



EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Southport, Connecticut

Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 30, 2011

2010 Annual Report

Trinity Episcopal Church

2010 Vital Statistics

Baptisms:	6
Marriages:	6
Confirmations:	0
Burials:	6
Total attendance at all services:	15,839
Average Sunday attendance:	265

Rector

Curate

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Clerk

Treasurer

The Rev. Nicholas T. Porter

The Rev. Dawn M. Stegelmann

Kendall Crolius

Phyllis Schneble

Sarah Bollman

William Duncan

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Table of Contents

Rector’s Report3
Curate’s Report4
“Rector’s” Senior Warden Report5
“People’s” Junior Warden Report.....7
Music Report8
Church School Director’s Report.....9
Trinity Parish Nursery School Report11
Youth Report.....12
Parish Secretary’s Report13
Diocesan Representatives’ Report.....14
Sexton’s Report14
Altar Guild Report.....15
Flower Guild Report15
Liturgical Assistants’ Report.....16
Ushers’ Report.....16
Prayer Shawl Ministry Report17
Foyer Groups’ Report.....17
Welcome Ministry Report.....18
Ministry of 12 Report.....18
Property Committee Report.....19
Mission & Outreach Report.....20
Stewardship Report22
Investment Committee Report.....24
Treasurer’s Report25
Budget Summary 201126
Proposed Budget 201127

Rector's Report 2010

The pattern and rhythm of 2010 drew Trinity Church deeper into discipleship. Christian ministry and mission depend on commitment, leadership and sacrifice. My sabbatical, staff changes, and a tight budget created opportunities for just that, and a variety of youth, women, and men responded. The faith and courage of their discipleship led our parish toward a more shared, cooperative ministry and greater spiritual maturity. This important shift is intensifying our relationships with the Lord and one another and is equipping us all for our church's future mission. My thanks and appreciation go to all staff, wardens, officers, vestry, volunteers and parishioners for making this transition possible. Three central initiatives undertaken in 2010 best illustrate the deepening discipleship at Trinity Church.

Youth Group. Shortfalls in funding led to the departure of our youth minister last February. Meetings between the staff, parents, vestry, wardens, and youth produced a leadership team that introduced a new curriculum and involved parents and other adult parishioners. Two youth groups emerged, one for those seeking Confirmation and another for younger teens and "tweens." The participation of parents, sponsors, volunteer leaders and the youth has restored its vitality and moved the program closer to the heart of Trinity Church.

Sabbatical. Rectors customarily go on sabbatical to renew their leadership and vision of the parish every five years. My experience included pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Spain; planning a peace education camp for Palestinian, American, and Israeli teens in Vermont; and travel in the Middle East. I returned brimming with energy and insights to find our staff, vestry, wardens and parishioners expanding the ministries of fellowship, music, education and our facilities under the leadership of our Curate, the Rev. Dawn Stegelmann.

Communications. Effective communication – both internally and externally – is a necessity for effective ministry and mission. In the 21st Century, such communication relies on technology. A team of parishioners and staff enhanced our website and added Facebook, Twitter, and Constant Contact to our basket of communication tools. Their work, in turn, inspired generous gift from a parishioner to underwrite the new website. The project's next phase is the replacement of the office hardware and system which is now outdated and faulty.

The responsibility of discipleship involves financial responsibility for Trinity Church's mission and ministry. Our donations and giving do not support the facility and operations of our church at the level we have come to expect. The staff and committee chairs ably kept spending significantly under budget, but this was not enough. Why? This parish spends \$4,366 on each household in our parish, and yet the average giving of contributing households is \$2,893. Our limited endowment has covered the deficit. This cannot continue. To continue our mission and ministry, the gap must be closed by each and every one of us through increased pledging, special donations, and planned giving (remembering Trinity Church in our will).

2011 will be a better year for the people who together with God are Trinity Episcopal Church because the Lord loves us. Within this New Year are Christ Jesus' blessings for various plans and initiatives begun in response to the challenges of 2010. Attendance and participation is robust. New leaders are stepping forward and previous ones are returning. Our Radical Sabbatical promises to renew and focus our parish's passion and purpose. This is essential to the call of meaningful personal discipleship and relevant parish ministry and mission – that we serve others in Christ's Name by offering hope, vision and leadership for the families of Southport, Fairfield, Bridgeport and beyond.

Respectfully submitted on this 30th day of January, 2010 A.D.,

Nicholas T. Porter +

24th Rector

Curate's Report 2010

This past year was one of grace, growth, and challenge for Trinity's curate. Leadership opportunities were abundant both within the parish during the rector's four-and-a-half month sabbatical and vacation, and outside the parish during the two weeks spent at Trinity Wall Street's Clergy Leadership Project. In addition to regular services, I officiated at Sunday night vespers from January through May, six weddings, and four funerals. There was the start-up of the Trinity Book Group (our actual first meeting was in December 2009). Special thanks go to Clarissa Porter for her co-leadership and to Dana Silzer, who stepped in this fall to help with the monthly potluck dinner logistics. Another start-up was the Young Women's Fellowship Group. Many thanks to Dabney Bowen and Charlotte Bartol, whose initiative brought this weekly group together, and to Pat Spoor, whose co-leadership is a gift to me. The monthly services at Carolton and Southport Manor were always a joy, especially with the help of Sue Carpenter and Ellen Wasson.

Our parish hosted visits from Father Hanna Mansour during June and from Deacon Richard Cole in July. Each preached on three Sundays. Father Hanna spoke at the Wednesday Bible Study and the two of us con-celebrated in English and Arabic. Richard gave presentations on Handel's *Messiah* at two well-attended adult forums. Thank you to all those parishioners who opened their homes and provided extraordinary hospitality to our guest clergy.

While Father Nicholas was away, we said goodbye to a full-time sexton and hired a cleaning service and a part-time sexton, Russ Preisick. While this reflected a significant savings in our budget, our parish had to make some adjustments and many people pitched in to do the additional work of setting up, taking down and preparing for various events. I also was privileged to work from April to mid-August more closely with our extraordinary staff, which includes our music director, Alan Murchie; our finance administrator, Melanie Andrews; our parish secretary, Cassia Ward; our Church School Director, Wendy Steinfeld; and our Nursery School Director, Meg Reilly. We are a strong team, and worked very hard to make the office run as smoothly as possible. Our number one goal, which I believe was achieved, was to keep things running smoothly and help make Father Nicholas' return as easy and helpful as we could. It should be noted—and is no surprise!—the Office Volunteers were an invaluable help to us. I also want to offer my deep appreciation to Father Mark Glidden, who so ably assisted at Sunday morning worship and visited some of our house-bound parishioners.

This fall, Pat Spoor and I co-led a one-day retreat at Greenfield Congregational Church. Our theme was "Exploring Personal Spirituality" and the event was well-attended. Special thanks go to Colleen Banten and Jill Walker for their help with the planning, sustenance, and support. Based on feedback, we hope to have more retreat opportunities this year. Another highlight of the fall was providing spiritual direction to a group of first-year students at Yale Divinity School. All of the students are in their 20s, and their enthusiasm, faith, and commitment to their call to ministry gives me great hope for our universal church. Our weekly meetings will commence again in February for the winter/spring term.

On a personal note, my husband, Murry, and I enjoyed hosting and attending several foyer dinners throughout the spring and summer. We also continue to be deeply grateful for the welcome Murry and (when they are back from school) our three boys receive at the 8 o'clock service. Finally, I want to thank Father Nicholas for his patience and the support he gives me. His knowledge and encouragement enrich my ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Mother Dawn Stegelmann+

“Rector’s” Senior Warden Report 2010

It has been an honor to serve as Senior Warden for Trinity Church this year – and what an interesting year it has been!

As Father Nicholas departed for his well-deserved sabbatical, his absence created a vacuum that left us all off balance. But that dislocation became a time for growth and refreshment not only for Nicholas, but for those of us left behind. I was delighted by Nicholas’ occasional texts from horseback, but tried to respect the integrity of his sabbatical and only contacted him on one or two occasions. His immediate responses clearly indicated that we were very much in his thoughts and prayers even as he was focused on the opportunities for growth and refreshment that his sabbatical offered.

Mother Dawn did a spectacular job, stepping up to take on increased responsibilities, and it was a joy to see her rise to the occasion and grow in her ministry. Father Mark also stepped up to provide pastoral care to the parish. We welcomed our guest clergy, Father Hanna Mansour and Deacon Richard Cole, and learned so much from both of them as they shared their gifts of ministry with us. So many parishioners reached out to them to welcome them and integrate them into the life of our community. We learned so much from both of these remarkable men, and we are grateful for their contributions to our community.

Alan Murchie and his magnificent musical ministry, in worship and his world-class concert series, enriched us all. Our talented and dedicated staff – Wendy, Cassia and Melanie – pitched in to fill the gaps and contributed new thinking and approaches. We were blessed to find Russ as our new Sexton, and welcome him to our Trinity family.

This was also an opportunity for the lay leadership to step up – and they did. I am very grateful to all the members of the Vestry and all of the Committee chairs and members who have dedicated their time and talents to leading Trinity this year. I am especially grateful to our People’s Warden, Phyllis Schneble, whose tireless efforts and unfailing good humor have been an immense source of strength and joy to me.

This “stepping up” in lay leadership is part of what I see as the over-arching theme for this past year – which is strengthening the infrastructure that supports our collective ministry.

- As we made the painful decision to eliminate the position of Youth and Outreach minister, we were able to fill that gap with the talents of parishioners Katie Gojkovich, Kathleen Chandler, and Jon and Elizabeth Robert who are now leading our vibrant and growing youth program.
- Our committee heads and committee members have demonstrated their devotion and their creativity in addressing issues and developing new solutions.
- Over a dozen parishioners have stepped up to lead a new group called the Music Guild, which will support Alan in his splendid music ministry here.
- We formed a strategic planning committee – with Bill Duncan, John Morgan, Steve Chandler, Bob Cunningham and Jane Dean – who have completed the first steps towards developing a long term vision for our parish.
- The Library has undergone a complete renovation, funded by an anonymous donor, to provide a more comfortable space for the many meetings that take place there. Donors and volunteers made possible the renovation of Alan’s office and the choir room as well as

Continued on next page

Senior “Rector’s” Warden, *continued*

Wendy’s office. The main offices have been reconfigured to provide both a more welcoming environment for visitors and more privacy for our clergy.

- Importantly, through the great generosity of a parishioner, we have completed the redesign and upgrade of our website to enable us to communicate with parishioners and prospective members more effectively, and have shifted much of our communication to less costly email. I am so grateful to the communications committee and the others who worked for countless hours to get this done.

As we look forward to 2011, the theme of “stepping up” to shared responsibility for our ministry continues, as we build on the foundation we have established this year.

Our financial situation is critical. Our pledges are down vs. last year; our income does not cover our operating expenses, and we cannot continue to deplete our endowment to cover our budget shortfalls. Bill Duncan will present our financial picture in more detail, but what this means is that we must all step up to take responsibility for our ministry – with our time, with our talent and with our treasure.

One step we are taking is to spread the responsibility for fundraising.

- Several parishioners are aggressively pursuing alternative sources of income, and groups including Mission & Outreach and the newly formed Music Guild are taking on increased responsibility for fundraising in their areas.
- We know that our community has responded generously in the past to appeals for specific projects, and we will be making specific appeals for critical projects including upgrading our IT systems. Our staff is incredibly dedicated and hard working, and they are regularly and significantly hampered in their efforts by antiquated computer systems, which are a critical priority for upgrades.

The other step we must take is to spread the responsibility for time and talent.

- Our clergy and our staff cannot do it all.
- Each of us is called to find the ways that we can contribute – whether it is volunteering in the office, teaching in Sunday School, leading a class for Youth Group, serving dinner at St. Luke’s, or fixing a parishioner’s leaky faucet. I urge you to find a new way this year to contribute your time and talent to our ministry.

Over the next few months, all of us are “going on sabbatical” to find our passion for ministry. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to explore together new ways to grow closer to God and to each other. It won’t be “business as usual” and that is a good thing. I pray that our Radical Sabbatical will accelerate our spiritual journey and enable us, with God’s help, to build on our strong foundation a vibrant future for Trinity Church.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kendall

Kendall Crolius, Rector’s Warden

“People’s” Junior Warden Report 2010

This has been an incredibly busy year with many great things happening at Trinity. As Peoples’ Warden, I’ve been focused on 3 main tasks:

Making our Club to Co-op transition for Trinity come to life.

Raising the spirit of volunteerism is critical to the growth of Trinity and will be a key factor in moving us to financial stability. Our heritage of Trinity as “club”—a place you belong to, pay dues and receive services—does not help us to create an open and welcoming environment and is unrealistic as the total “dues” we all contribute do not meet the services we all consume year over year. Each of us needs to commit to pitching in from the mundane (cleaning up the kitchen) to the spectacular (Middle Eastern dinners with MidEast Forums.) Staff and Clergy are not enough to keep this place going at the pace we use it. They are the skeleton upon which it is built, but we must be the flesh and blood that keep it thriving. And we all know how the spirit of volunteerism is life-giving—it will not only keep us interconnected but also showcase us as a vibrant and open community attractive to newcomers.

Continuing to shine the light on the Vestry so all know who we are and what we’re up to.

We have been doing a few things to make sure everyone knows more about the Vestry. Hopefully you’ve noticed we all wear nametags at services. This is so you all get to see the faces and also have an easy introduction to find us and ask a question, offer a suggestion or, not that this EVER happens . . . lodge a complaint. We are clearly identifiable on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and on the new and improved Trinity website. Additionally, I’ve been writing a regular column in The Spire, The Voice of the Vestry, with updates on how we’ve been spending our time and what plans we are putting in place to continue to lead Trinity forward.

Supporting Clergy and other Officers as we make tough decisions to right our financial situation.

Kendall, Bill, Father Nicholas and I have been a unified voice in getting our Trinity family to come to grips with the fiscal reality of maintaining a beautiful but expensive physical plant and supporting a vast array of educational, spiritual and artistic programs with insufficient income and pledging. We’ve had to watch costs closely, work hard to raise awareness among the congregation that Trinity has been running at an unsustainable deficit for too long, and make some difficult choices in cutting or deferring expenses on various things.

I am honored to serve as an Officer and blessed to be part of this congregation. And I am indebted to the incredible partnership and leadership of our Senior Warden, Kendall Crolius. I look forward to another busy and exciting year ahead.

Trinity continues feed me and my family with spiritual growth, intellectual enrichment and fellowship. I am grateful to be able to give back.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Schneble
Junior “Peoples” Warden

Music Report 2010

For Trinity's music program, 2010 began with a gift – an exceedingly generous gift – as Eric Jacobsen and eighteen of his Knights colleagues traveled up to Southport to give us, and I mean truly to *give* us, an evening of music that began with music of Bach and ended with Mozart's sublime *Gran Partita* for winds. There was no admission charge. We were simply treated to a special and uplifting evening as we heard great musicians play great music. And with this extraordinary evening of music, the year began to claim its identity, in ways none of us could have anticipated, as a year of generous musical gift-giving from so many: from The Knights, who would return again and again to play for us in ensembles both small and large; from Mystic Bowie and the myriad splendid musicians who gave of their time and talent to raise money for disaster relief in Haiti; most of all, from our parish choirs – six strong, with more than 100 members – who worked for countless hours to prepare liturgies throughout the season, to sing music of Bach and Vivaldi at our gala spring concert, and to make a new CD for Christmas called *When Half-Spent Was the Night*.

Along the way, many other remarkable musicians and friends of music gave generously of their gifts. Amanda and Eliza Fath, brilliant young instrumentalists and members of the parish, joined the local virtuoso pianist Alex Beyer for our *Mozart Vespers* series of evening liturgies, playing music of Bach, Elgar, Debussy, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Fauré and, of course, Mozart. Whit Biggs, assistant to the legendary James Litton here at Trinity, once again gave generously of his considerable gifts as organist, playing a half-dozen liturgies and arriving early on every Sunday morning so that, if the early service ran long, music would continue uninterrupted as rehearsal began in the choir loft for the next service. Joan Neiley gave us a musical evening she had won at a silent auction: a festive evening of George Gershwin played by celebrated Gershwin pianist Orin Grossman of Fairfield University. She also gave our Friends of Music a fabulous thank-you reception, with champagne and her signature hors d'oeuvre. Jean Moffitt also gave generously of her considerable culinary talent to the music program, providing gracious hospitality for dozens of musicians at our summer festival.

I carry with me many wonderful pictures of a year characterized by giving: Tom and Brenda Lloyd washing dishes at the end of Summer Festival receptions, Kendall Crolus and her entire family working tirelessly in the choir loft throughout the hot summer, painting and lifting and moving and organizing, bringing it vibrant new color and helping it to further accommodate our wonderful and growing team of singers of all ages. A music guild meeting for the first time and sharing its excitement for the future of music at Trinity. The Chorale attending Wednesday rehearsals faithfully to prepare for a deeply affecting All Saints Choral Requiem with music by Gabriel Fauré.

But no image is more indelible than that of our dedicated team of singers gathering Sunday after Sunday to make music together. The loft begins to fill by 9 AM, and within minutes is alive with beautiful voices sounding as one as we seek to amplify in some way the beautiful texts it is our privilege to sing. The gift our choirs give us is immeasurable. The CD offers potent witness to their extraordinary musical gifts, but moreover to the time and hard work they gave us and continue to give us each week. More than anything else, their gift has provided the heartbeat for a remarkable year of music-making at Trinity.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Murchie, Organist & Choirmaster

Church School Director Report 2010

When and Where?—Church School is in session from 9:45 – 10:30 Sunday mornings from early September to early June. The children join their parents in the sanctuary at the Peace. PreK 3s and 4s class meets in Room #6; K - grade 5 learners begin in the Youth Room.

Curriculum—*PowerXpress* is the curriculum being used for children in grades K through 5. This is a rotational learning curriculum in which a Bible story or theme is repeated for several weeks. Each week, learners rotate to a different Learning Station: storytelling, art, games, cooking, music, mission or video. The Bible story or theme stays the same, but the students encounter the lesson through different learning approaches each week, and the variety of experiences keeps their interest high throughout the unit. There are 115 children currently enrolled along with 49 adults and 11 teenagers volunteering to teach in our Church School program. *Let the Children Come* is the curriculum being used for our PreK 3 and 4 year old children. This curriculum offers a multifaceted approach to introducing young children to the stories in the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. Bible readings, games, art, music and free play are all part of the curriculum for our younger children.

Teachers—Our staff consists of the following adult and teen volunteers: Laura Amicucci, Robert and Cathy Avery, Colleen and Michael Banten, Mary Field Barrett, Alison Barry, Charlotte Bartol, Lisa Barton, Elise and Greg Bates, Dabney Bowen, Sheila Capute, Mark and Megan Cody, Talli Connell, Holly and Camilla Crosby, Catherine and Bob Cunningham, Andy Dutter, Catherine Friedline, Sandra Funk, Dawn, Drew and Mackenzie Hiltz, Holli and Justin Horine, Alexa Horton, Molly and Gil Kellersman, Stephanie Kodweis, Janet Kovacs, Susan Ludwig, Ann and Chris March, Lis McNamara, Daphne Mitchell, Adele Moran, Joan Neiley, Ann Nigro, Jan Perry, Dorothy and Anya Porter, Edward Rieck, Deering Rose, Wendy Safyre, Phyllis, Olivia and Sam Schneble, Suzanne Schulz, Elizabeth Searight, Barbara and Cate Seymour, Steve Smith, Brooke Sparacino, Kelly Spencer, Fatima vonEhr, Janet Wahnquist, Chloe Walker, Caroline Wolstenholme, Lisa Zadravec along with numerous valuable substitutes. We are truly blessed by our teachers' commitment and their ministry to Trinity's children.

Goals—The primary goals of our Church School are to provide learning opportunities to know God, to build Christian friendships, to make and practice faith commitments, and to grow in an understanding of the Bible.

Children's Ministry Committee—Members act as advisors to the Director of Church School, and guide, direct, support and implement Trinity's religious education programs and activities for the children. Children's Ministry Committee members are: Elise Bates, Dabney Bowen, Catherine Friedline, Dawn Hiltz, Barbara Seymour, Steve Smith, and Kelly Spencer.

Childcare—provided every Sunday from 9:45 -11:45 AM for children 0-3 years of age, is in Room #5 in the nursery school wing. Children enjoy listening to stories, playing with toys, interacting with peers and coloring pictures. Each child is guaranteed tender loving care from our qualified staff of paid childcare professionals: Manager Ada Cardillo and Allison Piccolo, who provide a warm and welcoming environment for the young children.

Special Programs and Activities—Grades 3 and 4 Bible Party, Bible Game Day, Advent Wreath Party, St. Nicholas Day Celebrations, Mardi Gras Party for children, Lenten Pretzel Making, Easter Egg Hunt, Pentecost Celebration, Trinity Day Picnic and Vacation Bible School, are some of the special programs organized by the Director and Children's Ministry Committee.

Continued on next page

Church School, *continued*

Service Projects in 2010—The Church School sponsored or supported the following service projects/missions during the year of 2010: Courtyard Planting of Annuals, Blanket Ministry, The Bishop's Fund, St. Valentine's Day Projects, St. Luke's /St. Paul's Meal Preparation, St. Luke's/St. Paul's Food Pantry, Project from the Heart, Letters to Soldiers in Iraq, Operation Christmas Child and Pajama Program, made and donated 75 fleece blankets to children at Norwalk Hospital, St. Luke's St Paul's Church and Adopt a Social Worker Program.

Mustard Seed Shop—Located in the Church School Office, is a successful learning and incentive program created in 2009 to foster learning and encourage attendance, discipleship, and interest in reading the Bible. Children receive a ticket for attending Church School, accomplishing a unit goal, or for exemplary behavior. They may then spend their tickets on the toys, school supplies and treats in the shop, which is open on the first Sunday of each month, run by teens: Megan Cody, Chloe Walker, Edward Rieck, and Elizabeth Searight.

Vacation Bible School—70 children, 12 teen supervisors, and 30 adult volunteers all helped to make our "High Seas" Vacation Bible School a success this past August. Children 4 – 10 years old participated in a week-long Bible program that I co-directed with Amy Borusso, Trinity member and Director of Church School at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church.

Church School Office Renovation—One of my long-time goals!—was finally accomplished the last week of December. Special thanks to the following people: Kendall Crolus and Trevor Stout - for helping to move out all of my office supplies and for painting; Susan Ludwig - for contacting the carpet suppliers and for organizing the renovations; *and* the generous parishioners who donated the necessary money to make the renovations a reality. New carpet, fresh paint and loads of reorganizing have made my office a welcoming space. Please stop by to take a look!

Goals for 2011—

- Help the children see how they can become disciples of God.
- Continue challenging the children to look up verses in the Bible.
- Provide more opportunities for the children to meet and work with the clergy.
- Use more music and sing more songs in the Church School program.
- Provide more leadership roles for the teen volunteers.
- Invite additional parishioners to share their special gifts and talents through teaching.
- Share activities and service projects with area churches.
- Communicate regularly to parents and survey their satisfaction with the program.
- Evaluate survey findings taken in Nov. 2010 from the Church School students.

Challenges for 2011—

- Continue to encourage parents to drop off children promptly at 9:45 AM.
- Find new ways to encourage, support and build the volunteers.
- Organize and run a successful Church School program with less money.

If you have recently joined Trinity Church, I invite you to stop by the Church School office in the Nursery School wing directly across from room #6. I would be happy to share the details of our program with you and answer any of your questions.

Faithfully submitted,
Wendy Steinfeld, Church School Director

Trinity Parish Nursery School Report 2010

It has been a busy and successful 2010 for Trinity Parish Nursery School. Our forty-fifth year in operation continues to bring growth and excitement to Trinity.

The success of our third annual “Spring Into Trinity” helped us add Bernie the Bus, a new sandbox, and additional swings to our newly, improved playground. The proceeds from this gala enriched our school children with yoga, science programs, storytellers, and various field trips. We also use some of this money to help several of our families offset their tuition costs with financial aid. We look forward to another successful event this coming May.

This has been a reflective year for us as a school growing together with Trinity Church. We see our history together and look ahead to plan and maintain our strong working relationship. We are very proud of the growth of our school board. This year we welcomed four new board members who are committed to building the relationship between our church and school. One new member, John Morgan, also holds the position as Assistant Treasurer for the church Vestry. This liaison will allow us to directly communicate and stay abreast of all the challenges and goals we face together.

We presently offer preschool programs for children ages two and a half to five. Last year our three year old enrollment was quite heavy. Consequently, it was necessary to convert our second five’s classroom into a four year old classroom this year. Our school board is currently working with church representatives to decide how to best utilize our building space for future needs of the church and school programming.

We are one-hundred and eighteen students strong with a staff of eighteen this year. Nine of our staff members have been teaching here at Trinity for over ten years. Our staff development training allows this terrific team of teachers to attend workshops and lectures, take continuing education classes, and experience in house training to learn and understand the latest Early Childhood Curriculum that is play-based and developmentally appropriate for young children.

Trinity Parish Nursery School encourages and prioritizes enrollment from Trinity Church families. You are invited to come and visit us anytime. It would be my pleasure to give you a tour of our wonderful school.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Youth Ministry Report 2010

During 2010 Youth Ministry at Trinity has not only continued to develop, we have begun to flourish. With dedication and support from the parish, the youth have played integral roles in choir (including the creation of its first recorded album), worship (including two successful Youth-lead Sunday services and our dedicated acolytes), volunteering as Church School Shepherds, creation of a new Trinity website, a very successful food drive, and the annual Christmas pageant.

In September the acolytes participated in small group training with Fr. Nicholas (groups of 4 or 5). There were 5 classes, lasting 45 minutes each. This has made a huge impact on the ministry and has proven to bring a newfound reverence and dignity to the ministry.

At the outset of the year, the Youth Group saw a change in structure and leadership. The new leaders worked closely with clergy and members of the Vestry to develop goals and an exciting curriculum for the group that encourages deepening relationships with God through scripture, service, and friendship. With a renewed focus on the Youth and the fresh vision of the dedicated leaders, Youth Group has begun to thrive.

As important members of Trinity, Youth Ministry has become more aligned with the initiatives and activities taking place throughout the Church. To contribute to the budget, an annual fee was introduced which has helped to offset a small portion of the program costs. To support the club to co-op initiative the Youth stepped up to lead two Sunday Services in which they were exposed to many roles from ushering to singing to preparing and delivering the sermons.

Throughout the year the Youth continued to give back to the community in other ways. Members organized and completed several Midnight Runs for which they prepared bagged lunches, collected clothing and served the homeless in New Haven. This past February, members of the group participated in a 30-Hour Famine, raising money for World Vision. Additionally, along with the Southport Fire Department, they put on a car washing fundraiser to raise money for their ministry and outreach fund. With help from parishioner Anne-Marie Gray, they also ran a food drive to support the Saint Luke/Saint Paul food pantry, delivering an impressive 36 shopping carts of food during the holiday season.

Although significant changes were made to the program this year to help support the necessary budget reduction, we are proud of the fact that we have not only maintained the level of activity, we continue to increase it in more creative ways. The important group dinner in which both confirmation and pre-confirmation classes break bread together before weekly meetings was re-introduced and has proven to be a huge success. Parents of youth group members have graciously provided these meals and we would like to thank them. We are overwhelmed by how they have stepped up to make the group dinner the most important part of one of our goals, building close and lasting friendships. We would also like to thank parents and parishioners who have helped to make 2010 a great year for the group by chaperoning for events like Catamount and bowling, teaching classes, and showing support. Specifically, our clergy, vestry members, and various parishioners have really gone above and beyond to lead classes and discussions with both confirmation and pre-confirmation groups.

This summer we will be confirming 21 young people. This group has stuck together through two years of various program changes, and we are very proud of their growth and service to both the church and the community. Although we will be saddened to lose so many talented youth, we look forward to them becoming integral adult members and leaders in the parish and the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Your Youth Leadership Team: Kathleen Chandler, Katie Gojkovich, Elizabeth Robert, Jon Robert

Parish Secretary's Report 2010

In 2010 I completed my first full year as Parish Secretary. It has been a very busy, fulfilling, and satisfying time, albeit often quite hectic. With that, it's a gift and privilege to work for Father Nicholas and Mother Dawn. I also deeply appreciate the collegial support of my fellow Staff members, and find that I can count on them in any sort of eventuality.

In May, the first Pentecost edition of *In-Spire* was launched, a bi-annual publication centered on thought and prayer. The first All Saints/All Souls edition came out in November.

The regular *Spire* is now a few pages shorter (incurring much less postage!) and is focused on parish news and upcoming events. Both *Spire* and *In-Spire* are printed in back and white (another cost saving) but are sent out electronically and are posted on the Trinity website in full color. On the same theme, you will have noticed that I have stopped using colored ink for most bulletins and Messengers, as it was discovered that color printing, attractive as it may be, was costing us far too much.

In the summer we began using Constant Contact for all-parish email bulletins, which has made this method of communication much more effective. Now, with our new website, the ways in which we communicate news, schedules and information are gradually getting more efficient as we learn how to balance the old ways with the new. Many thanks go to our Rector's Warden, Kendall, and to the Communications Committee, who worked tirelessly through the hot summer to make these things happen. My thanks, also, to all committee heads for keeping those numerous liturgical schedules coming like clockwork. Without them, we'd all be in chaos!

When Father Nicholas returned from sabbatical, we began a switch of the office spaces, moving the Reception office into what had been the Rector's. Among other benefits, the new configuration is more welcoming to visitors, and affords the Rector more privacy. During this transition, I took on the oversight of the Office Volunteers, that valiant team who make the office work actually work *right!* My hat is off to Captain Dana Silzer, and to Volunteers Bern Archer, Colleen Banten, Maggie Bradley, Sue Carpenter, Alice Crowther, JoAnn Gartin, Ann Januski, Hilary Michaels, Greta Sutphen, Helen Watkins, and Ken Wilson. We couldn't do it without you!

My on-going challenge is and will continue to be time-management. I am committed to discovering the most time-effective ways of doing my work, and always am looking for ways to communicate better to you, Trinity Parish. My hours have adjusted slightly, and the new schedule is below. I will also post it on the door of my office.

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
11 AM – 4 PM	9 AM – 4 PM	9 AM – 2 PM	12 Noon – 4 PM	9 AM – 2 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cassia Ward, Parish Secretary

Diocesan Representatives' Report 2010

The highlight of the year for us as Diocesan representatives from Trinity was attending the Installation of The Rev. Dr. Ian T. Douglas as Diocesan Bishop on April 17, 2010, held in the gymnasium of Trinity College in Hartford, (magnificently transformed into a place to worship and celebrate, with pomp and pageantry extraordinaire!). The occasion allowed participants to witness an incredibly well orchestrated, beautiful setting to present an historic event for the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut.

The 2010 Diocesan Convention was held at Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford on October 22 and 23. On Friday, Convention business (announcements, appointments, nominations and procedural business) was the order of the day. The Bishop's address followed the business procedures. Throughout the two day period, participants from different parishes throughout the state gave examples of their personal Witness to God's Mission. To this representative, this was a distinct highlight of Convention. God's light and love were very evident through these participants' personal stories. The Cathedral was an awesome place to be, surrounded by people devoted to carrying on the traditions of the Episcopal Church through service, devotion to God's work, and music (amazing!). I thank Trinity for allowing me these experiences. (JW)

According to the Guidelines for Submission of Resolutions, submitters of all resolutions adopted by Diocesan Convention must inform the next year's Convention of action taken after adoption of the resolution. The results and actions taken of the Resolutions from the 225th Convention are available online at www.ctdiocese.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine J. Avery
Janet Wahnquist

Sexton's Report 2010

I'd like to express my gratitude to all involved in giving me the chance to serve Trinity. In an effort to better serve you, please contact me with anything—no task is too great or too small! Once again, my thanks to all.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Preisick, Sexton

Altar Guild Report 2010

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 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.

Many of the Altar Guild women work very hard to ensure that all of the many special holiday services are staffed with care and devotion. This year we have fifteen active-duty members and three 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 eighteen members of the Altar Guild of Trinity Church.

In 2010 we also noted the retirement of one of the wonderful members of our sisterhood. Sally Ford retired after over 30 years of devoted service. Sadly, we also mourned the loss of Shirley Smith, another member of the Altar Guild who met with a very untimely death at the very end of 2009. Shirley had been a member of the Altar Guild for over 30 years as well. We will miss them both.

If you think you might have the time and interest in joining this wonderful ministry, please contact Patria Swann (203-226-9489).

Respectfully submitted,

Patria Swann, Chair

Flower Guild Report 2010

The Trinity Flower Guild now has thirteen members, which includes several new members who joined this past year. Each week a member of the Guild prepares 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 with them regarding church resources and floral resources available in the area.

The Guild is in its fourth year and the work of the group seems to get better and better each year. It is a very dedicated, congenial team, with all the members open to using their talents to explore new approaches to floral arranging. We hope this year to learn even more through hands-on classes and demonstrations.

Thanks to all the Guild members for their devotion, creativity 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 Chris Frese on (203) 222-0869.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Frese, Chair

Liturgical Assistants Report 2010

The Liturgical Assistants Ministry covers the volunteer positions of the lay readers of scripture and the prayers, who may be scheduled alternately as Lectors and Intercessors, but not one position exclusively.

Liturgical Assistants also include the Chalicists who administer the wine at communion, who must be vetted by the Rector and approved and licensed by the Bishop in order to serve.

Thank you to all the Liturgical Assistants who serve Trinity for your devotion and commitment in this important and rewarding ministry. They give generously give of their time and talents at both the 8 AM and 10 AM Sunday services, in addition to other special church services taking place at other times during the church year. Mandatory training has been provided to us by Mother Dawn for all those participating, which has been most beneficial in enhancing our capabilities. We thank you Mother Dawn, and another special thank you to Father Nicholas for his guidance and help to me in providing the proper schedule for each church season.

We are presently in need of additional Lectors and Intercessors at the 8 AM service. If you are interested in joining this enriching ministry, please contact Joan Neiley at 203-255-0252 or email jneiley@sbcglobal.net.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Neiley, Chair

Ushers' Report 2010

Our group of ushers is composed of thirty-two 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.

In 2009, we are able to conduct sessions as a result of which approximately twelve ushers, staff and members of the congregation became certified to perform CPR should the need ever arise. Those certifications expire in July, and so I will be scheduling a session or sessions at which these individuals can re-certify and at which it will be possible for new people to become certified.

I am very grateful to all of our ushers for their 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 staff in making the job easier.

Respectfully submitted,

Whitney Biggs, Chairman

Prayer Shawl Ministry Report 2010

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has completed four years of knitting and crocheting shawls and baby blankets. We have finished and given away about 150 shawls and blankets to people who are ill, grieving, or suffering from some personal issue, as well as to any baby who is baptized at Trinity.

Our group continues to have around sixteen members who meet at 1 AM on Mondays in the Library to knit, crochet, and discuss our lives and various issues that are important to us. We occasionally have refreshments and invite the staff to join us, and anyone is welcome to stop in at any time. This year, we crafted a colorful shawl from all the leftover yarn we had, and each member worked a few inches on it.

We are always happy to have new members, and a few who are unable to come to the meetings knit at home and bring in their finished work. Anyone who is interested can read about us on the Committees and Ministries page of the Trinity website at www.trinitysouthport.org and/or come to one of our meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Whitney, corresponding secretary

Foyer Groups' Report 2010

The Foyer Group at Trinity is an excellent way for members to deepen relationships within our church community. Groups of 8-10 adults meet together several times during the year for food and fellowship. There is no agenda or program other than getting to know each other in a relaxed and enjoyable way. Groups consist of couples or singles from all different age groups and various phases of life. Every person/couple takes a turn hosting the group with participants contributing part of the meal.

In 2010 the Foyer Group program grew to 10 groups with a total of 84 people participating. This represents an increase of almost 20 percent over 2009. Our participants included a good balance of seasoned parishioners, newcomers and younger couples. Most groups met regularly throughout the year and were successful in fostering new friendships. A good number of the 2010 participants have signed on for 2011. We are looking forward to another good year.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Capute
Andrea Azarm

Welcome Ministry Report 2010

The Welcome Ministry strives to serve as a warm and friendly connection for Trinity's visitors and new members, alike.

You see our Greeters (a rotating group of approximately 25 volunteers) at the door and in the pews each Sunday morning, shaking hands, engaging in conversation and offering information about our community. This weekly hospitality is the most visible piece of our Ministry's work, but only part of what we do.

This year, we:

- Wrote letters and sent Welcome Packets to 20 households
- Coordinated follow-up efforts and outreach to visitors and newcomers
- Hosted a Newcomer's Breakfast in May
- Hosted the "Welcome Back" Trinity Parish BBQ in September with the generous assistance of the Men's Group

In 2010, Newcomer Integration became a clear subset of the Welcome Ministry. The 10-member subcommittee is charged with developing and leading initiatives aimed at engaging our newest members in meaningful and enduring ways.

We see Welcome as a ministry shared by the whole Trinity family and are grateful to all who have extended a hand and shared a kind word with someone new.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Azarm
Amy Dutter
Phyllis Schneble

Ministry of 12 Report 2010

This is a ministry "by" everyone, "for" everyone. All that is needed is a willingness to be available in the case that a parishioner has a specific need. This ministry has been meeting the needs of parishioners, without missing a month, for the past 9 years.

Thanks to the generosity of spirit of the following parishioners, the Ministry of 12 is providing an essential service to our parish family. Our deep appreciation 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 captains, will recruit 12 team members to be "on call" to offer assistance to any parishioners in need of meals, transportation, shopping, etc. If you presently have not had the opportunity to be on a monthly team, just call the captain for the month and offer to be part of their team.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Nessel, chair

Property Committee Report 2010

The Property Committee has been busy during the past year seeing many new updates and a new friendly face—we have been blessed to hire Russ Preisick as our new part-time sexton. Russ has impressed our parish with his ability to maintain our Church on a regular basis, fix the emergencies at hand, and provide a great sense of humor throughout his work week.

Another notable change is the elegant renovation and update to our Library. Due to an extremely generous donation our Library received new lighting, carpeting, trim, paint, kitchenette, and furniture. This very important room is used for most all meetings and is very often someones first impression of our Church.

The barn behind the Rectory received new structural support and a new roof. A very skilled Parishioner donated the repairs of the doors which were precariously be held up by the Holy Spirit! Keeping the barn in tact will give our parish the ability to renovate the barn when it is financially responsible.

Two serious water leaks in the chimneys were noticed in May, and we had a mason contractor repoint the masonry and replace a chimney cap to alleviate these leaks. A rough wind storm took out Trinity's Sign on Pequot and Center, and it has recently been replaced, looking clean and updated.

The courtyard area and windows of the Church were freshly painted, a small section on the Rectory rear driveway, and windows on the Sanctuary side had updates to the painting as well.

Trinity lost a large limb of the oak tree on the South side of the Church. While removing that, we also removed a dead Maple on the lawn of the Church on the same side of the property.

David Sturges was kind enough to put together and publish *The Treasure of Trinity Church*. This has been published in the August edition of the Southport Packet. His publication chronicles the renovations of the Church over the years and will leave a legacy of Trinity's history.

Respectfully submitted,

The Property Committee

Jennifer Smith
Jim Funk
Nelson North
Ed Michaels
Hilary Michaels
David Sturges
Tom Sturges
Steve Bollman
Jon Murphy
Darryl MacPherson
Peggy Duncan
Christopher Shick

Mission & Outreach Report

Mission and Outreach had a very productive year, deepening relationships with our longtime outreach partners and forging new relationships with new partners. Outreach funds are derived from pledges, special designated donations and fundraising. This year's event, "The Great Gatsby," netted \$23,000. A key component of the committee's involvement with our partner organizations is Trinity's ability to volunteer and participate in each of the programs that we support.

Local: The main focus of Trinity's outreach efforts is within the local community. Trinity continues to support local partners through financial and volunteer efforts. Programs include providing meals once a month to St. Luke's; providing food, clothing, and other special as-needed requests to Covenant to Care, Bethel Recovery, and Operation Hope. We also provided funding for books and food to Mercy Learning Center. For the past two years, Trinity parishioners have shared their time and talent in helping to build/repair homes in Bridgeport through Americares. This will continue into 2011, as well. The other major contribution, which was made from the local budget, was to Bridge Church. Trinity provided funding to purchase a van, which is being used to transport parishioners to and from church services.

National: The main focus of our National efforts has been to support newly arrived refugees, through an organization called IRIS, located in New Haven. Trinity has assisted with these families in providing clothing, household items and financial support, as they look to get established into new, safe communities.

International: Due to the devastating earthquake in Haiti, much of our efforts focused on providing aid to this country. In addition to the annual Trinity in Motion walk, Trinity hosted a benefit concert to raise money for Haiti, and provided emergency relief to the Episcopal Relief Development and the Albert Sweitzer Hospital. We continued to support other long-term partnerships in Honduras, with support and a mission trip, and in Lesotho by completing our third playground to support our relationship in with AIDS clinics in this country. The program supports children and families with AIDS in the small African country of Lesotho. In cooperation with Texas Children's Hospital and Baylor University, which run the AIDS clinics, the funds from Trinity and individual donations are used to provide ancillary, non-medical support that these families need. A special thank you to Les Mitchell for coordinating communications and support for the Lesotho program.

Faithfully submitted,

Holli Horine, Mission & Outreach Chair

(Please see the Mission & Outreach Budget on next page)

Mission & Outreach, *continued*

2010 MISSION & OUTREACH BUDGET			
FOCUS	ORGANIZATION	FUNDS DISBURSED	% SPEND
Local	Center for Women & Families	\$5,000	
	Americares	\$4,500	
	Prayer Shawl Ministry	\$113	
	Bridge Church	\$6,000	
	Parish Court	\$250	
	Bethel Recovery	\$5,750	
	Covenant to Care	\$6,300	
	Operation Hope	\$1,000	
	St. Lukes	\$3,000	
	Mercy Learning Center	\$4,437	
	Horizons School	\$2,000	
	Bridgeport Council of Churches	\$1,000	
	Family Re-Entry	\$5,000	
	Bishops Fund	<u>\$500</u>	
			\$44,850
National	IRIS	\$5,500	
	Ct Assoc of child/Adults w/ Learning Disabilities	<u>\$1,400</u>	
		\$6,900	10.2%
International	Honduras Sewing Machines	\$250	
	Honduras (St. Lucas)	\$2,850	
	Lesotho	\$5,000	
	Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance	\$2,800	
	Haiti Aid concert	<u>\$350</u>	
		\$11,250	16.7%
Emergency	ERD for Haiti	\$1,000	
	Hospital Albert Sweitzer (Haiti)	<u>\$3,500</u>	
		\$4,500	6.7%
Total 2010 Spending		\$67,500	

Stewardship Report 2010

2011 Pledge Campaign: As of January 21, 2011, Trinity has received 199 pledges totaling \$430,651. We are at about 96% of our reduced pledge goal of \$450,000 for 2011. Thank you to everyone who has pledged:

Amicucci, Joe & Laura	Funk, Jim & Sandra	Murphy, Jonathan	Souza, Claudio & Janet
Azarm, Bahman & Andrea	Gagne, Todd & Liane Nelson	Myers, Randall & Anita	Spoor, Patricia
Bambach, Greg & Sue	Galpin, Steve	Neal, John & Jane	Stegemann, Mo. Dawn & Murray
Bancroft, Jean	Gartin, Joann	Neiley, Joan	Stetson, Bebe
Banten, Michael	Gilliland, Nancy	Nessel, Amy	Stiegler, Mary Lee
Barrett, Mary Field	Glidden, Mark & Susan	Nessel, David & Judy	Stoddard, Grove & Ann
Barry, Michael & Alison	Grayson, Mark & Sarah Houghton	Newton, Lisa	Stokes, John
Bartol, Perry & Charlotte	Green, Colin & Eileen	North, Nelson & Peg	Stranahan, Cecily
Barton, Ruth	Grey, Anne-Marie	North, Nelson, Jr.	Sturges, David
Bates, Elise	Guthrie, Jennifer & Sandy	Octavio, Barbara	Sturges, Tom
Belair, Eddie	Hasenauer, John & Jacqui	O'Gorman, Frances	Sullivan, Larry & Betsy
Bertram, Henry	Heck, Hank & Jill	Olson, Jonathan & Shelly	Sutphen, Greta
Biggers, Kelsey & Sissy	Henderson, Gardiner	Palmisano, Sam & Missy	Swan, Chris & Carol
Biggs, Charley & Karen	Heyn, Chris & Kim	Payne, John & Dorothy	Swann, Peter & Patria
Biggs, Jim & Elinor	Hiltz, Drew & Dawn	Perkins, Chip	Swenson, Devota
Biggs, Pauline	Hiltz, Ellis & Sandy	Perrigo, Phil & Beryl	Talamini, Jane
Biggs, Whit	Hoinacki, Lurena	Perry, Jan	Terry, Jim & Mara
Bisack, John & Evelyne	Hollings, Jennifer	Porter, Fr. Nicholas & Dorothy	Traub, Shiela
Blackburn, DeLoss	Horine, Glenn & Holli	Powel, Sally	Trueblood, Bernie & Polly
Blaker, Richard & Virginia	Horton, Ward & Alexa	Presson, Leslie	Tsurdinis, Angelo & Ellie
Bollman, Steve & Sarah	Januski, Ann	Proctor, Ched & Judy	Urquhart, Alex & Judy
Bowen, Michael & Dabney	Jensen, John & Rebecca	Proctor, Helen	Urquhart, Jack & Maryanne
Capute, Joe & Shiela	Johnson, Robert & Amelia	Racliffe, Glenn & Susan	Valentin, Deborah
Cargill, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel	Jones, David & Ann	Radziewicz, Steven & Katherine	Van Arnam, Ursula
Cargill, Virginia	Kellersman, Gil & Molly	Rae, Jack & Jean	Van Buskirk, John
Carpenter, Sue	Kennedy, Sarra	Reilly, Tom & Ellen	Van Fleet, Steve & Brenda
Chandler, Steve & Kathleen	Kent, Janet	Reinhardt, Fred & Lucy	Von Conta, Mary
Chatfield, John & Priscilla	Kodweis, Stephanie	Restrepo, Luis & Christine	von Ehr, Joseph & Fatima
Chueka, Anna	Kreitler, John & Heather	Ritchie, Patricia	Wahnquist, Harvey & Janet
Ciardi, Carlo & Molly	Lazaruk, Lillie Margaret	Robbins, Walter & Joan	Walker, Carl & Jill
Cody, Mark & Mary	Lewis, Julia	Robert, Jon & Liz	Wallace, Sally
Coleman, Ken & Lois	Lloyd, Thomas	Roessler, Polly	Ware, Lois
Craig, Tommy & Kim	Loggie, David & Suzanne	Rose, Barbara	Wasson, Dennis & Ellen
Crawford, David	Ludwig, Roger & Susan	Rousseau, Mary	Watkins, Bill & Helen
Crolius, Kendall & Stephen Stout	MacPherson, Darryl & Nancy	Russell, Therese	Watkins, John & Ann
Crouse, Patricia	Malzewski, Mark & Kerry	Saxonmeyer, John & Evie	Waugh, Sally
Crowther, Alice	Marcantonio, Nancy	Schick, Chris	Weber, John & Eileen
Cunningham, Bob & Catherine	March, Chris & Ann	Schilling, Hank & Tia	Whitcomb, Susan
Curry, Amy	Marshall, Kristi	Schlosser, Dianne	White, Helen
Dean, Jane	McArthur, Beverly	Schneble, Dean & Phyllis	Whitman, Laura & Downie, David
Duncan, Bill & Peg	McGrath, Anne	Schultz, Kraig & Suzanne	Wickersham, Jim
Edmiston, Bob & Nancy	Michaels, Ed & Hilary	Seymour, Jeff & Barbara	Williams, Davidson & Barbara
Epifano, Helene	Michener, Graham & Jane	Shaw, Joy	Williams, Jack & Muriel
Etheridge, William	Miles, Leland & Ginny	Sheppard, Liz	Wilson, Ken & Mary
Fath, John & Elizabeth	Miller, Jim & Joyce	Siano, Michael & Tracy	Winton, Jean
Ford, Patty	Mitchell, Les & Daphne	Smith, Chris & Jen	Zellers, Margaret
Ford, Sally	Moffitt, Jean	Smith, David & Janet	
Frantz, Chris & Tina	Moran, Ryan & Adele	Smith, Melanie	
Frantz, Ruth	Morgan, John & Judith Re	Smith, Nancy	
Frese, Ted & Chris	Mucha, Paul & Courtney	Soper, Max & Berkeley	
Friedline, David & Catherine	Murchie, Alan	Soutar, Doug	

(Continued on next page)

Stewardship, *continued*

To those who have not pledged, this is a plea to please submit a pledge as soon as possible. All the necessary and enriching ministries and programs that Trinity Church provides cannot continue without the support of its parishioners. Pledging is also an essential part of the church's annual budget and planning process.

Trinity Legacy Giving: In early 2011, we will thank 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 of a small asset. These very loving gifts are vital to your church's future and will be memorialized by the establishment of a Trinity Legacy Society. More information on how to easily accomplish this memorial gifting will be discussed in a special Sunday program.

Respectfully submitted,

Davidson Williams, Stewardship Chair

Investment Committee Report 2010

Alliance Bernstein manages five separate accounts for Trinity Church totaling \$3,340,786 with target allocations of 48.4% in Fixed Income, 37.1% percent in Equities and the remaining dynamically moved among cash and the above asset classes during periods of extreme market volatility.

Within our Equity allocation, 60.5% is devoted to US stocks, 10.6% and 2.1% to international and emerging markets, respectively. The remaining 26.8% is in Global real estate trusts (REITS). All of our Fixed Income allocation is intermediate term duration.

For 2010, all funds combined earned 10% or \$311,274 (net after fees) compared to a Global Stock Return of 11.8%. The funds began with \$3,281,743 and ended the year with \$3,340,786. This is after withdrawing \$252,231, \$150,000 of which was principal, to meet the general operating expenses of the Church.

With economic activity improving globally our strategy has been to keep most of our fixed income assets in the intermediate to short end of the market in anticipation of rising rates as Central Banks begin to tighten monetary policy. With rates at extraordinary low levels, we want to be patient over the next few years before we begin to extend beyond 5 years or more due to principal risk and increasing inflation concerns. At the same time, we will continue to devote resources in our equity allocation model to international/emerging assets as these countries gain a greater share of global GDP and, more importantly, grow at rates more than double the average for the G-7.

For 2011, we expect more market volatility as Europe continues to address their sovereign debt crisis, the US confronts its current and future deficit issues in addition to local state and municipal financing woes and the global economy, in general, begins to tackle future inflationary worries. With the diversified strategy we are currently running throughout the five funds we feel confident we can overcome these headwinds and earn a market competitive return without taking on more added risk.

In the church office you can you can find a general overview of all funds, their separate returns for 2009/2010 and a break down of all investments including the individual stock, fixed income and real estate fund allocations.

Respectfully submitted,

John Fath

Treasurer's Report 2010

Operations - Trinity recorded a net operating loss of \$179,500 in 2010, as Total Income of \$896,900 was not sufficient to cover Expenses of \$1,076,400. This compares unfavorably to the budgeted deficit of \$150,000 as well as to 2009, when we recorded a net loss of \$137,000 before one-time gains.

For the year 2010, Trinity received \$503,400 in Pledge Commitments from 215 families. This amount was \$37,000 greater than the previous year, no doubt assisted by the generous anonymous \$75,000 challenge match. Of the total pledge commitments, \$39,100 was prepaid in 2009 and \$423,000 was paid in 2010. Another \$19,600 went directly to Mission & Outreach. This left an uncollected balance of \$21,700. Had that amount been paid in 2010, we would have ended the year pretty close to budget.

All other contributions totaled \$334,200, but was \$35,800 short of budget, even though an extra \$26,000 was raised through the Great Gatsby auction event. It seems clear that the parish is very generous in supporting special needs and activities, but the annual pledging is not at the level necessary to run and maintain the day-to-day activities.

Investment Income contributed \$120,200. This was \$16,600 less than budget but better than the previous year. All of the Endowment is now managed by the Wealth Management Group at Alliance Bernstein. Three principal withdrawals of \$50,000 each were required in 2010 to meet operating expenses, as budgeted.

Total Expenses in 2010 were \$63,000 under budget and \$80,400 lower than the previous year.

To better align Trinity's ministries and cost structure with expected levels of contribution, the Vestry and Clergy and staff have initiated several expense saving measures. These have included staff reductions and realignments, contract renegotiations, and reliance on more volunteer help, to name a few.

There will always be ways to trim expenses here and there, but the three main expense areas, Human Resources, Property, and Outreach have been cut back to bare essentials. The real challenge for Trinity is to grow our membership and pledge levels.

Balance Sheet - Trinity's cash position at year-end was \$143,700, down from \$189,400 a year ago. Although this covers our liability reserves of \$131,900, the free operating cash is quite low.

Endowment funds stood at \$3,340,700 at year-end. This compares to \$3,281,700 at the end of 2009, up 1.8% after withdrawing \$150,000 principal for operations. 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:

	2009	2010
Unrestricted	\$ 1,385,400	\$ 1,308,000
Restricted – Music	\$ 1,550,000	\$ 1,658,600
Restricted – Other	<u>\$ 346,300</u>	<u>\$ 374,100</u>
Total	\$ 3,281,700	\$ 3,340,700

Respectfully submitted,

William Duncan, Treasurer

2011 Budget Summary

While Trinity's 2011 budget shows an improvement from last year, we still project a deficit of \$59,000. If we continue to run deficits, even at these reduced levels, our unrestricted endowment funds will be seriously reduced and will not provide the income stream we need to support our operating expenses.

Total Income for 2011 is budgeted to be \$854,000, down \$43,000 from 2010. Total Expenses have been cut by a much larger amount (\$163,000) and are budgeted at to be \$913,000. Regrettably, this still leaves us with an operating shortfall of \$75,000, which will once more necessitate a withdrawal of principal from our Unrestricted Endowment.

In spite of the tireless work of our Stewardship committee, our Pledge Goal had to be reduced to \$450,000, which is \$50,000 lower than last year. Even at this late date we are just shy of achieving that goal.

Other contributions, including plate collections, bequests and special donations, are budgeted at \$181,000. That figure is lower than the \$247,000 we received in 2010, but last year included a generous challenge match of \$75,000.

The contribution from Trinity Parish Nursery School was increased to \$52,000K reflecting their continued success.

Total Investment Income is budgeted at \$115,000, down \$5,000 from last year, due to continuing low interest rates and the withdrawal of principal from endowment funds.

To help offset the decline in income over the last couple of years, your staff and Vestry have worked hard to find and implement expense savings and / or revenue enhancements. These initiatives have included staff and program reductions, fundraising events, fees, and renegotiated service contracts, to name a few.

The most glaring expense reduction in the 2011 budget is our decision to temporarily reduce our pledge to the Connecticut Diocese. We will be paying only \$16,000 instead of the roughly \$90,000 we would normally pay according to the Diocesan formula.

Our two largest expense categories are Human Resources, and Property. Salaries and Benefits are budgeted to decline 16% to \$440,000 as we have achieved savings by reducing staff headcount and reassigning responsibilities to increase efficiencies. While the Property Committee keeps a tight control over expenditures, we have a large and expensive campus to maintain. The 2011 budget of \$229,000 is set lower than last year, and includes only urgent capital repairs. Since Trinity has not traditionally set aside reserves for repairs and replacements, any unforeseen capital improvement would have to be funded outside the budget.

All other ministries and departments, including Mission and Outreach, and Music are operating at reduced expense levels. In addition, both Music and M&O have pledged to raise funds to support their budgeted programs.

Respectfully submitted,

William Duncan, Treasurer
January 30, 2011

**Trinity Episcopal Church
2011 Comparative Budget Summary**

\$ in Thousands	2009 Actual	2010 Budget	2010 Actual	2011 Budget
INCOME				
Total Pledge Collections	\$ 504	\$ 500	\$ 451	\$ 450
Other Contributions	\$ 304	\$ 255	\$ 247	\$ 182
Trinity Nursery School	\$ 47	\$ 48	\$ 48	\$ 52
Weddings & Funerals	\$ 24	\$ 12	\$ 10	\$ 15
Investment Income	\$ 110	\$ 137	\$ 120	\$ 115
Church-Use Income	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 23	\$ 29
Net Transfers From Reserves	\$ 0	\$ 7	\$ (4)	\$ 11
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,020	\$ 989	\$ 897	\$ 854
EXPENSES				
Diocesan Mission Pledge	\$ 87	\$ 87	\$ 87	\$ 16
Other Mission & Outreach	\$ 118	\$ 93	\$ 101	\$ 71
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 524	\$ 525	\$ 485	\$ 440
Property	\$ 250	\$ 267	\$ 251	\$ 229
Music	\$ 61	\$ 62	\$ 76	\$ 70
Christian Education	\$ 44	\$ 34	\$ 18	\$ 22
Parish Life	\$ 6	\$ 6	\$ 5	\$ 6
Other Expenses	\$ 66	\$ 65	\$ 53	\$ 59
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,156	\$ 1,139	\$ 1,076	\$ 913
OPERATING SURPLUS / (LOSS)	\$ (137)	\$ (150)	\$ (179)	\$ (59)
Extraordinary Gains	\$ 228	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Surplus (Loss) After Gains	\$ 91	\$ (150)	\$ (179)	\$ (59)