



EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Southport, Connecticut

Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 29, 2012

2011 Annual Report

Trinity Episcopal Church

2011 Vital Statistics

Baptisms:	14
Marriages:	0
Confirmations:	19
Burials:	18
Total attendance at all services:	16,478
Average Sunday attendance:	228
Easter Sunday attendance:	860

Rector

Curate

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Clerk

Treasurer

The Rev. Nicholas T. Porter

The Rev. Dawn M. Stegelmann

Kendall Crolius

Phyllis Schneble

Andrea Azarm

William Duncan

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Rector's Report 2011

The 286th year of Trinity Parish, Southport began with record snows and ended with Christmas crowds. Remarkable events and accomplishments filled the months in between and left an indelible mark on our church that accomplished one divine purpose. 2011 A.D. at Trinity Parish was an exciting one of preparation for the unavoidable challenges and adjustments that await us in the decade ahead.

Before identifying the highlights of the year and their significance, I would like to express my thanks to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and to all the children, women and men without whom the ministry and mission of Trinity Parish would not be possible. Particular thanks go to the parish clergy and staff, the office and committee volunteers, the Music Director, interim-Music Director and Children's and Youth Ministries Director search committees, the vestry and parish officers, the T.P.N.S. teachers, board and staff and to one person posthumously – Ann Januski.

Buildings and Grounds: The Property Committee continued its conscientious management and care of our beautiful and extensive parish grounds that include the church, parish hall and school buildings, the Center Street parking lot and the rectory and barn. The northeast side of the nave was repainted and the computer system regulated the HVAC system replaced allowing us to control costs and comfort. During the spring, the Rectory's border with the Pequot Library and with the railroad tracks was re-landscaped (courtesy of the Library). During June, the barn was repainted for the first time in living memory and all the windowpanes replaced or re-glazed and the backyard cleared of debris and seeded with lawn grass. During July, the leaky shingle roof and faulty flashing were replaced. The Rectory remains the key component in attracting and compensating clergy leadership and the importance of its care and development cannot be overestimated.

Office and Volunteers: Thanks to the donations of dozens of parishioners, the office computers were replaced and networked with modern machines and software. It was a tremendous effort that followed logically on the heels of the new website. In the weeks that followed, parishioners volunteered to help in the office. With employment costs rising, technology and volunteers will become ever more vital to the day-to-day operations of our ministry and mission.

Personnel: On 30 June, we said goodbye to our Music Director, Alan Murchie, and our long-time Children's Ministries Director, Wendy Steinfeld, as they each moved on to new responsibilities. Their departure was a big loss for our parish, but determined search committees soon formed to identify new leadership. Sharon Turlis joined us from Florida and is fast rebuilding our ministries for young people; Brandon Beachamp is the interim leading our music ministry and preparing it for a new permanent Director to arrive this summer. The work-ethic of no or low staff turn-over is ending, and we must continually adjust to keep our professional staff longer and to find replacements expeditiously.

Ministry and Mission: The Radical Sabbatical was a planned explosion of program, opportunity and experimentation that deliberately sought to inspire our parish to move from the knowledge of God to the experience of God. It involved Art & Soul and astronomy field trips, different styles of preaching, worship and music, prayer classes and a healing service, concerts as well as several other programs. February through May was a dynamic time, and most who participated found their souls enriched and their faith deepened. Our Mission and Outreach program also caught the energy updraft of last Lent and Eastertide. February's Honduras Mission trip involved a full contingent of Trinity confirmands and parents (as well as some from Trinity Church, Lyme Rock). The success of November's fundraiser for student scholarships and building materials shows that the entire parish is now involved, too. In July, the Rector, together with the support of Trinity parishioners and friends, organized a peace camp for

Rector, *continued*

Palestinian, Israeli and American teenagers. It was a complete success and plans are underway for another camp this summer. In terms of evangelization, preaching and music are essential but are no longer enough to attract involvement. Ministry and Mission programs are two of our future growth engines.

Trinity Parish Nursery School: The TPNS Board made great progress in contributing to the planning and management of school life. New board members are showing greater initiative and School Director Meg Reilly and I, the Chairman of the Board, are encouraging them. Day to day cooperation between the parish and the schools continues to grow both on a personal and a programmatic level. T.P.N.S. is *the* flagship outreach program of the parish. Over and above the income it provides, its ministry of education is needed in our community and the opportunities for evangelism are vital to that of the parish. Our destinies are intertwined. Continued growth and development of the school is one of our future growth engines.

The Vestry and Officers: The Vestry and Officers are indispensable to the well-being of this parish and its clergy. Much of their ministry is unseen and unacknowledged and yet much depends upon it. For their work and diligence, we owe them a debt of gratitude. Their primary foci are the wellbeing of our finances and our real property. However, Vestry members were active in every other area of parish ministry, especially on the various search committees. The Vestry wrestled with two emergent truths: that parishioner pledging is no longer supporting the ministry and mission we seek and that our ministry is supporting the building rather than vice versa. Over the next year, our Vestry will be studying and executing ways for our underutilized building to be used in new ways so that the building will financially support itself. We will all hear more about this as we celebrate the sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary of our Carpenter-Gothic church.

Being the Rector of Trinity Parish is a demanding, rewarding and creative ministry. Since 2008, a sea-change has occurred in American society. The normative, 19th century paradigms for the arts, education, charity, politics and religion are no longer effective and must be adjusted to remain vibrant in the 21st century. The events and achievements of 2011 have prepared us to make the necessary planning and adjustments to meet the unavoidable challenges that await us. Christ Jesus stands ready to help us. If you will stand with me, we can meet these challenges together.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Nicholas T. Porter+
24th Rector

Curate's Report 2011

In 2011, your curate was busy with an exciting variety of parish-wide activities. Highlights included the Lenten Series on Prayer, the Way of the Cross and Holy Week; the spring Radical Sabbatical with its numerous and multi-generational offerings; the Women's Fellowship Group and Trinity Book Group; Youth Sundays, the fall parish-wide Art Show and Advent and Christmas events to round out the year. There was the usual schedule of services at the church on Wednesdays and Sundays and at Carolton and Southport Manor once a month. Pastoral and hospital visits were at an all-time high. There were 15 baptisms and 17 funerals for the clergy to do throughout the year.

Soul work in Southport is alive and well based on the strong parish participation in the prayer series (special thanks to Pat Spoor, who led one of the evenings) and involvement with the Way of the Cross project (special thanks to the talented parishioners and artists who created the stations). I continue to see an emerging and renewed interest in rediscovering spirituality in our lives and reencountering both mystery and a living God. Further activities and programs to learn and experience the various "arts" of spiritual and contemplative living will be offered in 2012.

The significance of the spring Radical Sabbatical, which included three months' worth of new and creative worship settings and field trips, cannot be underestimated. One of the memorable experiences for me was the four-week preaching series on the Apostle Paul which Father Mark Glidden and I did last summer in the style of Jewish midrash. My hope is that the seeds planted during the Radical Sabbatical will continue to "sprout" in meaningful ways within the context of our treasured and traditional worship settings as well as in other areas of parish ministries.

The Trinity Book Group had another successful year with its focus on American writers throughout the centuries and regions of our country. The Women's Fellowship Group continues to meet on Tuesday mornings. This year the group is discussing the Gospel of John and its application to one's life as a mother of younger children, a wife, a community volunteer and a faith seeker. Special thanks to my co-leader, Pat Spoor, as well as to Charlotte Bartol and Dabney Bowen. Both the Book Group and Women's Fellowship Group welcome new members throughout the year.

This fall I completed my two-year program with Trinity Wall Street's Clergy Leadership Project. During both the spring and fall terms at Yale Divinity School, I was a spiritual director for groups of first-year seminarians. Most of them were in their 20s and their knowledge, enthusiasm, and most of all, their love for the Lord give me hope for our church and its leadership in the coming years.

Working with Father Nicholas and the staff continues to be a privilege. With the addition of our interim music director, Brandon Beachamp, and our director of children's and youth ministry, Sharon Turlis, our office team has done an extraordinary job week in and week out to support one another and the important work we do for the Lord and for Trinity Church. The fun committee also provides the staff with occasional and surprise opportunities throughout the year for team building and for a good and often much-needed laugh.

Respectfully submitted,

Mother Dawn Stegelmann+

Rector's (Senior) Warden Report 2011

It has been an honor to serve as Senior Warden for Trinity Church for the past two years. In this role, I have had the opportunity to better understand what it takes to keep our church a vibrant and healthy community, and the experience has deepened my appreciation and gratitude for the talent and dedication of all those who pour their souls into the life of Trinity Church.

Our staff works tirelessly to keep our operations on track, and always go above and beyond. Cassia's talents are evident in the wonderful communications she creates – from the weekly Messenger and emails, all the special programs, to The Spire and the truly inspirational InSpire—her talent is such a blessing to us all. Melanie keeps our finances on track, and her efficiency is only surpassed by her delightful spirit. Russ not only cares for our challenging physical plant and takes on special projects (thank you for the fantastic new stairs for the Pageant platforms!) but takes care of all of us with his special hot chocolate recipe and fresh-baked cookies. Meg Reilly continues to provide wonderful leadership of TPNS as a growing part of our ministry.

This past year we said goodbye to Wendy Steinfeld and Alan Murchie, with gratitude for their friendship and their magnificent contributions to Trinity. And we welcomed Sharon Turlis to a new position with oversight of both Children's and Youth Ministry, a structural change that will provide more continuity in Christian formation at Trinity. We are blessed to have Brandon Beachamp serving as Interim Organist and Choirmaster as the search progresses for a permanent leader for our music ministry.

We have an outstanding Vestry with an amazing range and depth of expertise, matched only by their generosity with their time and talent. The other lay leaders who devote their efforts to the critical needs of the church – from property to mission and outreach to altar guild and all the other committees – deserve our deepest appreciation.

We are so fortunate to have such outstanding clergy. What a blessing it is to have Father Mark at the altar each Sunday. What a joy it is to see Mother Dawn grow into her priesthood so splendidly. As Rector's Warden, part of my role is to provide advice and counsel to Father Nicholas. I know we all are grateful for the work Nicholas does, but I can tell you that you don't know the half of it. Preaching, teaching and running the day-to-day operations of a church is more than a full-time job but that is only the tip of the iceberg. Caring for this flock of 500 presents challenges I never would have suspected, and I am truly in awe of Nicholas' wisdom, strength of character and courage. We are so blessed to have him as our shepherd.

The focus of the past two years has been on strengthening our infrastructure as the foundation for future growth. This has taken form in several ways:

- **Communications and technology infrastructure**, including a new website underwritten through the generosity of a parishioner; a new IT system and computers, funded by a generous gift from Lisa Newton and matching funds from parishioners; an email communications system that enables us to distribute timely information affordably and sustainably. These improvements have reduced our operating costs, increased efficiency for our staff, and increased the effectiveness of our communications.
- **Financial reporting and infrastructure**. Bill Duncan has done an outstanding job of bringing clarity to our financial reporting and operations. We now have a greater level of disclosure of an accurate assessment of our financial position: our balance sheet liability reserves are now fully funded. We have consolidated our endowments under one management group, with monthly reporting of on investments.

Rector's (Senior) Warden, *continued*

- **Alternate funding plans.** A work in progress, this is a critical initiative that will help us offset the costs of the physical plant, enabling us to focus pledge income on our ministries.
- **Time and talent infrastructure.** Our theme for the past two years has been transforming our mindset “from club to co-op.” The club model is “pay for services rendered” through pledges and other gifts. The co-op model we continue to work towards is **shared responsibility for all our ministries**, with broader and deeper engagement and participation from parishioners in all aspects of the work of the church. Our “Radical Sabbatical” was an opportunity for each of us to find our passion for ministry. It was a tremendous success. Over 70 parishioners stepped up to create and lead unique programs that provided opportunities to explore new ways to grow closer to God and to each other, and helped accelerate our spiritual journeys as individuals and as a community.

Over the last two years, I have worked very closely with our People's Warden, Phyllis Schneble, and our partnership has been one of the greatest blessings of this experience. Phyllis is brilliant and indefatigable, and has been a source of wise counsel, good humor and unfailing support and inspiration. I am grateful that our partnership that has blossomed into a splendid friendship.

Phyllis and I leave the parish in very good hands. I look forward to supporting John Morgan and Michael Banten in their new leadership roles, and my prayer for them is that they find in each other the mutual support and affection that Phyllis and I have enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendall

Kendall Crolius
Rector's (Senior) Warden

People's (Junior) Warden Report 2011

What a blessing we have in this church and parish that we call Trinity Episcopal Church, Southport. We are a vibrant community of people who care for each others' heads, hearts and souls – a different manifestation of that all important Trinity!

This has been a wonderful year of activity and growth in the service of God. We've seen many new faces join us and said goodbye to some long loved ones. We've tried out some radical new ways to worship and continued some beloved traditions ("Best pageant ever!") Some of the highlights of 2010 from my bird's eye view have been:

Radical Sabbatical – a thrilling and unusual exploration of new experiences that unsettled some and re-energized others. My favorite response on our survey echoed the sentiments of many: *I found I can be open to new experiences even if I don't agree or enjoy every aspect of the venture.*

Vestry Retreat – every year we take some time to get away as a group, indoctrinate the new class and set the larger strategic goals for the year and this year's retreat was exceptional. In the beautiful woodsy setting we prayed together, debated each other, broke bread together, hiked together and emerged a cohesive group with shared passion for Christ, for Trinity, and for governing responsibly and compassionately. I will miss it greatly this year.

Interim Music Director Search – I was fortunate enough to serve on this committee with the incomparably generous and talented Darryl MacPherson, Stephen Stout and Margaret Rieck who pulled together with me to vet candidates and represent Trinity in its most attractive light, allowing us to land Brandon who is serving us so well this year.

In-SPIRE-ation Art Show – who knew the true extent of the exceptional artistic talent we have in our midst? The collection was stunning and gave many of us an entirely new appreciation for some of our friends sitting right in the pews next to us! From 18 to 80, there was talent of all ages.

Honduras Fiesta – a jam-packed, jazz infused, candlelit event that brought many to pack our parish hall for delicious Latin food and a wonderful tribute to Rev. Boghetich's and Trinity's work in Honduras over the years. Plus, the lively auction brought in over \$15,000 for scholarships and building materials for our next trip.

Fairfield County Wardens' Group – Kendall and I have had the pleasure of helping to establish a group of wardens from key parishes throughout FF county – initiated by Father Nicholas and the Rectors from these churches. We are a passionate and pragmatic group who candidly share insight into budgets, common parish issues, diocesan management, staff and clergy needs and more as we benefit from each others' shortcuts and lessons learned. Michael and John will no doubt find it tremendously useful as they lead you forward.

I look back and remember joining the Vestry 5 years ago. I knew some people well but not many. My contributions had included many years of teaching Church School, wrangling pageant cherubs and Greeting but did not venture beyond that. I didn't know my way around the kitchen, and the choir loft was that faraway place where those special musical people congregated. Five years later I feel like I know every nook and cranny in the place. I have come to know and appreciate even more the talents and dedication of our staff who make every effort to keep the wheels from coming off! And I have grown even deeper in my respect for the compassion and sacrifices from our indefatigable clergy. We are blessed beyond compare.

I also have a profound appreciation for the passion and energy and just simple sacrifice of TIME from the many lay people who make our Parish tick day in and day out. Volunteers who answer the

Junior “Rector’s” Warden, *continued*

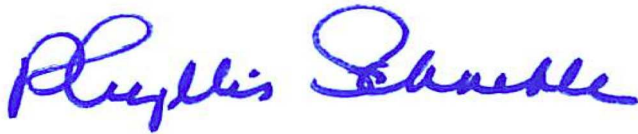
phone. Docents who lead invigorating & inspiring trips. Lay leaders who run prayer and knitting groups. Tech gurus who help install computers. Builders and architects and handymen who fix things and keep the workmen honest. Amateur chefs who feed us and those less fortunate in the community. Flower arrangers. Chalice polishers. Ushers. Readers. Teachers. Laundresses. The list goes on and on.

But my deepest regret is that the list doesn’t include everyone in our parish. Unfortunately there is still too much being done by too few. Do you realize that most Vestry members retain their committee chairmanships while they serve as Vestry and Officers? Do you think the committees get the same attention? Of course not. Some of the ministries most vital to our Parish growth are headed by people doing double and even triple duty. This should not continue.

What can you do? If you’re not on at least one committee, join one. If the committee(s) you’re on are headed by a Vestry member or officer, offer to take it over for them. Actively invite others to join your committee or ministry – tell them why you’re passionate about it. Recruit, recruit, recruit. People who are involved in multiple ways become more committed to the Parish and attract others. It’s how we grow! And how we don’t burn out the few we continually depend on.

I am looking forward to putting renewed energy into the Newcomer’s Ministry as I step down from my term as Warden. I leave this body with a satisfaction that I have done my best to serve you all well. I also am exceedingly grateful for the opportunity to serve – especially with my partner in crime, Kendall Crolius, and my dear friends Nicholas, Dawn, and Bill Duncan. I could not have imagined a more dedicated and honest and loving group to spend my time with. I hope Trinity has reaped the benefit as well.

Respectfully submitted,



Phyllis Schneble

Peoples’ (Junior) Warden

Trinity Parish Nursery School Report 2011

2011 was a year of growth, transition, and adaptation! This forty-sixth year at Trinity Parish Nursery School was filled with many blessings, as well as challenges.

We were reminded this year that a fragile economy can create financial challenges on many levels. We, along with our fellow community preschools, dealt with the reality of some open spots in our classrooms. Due to the tough economic climate the church increased our budgeted contribution from \$47,124.00 to \$52,000. Moving forward the school's contribution to the church will now be a set fee, rather than a percentage of collected revenue.

The good news is that through careful spending, thoughtful planning, and a dedicated support team we have persevered and will continue to offer the highest level of instruction dedicated to educating the whole child.

Chapel has now become one of the mainstays of our school. The collaboration between the school, the clergy and our new Youth Minister helped keep the positive energy flowing through Chapel as we said goodbye to a couple of special colleagues. This program continues to nurture our spiritual appetites and we welcome all of our school and church families to join us.

We celebrated another successful "Spring Into Trinity" gala benefit last May that helped us complete our playground update project. Additional collaboration between the community, the school, and church created the new fencing that surrounds our play area. How exciting to know that our children can play in a safe environment with quality equipment.

A true blessing this past year has been the transformation of the TPNS School Board as it grows into its new role. Under a steady, creative, and assuring leadership, this working board is exploring growth opportunities for our school. This process is opening up new and real possibilities for TPNS's future.

We have an enrollment of 108 students this year and a staff of 16. Our classrooms are full for next year with the exception of a few 2's openings. It is a very exciting time to be a part of the Trinity community as we work together to create new opportunities for growing and discovering the optimum building usage.

Please come and visit our school! We welcome all visitors and I cordially invite all members of the Trinity Church to tour our school and meet our wonderful staff and families.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Reilly, Director T.P.N.S.

Children's & Youth Ministry Director Report 2011

As the new Director of the combined Children's and Youth Ministry, it has been exciting times since November, getting to know the children and their families, as well as many of the other wonderful parishioners at Trinity. I have finally settled into my new office location—upstairs on the main floor of the Parish offices—although I continue to sort out and organize much of the great material Wendy left behind, slowly filling my shelves. There is always a chair available and a pot of hot water ready to brew for any visitor wanting to stop by for a visit.

Our Mission is to provide a comprehensive Christian education for all children to seek and know God through his son, Jesus Christ; to guide and encourage a lifelong relationship with Christ by following his teachings and commandments; and to inspire regular worship within our Episcopal faith community.

Our **Children's Time with God** (formerly known as Church School) is active with an enrollment of 45 students and an average weekly attendance of 25. We meet in the Parish Hall at 9:45AM, where there is some community activity and play time until 10AM. The curriculum is based on the premise that God is Love and that holiness can be found anywhere. We simulate the early worship service by entering into sacred space, physically separated in the Parish Hall by tables and chairs. A student volunteer lights a candle set up on a miniature altar. Prayers are read by one of the older students. Once a story or reading as been done, children are divided into two groups (that will be adjusted as more students attend). Pre-K returns to the nursery; K through Grade 2 is with Ms. Sharon and Grades 3-5 have Ms. Janet, who organized and directed the VBS this past summer with extreme success. All classes will include elements of five areas of study appropriate to their age group: Bible Literacy; Understanding Christianity; Being an Episcopalian; Real Life Applications; and Christian Living.

The foundation for the curriculum is **Godly Play**, a Montessori approach using storytelling and manipulatives, followed by open-ended "wondering" questions. This approach is founded in the belief that younger children have a basic understand of who God is, but need help developing a language to express their belief. At three years of age, God's Love is simple and accepted without question, but as a child grows, every experience provides an opportunity to strengthen their formal knowledge and spiritual foundation. We will be supplementing this program with more concrete materials that deal with the structure of worship, practical use of the Bible and Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and discussions on what it means to be a Christian in this time and place. The BCP is used during Children's Time with God and will be delved into in more detail in the K-Grade 2 class. All older children in Ms. Janet's class have received a Bible now, or will when they come to class, and instruction on where and how to locate stories and verses will be an integral part of the program. The new program will tap into the childrens' creative spirits with a weekly song related to the lesson, as well as some art and drama based on the Gospel reading, allowing children to interact and interpret the stories in ways relevant to their own lives.

Reflective activities such as Journaling with Jesus and Anglican prayer beads for mediation allow for development of individual inner strength, with Jesus as the foundation. Enabling children to exercise their spiritual muscles in a safe environment with small issues helps them to gain confidence and trust in God for all things. Preparing children for real life issues with discussions relating their lives to the Bible—the grief of fighting with a friend, failing a test, or the temptation of being offered a cigarette or beer—helps the child to be prepared to know what to do, or at least know where to turn. The concept of this program is that early lessons and learning will flow into our Youth Group as children move from elementary school to middle school pre-confirmation.

Youth Group currently meets on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesday of the month, from 6:30 to 8 PM

Children's & Youth, *continued*

in the Parish Hall, with a regular attendance of eleven members, who will be moving toward the Confirmation process in the autumn of 2012. We have been blessed this year to have our Seminarian, Stephen Blackmer, working with the group. Our challenge has been working on group dynamics and creating a cohesive assembly.

Youth Group meetings begin with a meal prepared by parents of our members. Youth members assist with set up and creating a blessing for the meal. Lessons vary on topics related to how faith and God are a part of their lives. We end each meeting with Evening Prayer, that each group member has the chance to present.

Before Christmas, we collected Hats and Mittens for children in Bridgeport and met with the social worker, Ms. Torres, who works for the Department of Children and Family Services. We are looking into an overnight retreat as well as a hoping to participate in Midnight Run in New Haven depending on scheduling. We will be planning a great end of the year Fun Trip with the money we raised by selling "Cookie Dough Ready to Bake" around Christmas.

My goals for this coming year are as follows;

- To meet with all parents personally and assess their thoughts and feelings about what we are doing well and what we need to improve on.
- To increase the regular attendance on Sunday morning and in the Youth Group.
- To provide more leadership roles for teens who have been confirmed.
- To work with all areas where our youth are involved to determine how best to support, and where needed, to improve the experience—i.e. choir, acolytes, outreach.

Faithfully submitted,

Sharon Turlis, Director of Children's and Youth Ministry

Music Report 2011

Everyone loves a good story – movies, novels, the opera, television shows . . . and when I find myself lost in the action and drama, dazzled by the creative and exquisite costumes and sets, or longing for “just one more page,” I know that I’ve found a good story. Recently, I have been captivated by the PBS series “Downton Abbey.” The period costumes, glorious sets and sceneries, and timeless stories of human struggles and experiences put forth the very best of this particular art form. As I think about art and artistry in general, I realize that it is all about the story: what has come before, what is experienced in the moment, and how we are moved forward to tell new stories. The life of the choirs and music program of Trinity has a story to tell.

The Trinity Choirs have enjoyed a reputable and accomplished history from the earliest days of the parish continuing through this past year. 2011 was a year a dynamic music-making as well as significant change. With the departure of Organist and Choirmaster Alan Murchie, there was much reflection and celebration of his time and impact upon the life of Trinity. Under his leadership, the Southport Summer Music Series provided the parish and community exquisite chamber and choral concerts that told anew Trinity’s story of musical vitality and ambition. With my appointment as Interim Organist and Choirmaster in August, I strove to continue the traditions and accomplishments of the past while ushering the choirs and the parish into a new experience and story.

Currently, there are 19 choristers and 18 adults that rehearse and sing a combined 6 hours every week – providing liturgical leadership and musical offerings for Trinity parish. Moreover, the choirs provide music for additional services throughout the year such as the All Saint’s Requiem, Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, Choral Evensong, Holy Week and Easter. In addition to my musical and liturgical work as Interim Choirmaster and Organist, I enjoy working closely with our clergy and staff in a variety of ways and areas that span the life and ministries of Trinity. During this time of transition I see my role as three-fold: continuing in the traditions of musical excellence, offering opportunities to experience new and different music and liturgy, and providing a space for discernment and reflection as the parish and its leaders seek to call the next Organist and Choirmaster. Although our story during this time might be a short one, it is no less dynamic and integral to Trinity’s life, vitality, and mission.

A good book leaves the reader wanting more and imagining what might come next. So what is next for the choirs and music program? In addition to the tireless work of the Music Director Search Committee, the first half of 2012 will bring continued musical and liturgical offerings from the choir: Choral Evensong for the Feast of Absalom Jones, Holy Week and Easter services, and a culminating liturgical offering later in the Easter season. Additionally, we are seeking ways to highlight Trinity’s two unique organs through recitals and other musical events. Finally, we are ever mindful of the need for the choir to continually grow and evolve through the addition of new choristers and adult singers, learning new repertoire, and revisiting musical traditions that have been the bedrock of Trinity’s Anglican traditions.

Through word, music, and liturgy, the Trinity choirs tell a great story. It’s a story of faith, hope, and God’s redeeming love. It’s a story that will last through the ages just as all the angels in heaven continually sing their songs of praise.

Respectfully submitted, in Christ’s Love,

Brandon Beachamp
Interim Choirmaster and Organist

Seminarian Report 2011

As part of my studies at Berkeley Divinity School at Yale, I began my tenure as Seminarian at Trinity Church in September 2011, and have felt warmly welcomed by the whole community. Thank you! With the guidance of Father Nicholas, I jumped right into working with the Youth Group, and have continued and expanded that involvement with Sharon Turlis as she has gotten up to speed.

During the fall, I spent quite a bit of time doing home pastoral visits, which proved to be a wonderful way to meet members of the congregation who aren't able to be in church regularly. I have met so many wonderful people that way!

I have also participated in the Wednesday Healing Service and Bible Study, where I have been embraced as a regular member of that group. And last, but certainly not least, I have joined the Sunday worshipping community as often I can. (When you don't see me on Sunday it means I am "visiting" my wife at our home in New Hampshire.)

Certainly one of the highlights of my time thus far was the opportunity to share a little bit of my own calling into Christ and into the priesthood in a sermon in December. Thank you all for your warmth and welcome - I feel honored to be a member of this community.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Blackmer, Seminarian

Sexton's Report 2011

I would like to thank everyone for giving me the chance to serve as your sexton. It gives me great satisfaction to fix things around the grounds. The three things I am most proud of are the sanctuary floor, the new snow removal machine, and the new blower motor I recently installed in the kitchen vent.

I look forward to being of service to you in the future, and would like to say that I may be able to do more for the church in the matter of saving money if I am consulted on maintenance issues before outside help is called in.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Preisick, Sexton

Parish Secretary Report 2011

2011 brought the kind of changes for Trinity that considerably impacted the work in the offices—the complete overhaul and upgrade of our computer system and three personnel changes.

The computer upgrade happened in late spring/early summer. Having experienced upgrades in previous job situations, and knowing it can be disruptive at least and traumatic at worst, I was impressed at how relatively smoothly ours went. Deep thanks to Lisa Newton and all parishioners who assisted in funding the upgrade, and special thanks to Kendall Crolius, Courtney Mucha, and others who assisted in the research and negotiations that secured Sebastian Soares of MavenBit, the IT person who engineered the whole process for Trinity Church. The staff and clergy are still exploring and discovering how to fully utilize all the advantages of the upgrade.

Personnel changes that have altered how my working days go include Alan Murchie and Wendy Steinfeld leaving Trinity, Brandon Beachamp and Sharon Turlis joining Trinity, and the sudden death of one of our long-term mainstay Volunteers, Ann Januski. Every leave-taking and each new beginning in our lives demands something from us, calling on us to make adjustments and to see and do things in new ways. It's been a process full of both wistfulness and gladness, and an exciting challenge that the staff is meeting extremely well together.

I, and all the staff, have been so grateful for the new and returning Office Volunteers who stepped up to fill the schedule Ann Januski covered for years. We have a terrific group of Volunteers, but are always eager to welcome new members to our roster. It is important to have enough people to cover for vacations and the many unplanned eventualities of our several lives. If you want an easy way to feel needed, loved, useful and appreciated, we do our best to fill those needs. Companion animals will be made much of, as well! Please email me: admin@trinitysouthport.org if you are interested and able to give even a few hours, or speak to our invaluable Chair of Volunteers: Dana Silzer.

The on-going challenge in my “part-time” job is fitting the work into the allotted time. Sometimes, something has to give. Sadly, this year the All Saints’ edition of the InSpire got blown out of the water by a “perfect storm” at the end of October/early November, when the Stewardship mailing, the King James Bible 400th Anniversary celebration, Ann Januski’s death, All Saints’ Sunday with two guest preachers and a Fauré Requiem Mass, the Honduras Festival and a special Youth Service all occurred in a few short weeks. My goal is to find a healthy balance. Toward this end, I will be trying a different deployment of my working hours.

As of Monday, January 30, 2012, I will be in the office from 10:00 AM until 4:30 PM Monday through Thursday, and will take Fridays off. Volunteers who help by folding and stuffing the service leaflets on Friday mornings will find the printed matter on the table in the volunteer’s office. I will miss their fellowship and friendly “heckling,” but invite them to stop in on another weekday to keep in touch!

Respectfully submitted,

Cassia Ward, Parish Secretary

Diocesan Representatives' Report 2011

The highlight for 2011 was the Annual Convention held in Hartford on Friday and Saturday, October 21 and 22. Trinity was well represented with both Patty Ford and Steve Smith joining Nicholas and Dawn for the two day event.

The Convention was lively and well attended, with over 600 attendees including lay delegates (voting and non-voting), clergy, our Bishops and administrators.

One of the most heated Resolutions was #1, which is requiring each parish to commit themselves to the 12.5% contribution of their budget to go to the diocese, otherwise, they would be penalized if contributions averaged less than 10% over a 2 year period. The diocese budget is largely formulated by these contributions, and with tough economic times, only around 70 churches are currently contributing at the 12.5% level. Another 40 or so churches contribute in the 10-12% range, and 60 are under 10% (Trinity falls in this range). With overall church attendance continuing to slide over the past 3 years, the parishes in our state are finding it harder and harder just to keep their doors open. And therefore begs the question of this Resolutions' core- is it right to hold the parishes contributions to 12.5% when many churches struggle to pay their bills.

All told, there were 13 Resolutions, all which passed except for one, which was postponed. To see a list of the Resolutions and their results, you can view them at this link:

<http://www.ctepiscopal.org/News/newsView.asp?NewsID=100&NewsCategoryID=1>.

For anyone who is interested in learning more about our experiences, please do not hesitate to contact us for a more in depth review of the Convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Smith and Patty Ford, Trinity Diocesan Representatives

Music Director Search Committee Report 2011

The Music Director Search Committee held its inaugural meeting in June 2011. The committee is composed of Whit Biggs, Claire Bollman, Nancy Edmiston, Elizabeth Fath, Mark Grayson, Thomas Lloyd, Darryl MacPherson, Adele Moran and Janet Souza.

The first task was to craft a comprehensive job description that accurately reflected the important components of the position. We interviewed Alan Murchie, the former Music Director, and used his feedback to complete the description.

Given that summer is a relatively slow period for jobseekers, we decided to begin our advertising campaign in late August/September, 2011. Our strategy was to use electronic job posting services to the extent possible. We created a short version of the job description for that purpose and posted it on the following sites:

American Guild of Organists
Association of Anglican Musicians
The Living Church Magazine (both print and online service)
Yale Institute of Sacred Music

Interested candidates were directed to the church's website for the comprehensive job description. Guidance from the American Guild of Organists determined that we should post the job for two months, through October 31, 2011.

Candidates were told to respond electronically, submitting a cover letter and CV for consideration. At meetings held in the fall, we began the challenging task of reviewing materials submitted by 40 candidates, from as far away as Australia to as close as Connecticut. Technology played a prominent role in this process. Not only did the committee utilize electronic marketing for the position with submission of candidates' materials also done electronically, we found that most candidates had websites from which we could learn more about them while listening to their organ performances.

After much spirited discussion and debate, we selected 12 candidates to pursue. Given constraints of time and money, the first round of interviews was done through written responses to five questions written by the committee. From those responses we selected seven candidates to interview in a second round. Again, limited by time and money, we agreed that teams of committee members would interview the candidates via recorded conference calls. Committee members analyzed eight hours of interviews to determine whom to invite to Trinity for interviews.

Understanding that the interview process is a two-way street, with the candidate selling us just as much as we are selling Trinity, the committee compiled a comprehensive Interview Guidelines Handbook so that we would be prepared for any questions about Trinity Church. Through research and interviews with key staff we each had a firm understanding of the attributes of the Church and were eminently prepared for all questions.

Based on our work, three finalists have been invited to interview. These multi-day visits will include interviews with the Rector, key staff members, members of the Search Committee and Vestry, an organ performance, a choir rehearsal and a music lesson with children in the nursery school. Our goal is to announce a Music Director in the spring who will begin work in late summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Edmiston
Chair, Music Director Search Committee

Prayer Chain Ministry Report 2011

During 2011 our Prayer Chain membership remained relatively the same, with one exception. We lost one of our long time members, Ann Januski and her beautiful Memorial Service was held at Trinity Church. This service was well attended and many paid tribute to Ann, who was a staff member and she worked in the office many afternoons during the week. She was a member of the Trinity Prayer Chain and a very caring member of our parish.

Our prayer chain still maintains a membership of about 35 praying members, including clergy men and women members of the parish, many who have served the prayer chain over many years. We pray for our Church, that it will continue to thrive and go forth to do the work that God has given us to do. Our prayers are continually offered for those with medical emergencies (operations, accidents and emergencies) for those who experience job loss and are in need of work, for families who struggle, as well as for people with special needs.

We thank our prayer chain members, who serve Trinity faithfully day after day.

“Ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, I have not stopped giving thanks for you remembering you in my prayers.” Eph. 1:15-16)

We look forward to a special Speaker in the New Year, The Rev. Heidi Truax, who paid us a visit during The Memorial Services for Ann Januski.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Field Barrett

Ministry of 12 Report 2011

Thanks to the generosity of spirit of the following parishioners, the Ministry of 12 provided an essential ministry to our parish family. Deep appreciation goes to: Kathleen Chandler, Peggy Duncan, Joyce Miller, Amy Nessel, Judy Nessel, Jan Perry, Judith Re, Dana Silzer, Ann Stoddard, Janet Wahnquist, Helen Watkins, and Jean Whitney, who, as 2011's monthly captains, each recruited 12 team members who agreed to be “on call” for the month to offer fill-in or emergency assistance to any parishioners in need of meals, transportation, shopping, etc.

This is a ministry “by” everyone, “for” everyone. All that is needed is a willingness to be available in case a parishioner has a specific need. This ministry has been meeting the needs of parishioners, without missing a month, for the past 10 years. If you presently have not had the opportunity to be on a monthly team, please call the captain for the month, whose name is listed in the Messenger, and offer to be part of the team.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Nessel

Altar Guild Report 2011

The Altar Guild is composed of a group of dedicated women whose responsibilities include the preparation and care of the altar for all services in the church and chapel. We also maintain and care for the ecclesiastical linens and vestments of the altar as well as the candles and the brass and silver used on the altar at each service.

The Altar Guild is also responsible for the stocking of wine and wafers used for the Holy Eucharist and the preparing and set-up for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

We are a group of Sisters in Christ dedicated to serving Our Lord at his table. Each year we gather together in fellowship at our annual Luncheon in one of our members' homes. We have a wonderful mix of ages and experience on our Altar Guild. Also, we are blessed to have one of the larger Altar Guilds in this area of Connecticut. Several of our members have many years of service, and some of our women balance work schedules with full participation on the Altar Guild. We also have women who give many additional hours of devoted service to the Altar Guild above and beyond what is required.

This year we have 15 active duty members and 3 members who substitute as needed. The beauty of the services at Trinity Southport is accomplished in no small part by the behind-the-scenes dedication and devotion of the 18 members of the Altar Guild of Trinity Church.

If you think you might have the time and interest in joining this wonderful ministry, please contact Patria Swann (226-9489)

Respectfully submitted,

Patria Swann, Chair

Flower Guild Report 2011

The Trinity Flower Guild has 10 active members who individually prepare arrangements for Sunday with flowers of the season. We also work as a team to adorn the church for special holy days, including Lent, Palm Sunday, Easter, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas, working within the allotted budget. At times we also work with those planning weddings or memorial services and consult regarding church resources and floral resources available in the area.

The Guild is in its fifth year and the work of the group gets more creative each year. It is a very dedicated, talented and congenial team, with all the members open to using their talents to explore new approaches to floral arranging.

Thanks to all the Guild members for their devotion and commitment to this wonderful ministry, and for helping to make our church such a beautiful place to worship. And a special thanks to the clergy and staff for their encouragement and support.

If you are interested in joining the Flower Guild, please contact me, Chris Frese, at home on (203) 222-0869, or on my mobile on (203) 247-9121.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Frese

Liturgical Assistants Report 2011

A special thank you to all 50 Liturgical Assistants who serve Trinity Church with their time and talents at all our church services as Lectors, Intercessors, and Chalice bearers, a very important and rewarding ministry.

A special thank you to Father Nicholas for the advanced scheduling of services which makes my job easier.

Another special thank you to Cassia Ward for all her talents and assistance. We appreciate you Cassia.

Also, I wish to acknowledge all the years of dedicated service Ann Januski gave as a Liturgical Assistant. We miss you Ann.

Thank you again for your devotion and commitment to this ministry and to Trinity Church. We will continue to have training each year for Readers and Chalice bearers.

Please contact one of the clergy or me if you would like to join this meaningful and fulfilling ministry. I may be reached at: jneiley@sbcglobal.net

Respectfully submitted,

Joan S. Neiley

Ushers' Report 2011

The group of ushers is comprised of approximately thirty men and woman who arrive before the start of each service to greet arrivals and distribute leaflets for the service, also take up the offering and assist the congregation in receiving communion, and, equally important, picking up the sanctuary following the service.

We have several new ushers who have started in the past few months or so, and for their benefit as well as a brush-up for all ushers, a review and training session was held in December. A special emphasis at that meeting was the concern with effectively dealing with services which draw congregations that fill the building.

This year, we were also able to conduct CPR sessions, as a result of which approximately twelve ushers, staff, and members of the congregation became certified to administer CPR, should that ever be necessary.

I am grateful to all of the ushers for the loyal and committed service. It is a very important function in the life of Trinity Church. I also wish to acknowledge the support of the clergy and administrative staff in making the job easier.

Respectfully submitted,

Whitney Biggs, Chairman

Prayer Shawl Ministry Report 2011

The Prayer Shawl Ministry met each week throughout the year on Mondays in the Library to make baby blankets for babies being baptized at Trinity, and prayer shawls for those suffering from illness, grief, or any other adversity. There are currently nineteen members, and about twelve attend on a regular basis, some being on temporary leave of absence for various reasons.

During the five years of our Ministry we have given away 180 shawls and blankets. The names of the recipients are entered in a book we keep that also contains prayers for the Ministry and the history of Prayer Shawl Ministries, which are world-wide. The Ministry welcomes new members and compassionate instruction is available for those who have never knitted, or for whom it has been awhile.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Whitney, Corresponding Secretary

Foyer Groups' Report 2011

Foyer Groups have been a long-standing tradition at Trinity. They are typically groups of eight to ten adults who meet for food and fellowship. It is a great way for parishioners to get to know one another and deepen relationships as they break bread together.

Everyone takes a turn hosting and contributing a part of the meal. Gatherings can be done at home, at the beach, at the park, or wherever you choose—the sky's the limit! We've had a great start to this year's program and we're looking forward to it continuing in 2012. If you would like to join a Foyer Group, please let us know and we would be happy to accommodate you. Contact Eileen Weber at epwbr@yahoo.com or Deb Valentin at sugardeb@aol.com

Respectfully submitted,

Deb & Eileen

Welcome Ministry Report 2011

The Welcome Ministry's mission is to provide a warm and welcoming bridge from the moment someone considers Trinity as a potential spiritual home to their integration into the parish over the course of their first year. It is a dynamic and fluid process with many points of entry which present challenges for identify, tracking and nurturing the new relationships.

Greeting on Sunday mornings is a mainstay of our ministry. We have a dedicated group of parishioners who welcome and engage visitors on Sunday mornings with a smile, a handshake and cheerful conversation. These Greeters also encourage visitors to provide us with their contact information by writing it in the Visitors' Book in the Narthex or completing one of the visitor information cards available in every pew.

The information provided in the Visitors' Book and pew cards, as well as, communications from parishioners, staff, and clergy is compiled by a Welcome Ministry member and followed with a letter of welcome from our committee and a packet of information about the parish. In 2011, we sent out Welcome Packets to 17 households.

In March, we hosted a newcomer cocktail party in the beautiful home of Liz Sheppard. The evening gave us all an opportunity to get to know one another better in a relaxed and gracious atmosphere.

As always, we encourage everyone in the parish to share the ministry of welcoming – at the peace, during coffee hour or on the front steps. Please reach out, introduce yourself if you don't know someone's name and ask how you can help get them involved. A warm and welcoming congregation is key to growth of our parish family.

We are grateful for the work and generosity of core ministry members, Janet Kovacs, Judy Nessel, Jan Perry, Jean Rae, Liz Sheppard, Pat Spoor, and Eileen Weber, and our dedicated Greeters, Elise Bates, Dabney Bowen, Sheila Capute, Kim Craig, Gail & Barry Ficken, Katherine Friedline, Barbara Seymour, Doug Soutar, Sally Waugh, and Judi Wolstenholme.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Azarm, Amy Dutter, Phyllis Schneble, Co-Chairs

Trinity Women's Fellowship Group 2011

The idea for The Trinity Women's Fellowship Group came to Charlotte Bartol and Dabney Bowen in 2010 as a way for women with young children to explore and grow their spiritual lives through bible study and fellowship. They approached Mother Dawn with the idea, recruited other Trinity moms and soon the group began to grow. Pat Spoor was brought on board to partner with Dawn as a facilitator and leader for the group. Over the year, a total of eight members regularly attended the hour and a half weekly morning meetings (after little ones were off at school.)

The goal was to connect with God's Word through studying the Gospels of Luke and John while discussing how His Word related to modern life here in Fairfield County. On occasion, a hiatus was taken from the Gospel studies to explore meditation, or to share personal spiritual moments. Over the past year a powerful dynamic, combining spiritual exploration with true fellowship, helped to change some relationships – within and between group members, with Trinity Church, and with Jesus.

In 2012, we are looking to grow the group, and share more widely what we members have found to be enriching. Trinity Women's Fellowship Group is having an open house on Valentine's Day, **Tuesday, February 14**, as a way to introduce new members into the group. We will also begin a special 6-week discussion in preparation for Lent, facilitated by Mother Dawn and Pat. For busy moms, we hope to provide a nurturing place for spiritual exploration and development while facilitating a sense of community and fellowship here at Trinity Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Bartol

Men's Bible Study 2011

The Men's Bible Study continues to help the participants, with varying degrees of comfort and knowledge, explore and discuss the Bible as well as build fellowship. Men's Bible Study has met over the past year in 6- or 8-week sessions under the excellent guidance and leadership of our Rector, The Reverend Nicholas T. Porter.

In 2011 the group engaged in studies of Great Men of the Bible - Old and New Testament, The Gospel according to St. Luke, as well as St. Paul's Letter to the Romans.

The group meets on Tuesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 PM, and is open to all men—no prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary. If you are interested or have any questions on this special group, please feel free contact Michael Bantén at 203-254-2502 or mbanten@optonline.net

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Bantén

Mission & Outreach Report 2011

2011 was a pivotal year for Trinity's Honduras Mission work culminating in the successful Honduras Benefit in November where we honored our longtime friend, the Rev. Barbara Boghetich, pastor of our Honduran sister church, raised enough money to support over 30 scholarship students, funded the construction project for our 2013 trip and had a lot of fun. Parishioners and friends supported efforts purchasing homemade chili, Honduran coffee, sponsoring scholarship students, and enthusiastically donating at the Benefit.

Earlier in the year, Trinity sent its ninth group of parishioners on a mission trip to Honduras, making a total over the years of 96 travelers ranging in age from 13 to 83. These pilgrims arrived in the country with great zeal to serve others less fortunate than ourselves, worship among a people different in culture yet common in faith, and deepen our relationships with God and each other. We visited Rev. Boghetich's church and worked in the Copan area on infrastructure projects with homeowners building fuel efficient stoves, latrines, cement floors and water pilas.

Since 2000 Trinity has maintained a mission relationship with the San Lucas church in a small village near San Pedro Sula, Honduras, sending teams to work on various construction projects that include building a road to the church, constructing latrines, interior walls, steps, and a water tower. In addition Trinity has since 2002 consistently supported scholarship students with funds for their middle and high school years.

2011 brought a broader awareness of Trinity's 11 years of mission work in Honduras and an enthusiasm that heralds and secures a continued commitment and relationship. Many thanks to all those who have worked and supported these efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Proctor & Jill Walker
Honduras Scholarship Chairs

Property Committee Report 2011

During 2011, this committee made every effort to maintain the beauty of our historical religious building in the most economical means possible.

In the storms of 2010 our front white sign had been damaged beyond repair. In January 2011 it was replaced, paid for by insurance funds and approved by the Historical District.

Ed Michaels and Steve Bollman spent many hours videoing Trinity Church, Trinity Parish Nursery School, the Rectory, the administrative offices and all common areas of our facility to document what we have in case of an insurance need. This documentation is kept up in Hartford.

In February 2011, a very large, very old oak tree located between the Church, the TPNS playground, and the neighboring Palmisano's yard dropped a branch the size of a regular tree into the neighbor's yard. This prompted inspection of the tree. Two different certified arborists took core samples and determined a significant amount of decay in the main section of the trunk. It was then agreed that the tree needed to be taken down. A section of this beautiful white oak was saved to cut into board material for a "to be determined project" at Trinity.

Our heating and air conditioning controls have always been a confusing nightmare for anyone attempting to change the temperature. A modification to the control system was installed by a new heating vendor. This modification simplified the system so that different people can control the temperature, not only at the church, but remotely, if needed. The upgrade was paid for by a donation from a generous parishioner. This same vendor successfully submitted the winning bid for our system maintenance contract.

A failing Rectory roof and gutters caused much damage this year. Exterior soffits and moldings were damaged, and there was much water damage inside the home of our Rector and his family. During the summer, therefore, a new cedar roof was installed, with a new water barrier under the cedar shingles; flashings and soffits were repaired; and gutters were reinstalled correctly. These major repairs were funded through a major grant from the Southport Area Association, insurance claims, and from Trinity Church itself. The Property Committee is currently negotiating with our insurance company regarding coverage of the balance of the interior damage to the Rectory.

In early summer, our kitchen freezer failed. Repair options were explored, but it was determined the best course of action was replacement.

Abel painting painted the area in front of the Memorial Garden.

We have secured a new oil guarantee with McGoldrick fuel, including a service contract.

During this past year, many leaky (and clogged) toilets, stuck locks, leaky windows—and the list goes on—were repaired by contractors and/or by our Sexton, Russ.

Many thanks to all who helped in 2011!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Funk

Stewardship Report 2011

2012 Pledge Campaign: *2012 Pledge Campaign:* As of January 20, 2012, Trinity has received 166 pledges totaling \$388,351. We are at about 82% of our reduced pledge goal of \$475,000 for 2012. We wish to thank everyone who *has* pledged (see list below) and make a plea to those who have *not* to please submit your pledge as soon as possible. Our pledges support Trinity's many ministries and programs, and are also an essential part of the church's annual budget and planning process.

Trinity Legacy Giving: We wish to extend a special thanks to Trinity's past and present parishioners who have further given to the church with a legacy bequest in their wills, or who have made a specially planned donation. These very loving gifts are vital to your church's future and will be memorialized by the establishment of a Trinity Legacy Society.

Respectfully submitted,
Davidson Williams, Stewardship Chair

In the list of pledging individuals below, bulleted names increased their pledge in 2012. Names followed by a cross have arranged planned giving, and will be part of the Trinity Legacy Society.

Anonymous	Jane Dean •
P. J. Anthony	Bill & Peg Duncan • †
Bob & Andrea Arnold •	Andy & Amy Dutter
Bahman & Andrea Azarm	Robert Edmiston
Greg & Susan Bambach	Lynn Enquist
Jean Bancroft •	Patty Ford •
Michael & Colleen Bantzen •	Chris & Tina Frantz
Michael & Alison Barry	Ted & Chris Frese •
Charlotte Bartol	Jeremy & Joan Frost •
Ruth Barton	Jim & Sandra Funk
Eddie Belair	Todd Gagne & Lianne Nelson •
Henry Bertram	Steve Galpin
Kelsey & Sissy Biggers	Joan Gartin •
Charles & Karen Biggs	Nancy Gilliland
James Biggs	Darren Gillmor
Pauline Biggs	Paul & Mary Gojkovich
Whit Biggs	Arthur & Caroline Gravanis
Geoff & Bea Birt	Colin Green
John Bisack	Jennifer & Sandy Guthrie
Richard Blaker •	Harold Heck •
Steve & Sarah Bollman	Christopher & Kimberly Heyn
Barbara Burian	Ellis & Sandy Hiltz • †
Joe & Sheila Capute	William Hodgkinson
Virginia Cargill	Ann Januski †
Sue Carpenter	David & Ann Jones
John & Priscilla Chatfield	Gil Kellersman
Michael & Carol Chueka	John & Stephanie Kodweis •
Carlo & Molly Ciardi	John & Heather Kreidler
George & Elisabeth Clark	Julia Lewis •
Lois Coleman •	Thomas Lloyd •
Tommy & Kim Craig	David & Suzanne Loggie
Patricia Crouse •	Roger & Susan Ludwig •
Alice Crowther	Darryl & Nancy MacPherson
Robert & Catherine Cunningham	Mark & Kerry Malzewski
Amy Waugh Curry	Edward Madden & Nancy Marcantonio •

Stewardship, *continued*

Chris, Ann & Erik March •
Beverly McArthur •
Dennis & Sarah McCarthy
Ed & Hilary Michaels •
Leland & Virginia Miles †
James & Joyce Miller
Les & Daphne Mitchell
Jean Moffitt
Ryan & Adele Moran
John Morgan & Judith Re •
Paul & Courtney Mucha •
Enid Munroe
Jonathan Murphy •
Anita & K. Randall Myer
John & Jane Neal
Joan Neiley •
David & Judy Nessel •
Dorothy Nessel
Nelson & Peg North •
William & Jacqueline O'Brien
Barbara Octavio
Fran O'Gorman •
Jonathan & Shelly Olson
Samuel Palmisano
Phil & Beryl Perrigo
Jan Perry
The Rev. Nicholas & Dorothy Porter •
Sarah Powel
Ched & Judy Proctor •
Helen Proctor
Stephen & Kathrine Radziewicz
Jack & Jean Rae
Thomas & Ellen Reilly
Fred & Lucy Reinhardt
Luis & Christine Restrepo •
Chris & Margaret Rieck •
Patricia Ritchie
Jon & Liz Robert •
Polly Roessler
Deering Rose
Mary Rousseau
Thérèse Russell
Evelyn Saxonmeyer
Christian Schick •
Hank & Tia Schilling
Schlosser Dianne
Phyllis Schneble
Kraig & Suzanne Schulz •
Richard & Cynthia Searight •
Jeffrey & Barbara Seymour •
Jocelyn Shaw
Liz Sheppard •
Tracy Siano
Dana Silzer †
David & Janet Smith •
Chris & Jennifer Smith
Melanie Smith
Nancy O. Smith Sandy Smyth
Max Soper
Doug Soutar
Janet Souza •
Patricia Spoor
Murry & The Rev. Dawn Stegelmann
Bebe Stetson • †
Mary Lee Stiegler
Grove & Ann Stoddard •
John Stokes
Stephen Stout & Kendall Crolus •
The Rev. Cecily Stranahan
David Sturges • †
Tom Sturges •
Greta Sutphen
Chris & Carol Swan
Peter & Patria Swann
Devota Swenson
Jane Talamini
Sheila Traub •
Bernie & Paulette Trueblood
Ellie Tsurdinis
Sharon Turlis
Alex & Judy Urquhart •
John & Mary Anne Urquhart •
Deborah Valentin
Ursula Van Arnam
Steven & Brenda Van Fleet
Mary von Conta
Harvey & Janet Wahnquist
Janet & Gwynne Wales
Carl & Jill Walker •
Lois Ware
Dennis & Ellen Wasson
Bill & Helen Watkins
John & Ann Watkins
Sally Waugh
John & Eileen Weber •
Alexa Wheeler
Nonnye Wheeler
Susan Whitcomb •
Jean Whitney
Davidson & Barbara Williams
John & Muriel Williams
Ken & Mary Wilson
Jean Winton •

Treasurer's Report 2011

Operations

Trinity recorded a net operating surplus of \$1,200 in 2011, as Total Income of \$885,600 exceeded Total Expenses of \$884,400. This compares favorably to the budgeted deficit of \$62,100 and to 2010 when we recorded a net loss of \$179,600. This is the first time in many years that Trinity has not recorded an operating loss.

For the year 2011, 211 families made pledges totaling \$453,000. This is down from 215 families who pledged \$503,200 in 2010. Pledge payments in 2011 were \$437,000, slightly under budget, but many people made late payments in January. Pledges over the years have remained flat and support only half of the Parish budget.

Other contributions of \$275,400 exceeded budget by \$93,400. This includes two bequests totaling \$53,000 and grants of \$23,000. It also includes generous contributions from members of the parish for special mission, upgrades to our computer and HVAC systems, and kitchen improvements. While a few members continue to fund special needs and activities, the annual budgeting must be based on predictable and promised sources of income.

Trinity's Nursery School has provided a steady source of income, which should increase as the school continues to grow. Other uses of church property provide modest income and we are looking for ways to make our space more useful to the broader community.

Investment Income contributed \$108,500, or 12% of our budget. This was down \$12,000 from last year due to low interest rates and also a number of principal withdrawals over the years.

With a close eye on expense control, the Vestry and staff have managed to reduce Total Expenses 17% from 2010, and we came in \$31,400 under the 2011 budget. Total Expenses in 2011 were \$884,400. Unfortunately, to achieve these reductions we decided to temporarily trim our Diocesan pledge. We plan to restore this in 2013.

From a financial perspective, 2011 was an extraordinary year in which we achieved a modest surplus. Clearly this was helped by unbudgeted donations.

Balance Sheet

Trinity's cash position at year-end was \$163,500, up from \$143,700 a year ago. Although this covered our liability reserves of \$149,000, the free operating cash was just \$21,000.

Endowment funds stood at \$3,233,700 at year-end. This compares to \$3,340,700 at the end of 2010, down 3%. During the year we made a net withdrawal of \$9,200 principal for operations. Bernstein manages Trinity's endowments, and the allocation of funds among asset classes is reviewed regularly, by the Investment Committee. A breakdown of our Endowment as to restrictions is as follows:

	2010	2011
Unrestricted	\$ 1,308,000	\$ 1,242,300
Restricted – Music	\$ 1,658,600	\$ 1,627,100
Restricted – Other	\$ 374,100	\$ 364,300
Total	\$ 3,340,700	\$ 3,233,700

Respectfully submitted,

William Duncan, Treasurer

2012 Budget Summary

Trinity's 2012 budget projects a deficit of \$46,000, an improvement from last year's budget, but still short of our breakeven goal. Every year that Trinity runs a deficit results in drawing down principal from our unrestricted endowment fund.

Total Income for 2012 is budgeted to be \$827,000, down \$58,000 from the 2011 actual results, while Total Expenses are projected to be \$873,000, or \$11,000 lower than 2011. Regrettably, this leaves us with an operating shortfall as referenced above.

The Pledge Goal this year is \$475,000, which is \$25,000 higher than last year's goal. While there have been a healthy level of prepayments, as of this writing we are still shy of achieving this goal.

Other contributions, including plate collections and special donations, are budgeted at \$148,000. That figure is quite a bit lower than the \$275,000 we achieved in 2011, but last year included two bequests, a fundraiser for Honduras scholarships and generous donations for such things as computer and HVAC upgrades and kitchen replacements.

Trinity Parish Nursery School increased their contribution to \$54,000 reflecting their continued success.

Total Investment Income is budgeted at \$102,000, down just slightly from last year, reflecting continuation of the low interest rate environment.

It is unfortunate but true that our parish giving simply does not support the cost of Trinity's ministries and programs and the maintenance of our beautiful facilities. Pledging has trended flat at best over the recent years and investment returns are down. In response to this, the Staff and Vestry have worked hard over the last few years to trim expenses. The result of this endeavor is evident when comparing the 2009 expense base of \$1.157,000 to this year's budget – down 25%.

Last year the Vestry decided to temporarily reduce our pledge to the Connecticut Diocese, and we paid only \$16,000 to the Diocese instead of the formula based \$90,000. For 2012 the Vestry decided to budget the same - \$16,000. It is our intention to return to the formula requirement in 2013.

Our two largest expense categories are Human Resources, and Property. Salaries and Benefits are budgeted to increase 3%, while property is budgeted to be 8% lower. The Property Committee is working with an absolute bare-bones budget with no money for contingencies. Since Trinity has not traditionally set aside reserves for repairs and replacements, any unforeseen capital improvement would have to be funded outside the budget.

Most of our ministries and programs will be operating at reduced expense levels in 2012. The two exceptions are Mission & Outreach, which will have it's own fundraiser, and Christian Education, where we have a new director. The Vestry will continue to closely manage Trinity's financial affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

William Duncan, Treasurer