT) is a group of parishioners with special skills, who meet monthly under the leadership of Rev. Anne, to coordinate care for the members of the congregation with special needs. The team coordinates rides for parishioners with no transportation, arranges for home or hospital visits, helps individuals or families who are in crisis, and refers people to appropriate community resources. The team also sponsors special informational workshops and coordinates the Remembrance Luncheon, for those who have had a recent death in their family.

Besides Rev. Anne the members are Sandy Cruz and Sarah Seybold, parish nurses, Diana Quirk and Sue Medway parish social workers, and John Sanders and his substitute, Tom Harrington, Good Samaritan Coordinators. Rev. Carol Howser attends as the LEM coordinator, Susan Doyal coordinates with the Friendly Visitors and Shirley Woodring is the spiritual director. Fr. Tom Murphy and Fr. Morgan Silbaugh are often called upon for their special skills to assist with homebound or hospitalized parishioners.

PARISH NURSES

*Sarah Seybold RN, MSN
Sandy Cruz, RM, MS, NP*

In 2009, the Parish Nurse Office Hours were extended to three hours weekly, from 11am to 12:30pm on Tuesdays and 9 to 10:30am on Thursdays. The Parish Nurses continue to provide volunteer assistance to parishioners through phone calls and home visits. In addition, the nurses have been available to accompany individuals to visits with healthcare providers. The very popular Monthly Blood Pressure Screening Clinics continue during Coffee Hour on the first Sunday of each month. Throughout the year, the nurses have participated in Sunday Morning Forums providing parishioners with timely information on the 2009 H1N1 Influenza as well as assistance with completing a Health Care Directive. A special educational program on Prostate Cancer was presented at a meeting of the Trinity Men's Group at the request of several interested members.

OUTREACH

UNITED THANK OFFERING

Bonnie Oliver

More than 45 Trinitarians participated in this year's United Thank Offering In-Gatherings. We sent a total of \$839 to the Diocesan Coordinator – up from last year by \$164 - a terrific showing in these trying times, reflecting the Trinity's legendary generosity to those less fortunate.

Our offering will be included in the Diocesan total to be sent to the UTO office in New York. It is worth noting that all expenses are absorbed by the UTO office, and EVERY SINGLE PENNY OF THE COLLECTED OFFERING IS GRANTED! This is truly a joyful ministry.

OUTREACH FUNDING COMMITTEE

Carolyn Anderson

Despite the Great Recession of 2009, the Outreach Funding Committee had a great year and was able to raise nearly \$21,000 to distribute to local, national and international direct-service providers. This year proved to be the most successful in recent memory. The OFC distributed funds to local service providers as follows:

YMCA Scholarship Fund	\$2,000.
Back Pack Buddies	\$500.
Ashland Emergency Food Bank (includes \$1,390 raised from the golf putting party)	\$3,390.
Peace House/Uncle Foods Diner	\$1,000.
Jackson County Sexual Assault Response Team	\$1,000.
Dunn House (Battered Women's Shelter)	\$2,000.
7th Day Adventist Christmas Dinners	\$100.
Family Nurturing Center	\$1,000.
Jackson County Health Dept. (for Maternal Health Services)	\$2,000.
Lotus Rising Project (serving gay, lesbian and transgendered youth)	\$400.
Maslow Project (serving homeless teens)	\$500.
St. Vincent de Paul (utilities assistance)	\$1,900.
Hope Chest/United Way	\$1,200.
TOTAL	\$16,990.

The Committee was able to assist international providers as follows:

Episcopal Relief & Development Fund (with 100% matching funds available)	\$600.
Partners in Health (Dr. Farmer's Haiti health project)	\$1,250.
Central Asia Institute/Girls' Schools (Greg Mortenson's Pakistan education project)	\$1,250.
Friend's International (family unification services)	\$500.
Great Shape (children's literacy in Jamaica)	\$300.
TOTAL	\$3,900

These donations are in keeping with the general guidelines set down by parish consensus years ago; we try to distribute 80% of our funds locally, and 20% international. In accord with the wishes of the parish as expressed in surveys throughout the years, we focus our giving on projects which serve women and children in need.

We are especially grateful to the generosity of Trinitarians during this past year, with all of its terrible financial difficulties. Special thanks go to Denise and Dave Clements for their work on the Party of Parties, for Kevin Jenkins for his work on the Putting Party, and for the extraordinary contributions of the members of the Outreach Funding Committee who will be "retiring" this year: Judy Clinton, Joan Hess, Tony Hess and Cheryl Rose-Gonzales. We will miss the incredible energy and enthusiasm of these good folks, and the Committee is anxious to welcome new members. Please feel free to contact Carolyn Anderson at 541.778.0439 if you would like to get involved with the Outreach Funding Committee. It's a great way to help those who are doing Christ's work here in our community and abroad.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Judy Clinton

Food and Friends, coordinated at Trinity by Anne McCollom and Maggie McCartney, provided two teams of drivers each Monday of the year. The volunteers pick up the prepared nutritious lunches at the Senior Center at about 10:30 am and finish delivering them in an hour or less. Each team delivers to 6 to 8 recipients. Food for Friends has a food-packing system so hot food stays hot, cold food stays cold, and frozen meals are added for weekends and holidays. Some recipients may not be able to prepare a meal for a few weeks while healing from an injury or illness; others have long-term disabilities and could not continue to live at home without the support of Food and Friends. Our volunteers choose the month during which they will make the Monday deliveries. We are actively seeking more volunteers and invite interested potential volunteers to 'ride the route' with one of our current drivers to see how easy and rewarding it is.

Trinity staffs the **Ashland Emergency Food Bank** for the month of February each year (previously we staffed July as well). The number of volunteers is about 20. Trinity's volunteer involvement has been coordinated by Kathy Griffin who has done an excellent job these past three years. Many thanks go to her as she steps down to take on different service activities. The new coordinator is Patti Chase. The economic recession has continued to put a strain on Food Bank resources; but Trinity Parish has risen to the challenge by giving generously and steadfastly all year round.

Through **The Giving Tree**, parishioners surpassed the original goal of giving new winter clothing (coats, hats, mittens and scarves) to 45 children. Enough extra donations were received to provide clothing for several additional children plus gift cards for 8 teens to shop for their own coats. The ingathering of gifts was Sunday, Dec. 6. The gifts were then wrapped and sorted by social worker and given to Jackson County Child Welfare for distribution. The children also received gifts of toys from Toys for Tots. The project was coordinated by Judy Clinton and Jamie Hutchinson with the help of a very cheerful and hardworking committee.

The annual ingathering of **White Gifts** on Epiphany Sunday was coordinated by Judy Clinton. Parishioners placed at the altar a mountain of gifts wrapped in white tissue paper. Winter necessities such as sleeping bags, blankets, coats, gloves, sweaters, pillows, ceramic space heaters and canned goods were requested. After the service, volunteers unwrapped and sorted the gifts for distribution to the Ashland Emergency Food Bank, CERT's winter emergency shelter and La Clínica del Valle.

The reports for the ministries of **UTO** and **SWAT** are listed separately.

SEWING WOMEN AT TRINITY

Natalie Barker & Chris Amorelli

The ladies of SWAT (Sewing Women At Trinity) continue to work diligently to make sure no one in the Rogue Valley is cold. Once again we made about 100 quilts and comforters (every year we vow to keep better track of the numbers but it never seems to happen). Lithia Springs Boys and Girls Homes received their usual 26 quilts for Xmas, and the Health and Human Services were given dozens of baby comforters. Jamie Hutchinson once again was gifted with many for the Foster Kids, thanks to the generosity of parishioners who, on the Sunday after the SWAT Bazaar literally bought and donated almost every one of the leftover quilts. Other groups, such as the Nurturing Place in Medford also were gifted with quilts.

For the bazaar we made 79 jars of mincemeat and sold every single one in the first 24 hours. Thanks to your baking skills we had more baked goods than we've EVER had, and sold everything. All-in-all we netted over \$2,000, which is always our goal, but very uncertain in these difficult times. We lost members...Margaret Hoxie died but her family donated a fabulous new sewing machine in her memory. Rhoda Maxwell recently moved to Washington DC to be near her family, but Anna Gove and Emilie Vest have taken their places, so our numbers remain fairly steady.

If you would like to join a group of ladies who have great fun while they're doing good works, then SWAT might be for you. The sewing skills needed are minimal and we meet Tuesday mornings from about 8:30 until tea and cookies at 10:30. The tea is good, the cookies are delicious and the jokes are bad.

FELLOWSHIP/NEW MEMBERS

NEWCOMER COMMITTEE

Carolyn Edwards

This has been an extraordinary year for Trinity welcoming 29 new members, two of them SOU students and eight children. During 2009 the committee gave four special coffee hours to help visitors get acquainted with the Episcopal Church and Trinity. Two dinners were held prior to Rev. Anne welcoming our new members on Trinity Sunday and All Saints Day. Parishioners greeted visitors and newcomers during coffee hour after the 10 AM service each week to meet and answer questions. A bookmarker was handed out at the 8 AM to welcome visitors and newcomers. Information packets were provided to new members and supplemental directories were prepared for each class. The success of this ministry is all of ours. The Newcomers Committee and Greeters would like to give a special thanks to the congregation for helping with this ministry of hospitality.

HOSPITALITY

Ann and Larry Anderson

The Trinity kitchen saw many activities this year from Sunday coffees, Sunday Brunches, Party of Party dinners to somber funeral receptions. Trinity is fortunate in having so many wonderful volunteers that help keep the Sunday coffee hour going. It has been a great year with many newcomers stepping up and taking on hosting our coffee hour.

The 5th Sunday Brunches have been a way for our 8 o'clockers and the 10 o'clockers to mingle and get to know each other. The Friends of Music Follies saw many parishioners enjoying once again a potato supper with all the trimmings. During Lent there were the soup suppers for all to enjoy. Our Parish Hall and kitchen are used in times of sorrow also as we gather to console and love those who have lost a loved one and we a community member.

At the end of this year a new program was introduced to allow those who wish to participate in the coffee hour but can't do so physically. There are "Coffee Angel" labels in the Parish Hall or in the office for members to take, purchase a can of coffee of their choice and return it to the Parish Hall or office

TRINITY BOOK CLUB

Ann Anderson

Trinity Book Group met 8 months in 2009. We met in the church library on fourth Mondays at 7:00 pm. We read and discussed 8 books. We are continuing to meet on the fourth Monday, same time and place. Anyone is welcomed to join us.

TRINITY TREKKERS

Maggie McCartney

Trinity Trekkers have carried on the tradition established by long-time leader Ed Brubaker. We met each Wednesday morning at 8:00 am in the parking lot of the building on Ashland Street opposite the large flag. We shared rides from there. The only weather that stopped us was falling rain or snow. We hiked trails in the nearby mountains, in Jacksonville, and in and above Lithia Park. We generally returned to the parking lot by 11:00. Hikers who wished to be notified of the intended hike for the week were sent an email the night before. The group ranged in size from three to eight or ten.

ADMINISTRATION

TRINITARIAN

James Johnson and Ann Magill

Circulation of the printed Trinitarian is about 320-340 depending on the current mailing list, of which about 310 copies are mailed to the local area. We continue to send about 20 copies to former parishioners and friends of Trinity who live outside the county, and 6 copies go to the Bishop's office and fellow parishes. As always, a few copies are kept in the office for visitors. The Trinitarian continues to be available online (with private information removed) on the Parish website for the previous twelve issues. Ann Magill and James Johnson continue as co-editors. At the end of each month, the newsletter is printed, assembled, folded, and mailed under the supervision of Huberta Murphy, Office Administrator, and with the help of many volunteers: Ann Magill, the Rev. Tom Murphy, Parker Foster, Sue Schloth, Barbara Seropian, Carol Brown, Helene DeMartinez, Vicki Gardner, Carolyn Franklin and Emilie Vest. Our thanks to the whole folding and mailing crew.

PARISH LIBRARY

Barbara Seropian

This last year approximately 12 new books and 10 new DVD were introduced to the collection. Three of the original committee members have begun assessing what can be eliminated, thereby freeing up shelf space. Over the last 5 years only about 1% of books "missing" have been returned. I have given up on wondering how this can happen. With the tight finances I do not request Library funds this year.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Kathy Griffin

The Trinity Endowment, aka Legacy Giving, Committee went into high gear in 2009. Those who served on the committee last year include: Steve Clinton, Parker Foster, Milt Morgan, David Clements, Ward Wilson, Rev. Anne, and Kathy Griffin as chair.

We spent our time together examining the many ways we could raise awareness of the endowment to our fellow Trinitarians. Research was conducted on how other congregations promote their endowments, discussions of what we could and should do were lively, and progress was made.

In spite of illnesses, jobs, and various other interruptions, the committee produced a fine brochure outlining opportunities for giving to the Trinity Endowment. While we all gave our input, David Clements lead the way on this project. We introduced the brochure at a Sunday Forum in November.

However, we are not finished yet. We will work this year to further our efforts to ensure Trinity Church's future.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Rhonda Loftis

The Stewardship committee met in early September and began planning the Stewardship Kick Off luncheon as well as the logistics of the mailing process of the pledge cards. The committee consisted of Jack and Kate Sullivan, Kris York, and Norma Grenfell and Rhonda Loftis and Jeff LaLande as co-chairs.

The Stewardship Kick Off Luncheon was a success with great help from many of the congregation! Many thanks for that!

Kate Sullivan had some of her previous students fold and stuff the pledge card information as part of a vocational training program making the mailing project very successful. As of year end we had 168 pledges totaling \$239,681. This compares to 193 pledges for 2009 totaling \$234,939. Of those 168, 16 were new pledges. The decrease in number of pledges was due to deaths, moves, and the economic downturn (the decrease in number of pledges does not reflect a decrease in number of parish members.) Many thanks for your pledges!

VESTRY NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tony Hess

The vestry nominating committee met in December to undertake the important task of selecting a slate of four candidates for the next year's Trinity vestry. The vestry is responsible for many important decisions for our parish, and thus the task was undertaken with deep prayerful consideration as these nominees will help guide us in the years ahead. The vestry nominating committee members were Steve Clinton, Chris Amorelli, Diana Quirk, and Tony Hess. They had the challenge of selecting from a long list of forty-nine candidates' names submitted by the congregation. The committee, after much soul searching, selected the following candidates for new vestry members in 2010; Jean McDonald, Milt Morgan, Ward Wilson, and Dave Winters.

FINANCES

*John Ferris, Chairman, Finance Committee
Lisa Jenkins and Jim Littlefield, co-treasurers*

Financially Trinity Episcopal Church ended 2009 with a positive increase in total income; expenses were lower than budget. This resulted in a surplus of \$7,156. Trinity's asset position is very favorable.

	<u>Budget 2009</u>	<u>Actual 2009</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Income	\$245,939	\$249,169	+\$3,230
Total Expense	\$248,328	\$242,013	-\$6,315

This group of nine individuals provides financial advice and review for the vestry. We meet for one hour each month, audit the books and records each spring and provide weekly oversight for the counting of the funds that come into the church. We're continually trying to find ways to provide understandable financial data to the parish.

Our treasurers, Jim Littlefield and Lisa Jenkins sit on the committee, and are essential to its smooth operation. Shirley Gates continues to administer the counters. The audit team this year of Donna Ritchie, Ward Wilson and John Ferris found no problems with our internal operations, but are continuing to follow some issues with our accounting software and with timely reports from the diocese.

Finally, we want to particularly highlight the superior work done by our parish administrator, Huberta Murphy. To have a person of her skills and commitment watching over our operations is a blessing to Trinity and a daily reminder of efficiency and competence. Thank you, Huberta.

Finance committee: Tom Harrington, Steve Clinton, Roger Graves, Ward Wilson, Maggie McCartney, Lisa Jenkins, John Ferris, Jim Littlefield and Donna Ritchie

Trinity Episcopal Church, Ashland, Oregon

MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING

January 18, 2009

OPENING PRAYER AND CALL TO ORDER

The 2009 Annual Meeting of Trinity Parish was opened with prayer by Reverend Anne Bartlett at 10:30AM at the north end of the Parish Hall after parishioners were treated to a light brunch and coffee prepared by the Vestry.

REPORT OF VESTRY NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND BALLOTING

Cheryl Rose-Gonzales, outgoing vestry member and chairperson of the Vestry Nominating Committee reported that her group had selected four candidates from 43 names under consideration for serving on Vestry. Other members of the committee included the 3 other outgoing vestry members, Suzanne Lang, Chris Amorelli and Ann McGill, plus Tom Harrington and John Sanders.

The slate of 4 nominees are: Mindy Ferris, Kathy Griffin, Jeff Lalande, and Rhonda Loftis.

No nominations were given from the floor, and it was moved and seconded to accept the nominations as they stand. The four nominees were elected by acclamation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

A motion was made to approve the minutes of last year's annual meeting. It was seconded and unanimously approved.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Reverend Anne said most people received the written annual report electronically this year as a cost saving measure.

Metaphor for 2008

This is her 9th year at Trinity. She has found it helpful to find a metaphor that captures the essence of the previous year. This past year is no different and the image is "moving beyond our doors and ourselves". The highlight has been in outreach, and not just in funding.

This March or April on a Saturday morning, a date will be set to consider agency programs for funding. This will require volunteers to put time in for evaluation of projects presented by organizations interested in funding by Trinity.

Besides, funding, we have an Outreach Ministries Committee that helps organize hands-on ministry, such as:

Food Baskets

White Gifts

Giving Tree

In 2008, we gave away \$31,657, a huge increase over last year.

Even though we are only the 11th largest congregation in our diocese, we were first in dollars spent on purchasing mosquito nets for the Nets for Life program.

Moving Beyond Our Doors

We are becoming known in our community as deeply respectful of other faiths.

We are also actively involved in serving our Diocese. Rev. Anne is in her 4th year of serving on the Diocesan Standing Committee until November of this year. John Ferris is on the Bishop Transition Committee. James Johnson is serving a 3 year term on Diocesan Council.

In addition, Rev. Anne and Anne McCollom were voted as delegates at the Annual Convention in Anaheim, and Anne McCollom and Calynn Jenkins are going to India representing the Diocese in the world.

Financial Issues

Rising costs and the dour economic climate forced the difficult decision to cut the Pastoral Associate's position. Father Morgan was totally understanding of the decision and the reality that this parish cannot afford to pay for more than one priest.

Clergy responsibilities

Morgan will continue his Thursday Bible Study, Friendly Visitor Ministry and preach and celebrate as a Wise Guy.

Our Wise Guys are: Father Morgan, Bert and Bobbi, who perform at the Thursday noon healing Eucharist, Doug who substitutes on Sunday, and Father Tom, whose picture was used in his place at this meeting!

In appreciation for his service, Morgan received a beautiful framed picture of the classic Trinity Window design.

Deacon Meredith

Deacon Meredith, with approval by Interim Bishop Sandy, is taking a 6-8 month leave this year to address the demands of a busy personal and family life. Best wishes to her.

What's Ahead

- Tighter budgets (10% cut)
- More lay ministry
- New Children's Ministry
- New Bible Study class with Linda Wilson
- Sun. April 26 visit by Bishop Sandy, confirmand classes will be scheduled prior to his visit.
- Lent 2009- Wednesday Soup Suppers will focus on Art and Spirituality, including a performance of Arianna String Quartet and Hayden's piece on the 7 last words of Christ

Thank you

To Huberta, the new Sexton Jacob, Charles, Jodi, the Vestry and retiring Vestry members, Jr and Senior Wardens. Steve Clinton will return for another year as Senior Warden.

FATHER MORGAN'S REPORT

Father Morgan read his section of the written report.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT-James Johnson

James briefly introduced himself and his role as Junior Warden. James served as interim sexton to develop the job description for the new sexton.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT-Steve Clinton

Steve congratulated new vestry members

Leadership

Steve said we rarely have problems finding leaders in this parish. He said to keep in mind how you can be a leader. It is the accumulation of small lead roles that make that Parish what it is.

2008-2009 Budget

First, we are not in an economic crisis like many other parishes. We do have challenges, but we will be fine. Steve recognized John Ferris and Maggie McCartney for the leadership and financial skills, and 2 heros, Jim Littlefield and Lisa Jenkins, our co-treasurers.

The 2008 expenses were \$7241 less than forecast. We had exceptional plate offerings last year of \$2508. We ended a small budget surplus of \$3523.

With monies for Major Building Maintenance Repair, Endowment and Lithia Way reserve, and strong cash position, we have solid financial footing going into 2009.

We did not lose too much on Endowment market investments because we were not completely invested for the whole of 2008, but only \$4000 per month for a total of \$59,057.

It was noted that the payroll budgeted for 2009 did not go down from losing the Pastoral Associates position, but that is because the parish was making up for underpaying the rector and staff for the last several year and because of the increase in the rector's medical insurance.

For Stewardship 2009, pledging units are at 175 vs 174 last year. Pledge dollars are down slightly by \$2987, income is lower by \$6884, but scriptural inserts were restored at \$1000 cost. The 2009 budget is in a slight deficit position of \$2389.

Finance Committee Report- John Ferris, Chairman

John stated that we have tremendous oversight of our finances, unlike many other parishes. We will be responsive and transparent and there are no secret funds.

Endowment Report- Steve Clinton

Endowment Fund- The Endowment Committee is chaired by Kathy Griffin, with a 3 year rotation. This is just beginning to be a viable entity for our Parish.

Other Business

Church Camping- Peter McBennett was looking into a new place to hold the 2009 weekend camping retreat

Trinity Sunday- We are reinstating the Picnic!

Party of Parties Auction is in one month- Organized by Judy Clinton

Closing Prayer given by Father Morgan at 11:38 AM.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Winters, 1/24/2009