

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church



We are a welcoming
community of
believers in
Jesus Christ who
witness our faith by
serving together,
praying together and
living generously
together.

Congregational Meeting and Annual Report June 27, 2021

Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Opening Prayer
Sign In/Meeting Instructions
Presentation of Annual Report
Pastor's Report
Secretary's Report

Minutes from June 14, 2020 – Congregation Meeting

Minutes from August 16, 2020 – Special Congregation Meeting (roof replacement)

Minutes from April 18, 2021 – Special Congregation Meeting (Pastoral call)

Stewardship Appeal Update
Financial Report and Proposed Budget
Proposal for Council Restructure
Delegates for Synod Assembly 2022
Closing Prayer

Debbie LaFontaine, Council President
Debbie LaFontaine, Council President
Debbie LaFontaine, Council President
Pastor Andrew Chavanak
Karen Hissong, Council Secretary

Paul Stratton, Chairperson of Stewardship Team
Bill Deacon, Chairperson of Finance Team
Debbie LaFontaine, Council President
Michelle Spunar, Council Vice-President
Pastor Andrew Chavanak



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Pastor's Report to the Congregation

*+ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit.
Amen. +*

It may seem a bit foolish for a pastor who has been at work for less than two weeks to present anything called an “annual report.” Obviously, I can’t speak either knowledgeably or authentically about what’s been happening at Holy Trinity over the past twelve months. That said, I would like to take this opportunity to offer some words of thanks and perhaps encouragement as we enter into this next year of mission and ministry together.

First, I would like to thank you for the privilege that you have given me by extending your call to serve as pastor here at HTLC. The journey to interviewing and accepting this call was over a year for me, and nearly three for you, and I feel confident in saying that God has guided us to this time of shared ministry. I pray that God would give me the strength and grace to make me worthy of the trust you have placed in me.

Second, I’d like to thank you for your warm welcome to southeast Michigan. As a native of this area, the move to the western suburbs has represented a homecoming for me. For my spouse, Katie, who grew up in West Michigan, and for my children, who have known no home but Falls City, Nebraska, this has been a major transition. Your generous gifts and words of support have been a great comfort to us in these first few weeks in the metro area.

Finally, I’d like to make clear my excitement about the future of Holy Trinity. This congregation has been blessed with remarkable leadership during the transition process, and it has truly been a delight to begin working with the staff and council as we discern what direction God is moving us as the body of Christ in Livonia. I would be remiss if I didn’t thank Pastor Kirsh-Carr and Pastor Truland. The structural reorganization that is being developed by the council represents an opportunity for transformation for this congregation as we seek to clarify our part of God’s mission, focus our whole community on concrete goals in service of that mission, and raise up leaders to carry that mission into the world. This change brings uncertainty, and with uncertainty comes anxiety. I am convinced, however, that a new structure has the potential to unlock the gifts and creativity of all the saints of Holy Trinity, so that we can share the load and respond to the needs of our neighbors and our community.

I look forward to meeting you in the weeks and months to come, and to learning more about what makes Holy Trinity tick. As we embark on our first year together, may all of us know the power and presence of God, through Jesus Christ our Savior, by the power of God’s Holy Spirit.

Wishing you peace and everything good,
Pastor Andrew V. Chavanak, n/OLF

President's Report to the Congregation

Writing this report has been a struggle for me, similar to this entire year. As I was thinking of what to write, one of my favorite Bible verses kept popping into my head:

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

This year has been full of challenges. I find myself asking "why does everything have to be so hard?". Life is not guaranteed to be easy for us, yet God does encourage us that He has overcome the troubles of this world. I have definitely felt God's presence throughout the past year.

July 2020 – Could we possibly do something to eliminate the constant leaks in the Fellowship Hall? With support and encouragement from Pastor Mike Ward, our SAS consultant, our special stewardship appeal to replace the roof raised more money than we imagined possible. Some might say this was crazy since we were in the midst of a pandemic with many people facing economic hardships. God was definitely with us, giving us the courage and faith to act and giving the congregation generous hearts to respond.

August 2020 – When and how would it be safe to return to worship in person? Things seemed to be settling down with COVID and people were anxious for us to open our doors for worship and for gathering. After much discussion, discernment, and prayer to make sure we considered the safety and well-being of our members and neighbors, we developed procedures and protocols to ensure a safe path to gathering in person while still maintaining our online presence.

September 2020 – How much longer would the call process take? After almost two years of preparation, a Call Committee was formed to finish out the process. Much thought and prayer went into who should be a part of this committee and each person who was asked to be a part of the committee accepted the offer with excitement. The group got right to work, getting to know one another, creating trust, and building on the work of the Listening and Transition Teams to complete the Ministry Site Profile. God's presence was definitely felt in this process.

October 2020 – How were we going to handle yet another change in office staffing? When Lori decided to abruptly leave her position at Holy Trinity, we had to quickly figure out how to staff the office. God's hand was definitely present. We were blessed to have Michelle Spunar, who just recently took a leap of faith by leaving her Controller job to look for a new position, help out in the office. This was a win-win situation for both Michelle and Holy Trinity. The paperwork for our PPP Loan Forgiveness was due at this time also. Navigating through the forms and numbers was not easy, but with God's help, we were blessed to receive forgiveness for the entire \$60,000 loan to support our budget for the year.

November 2020 – How could we have our annual Share the Bounty event and provide support for families at Christmas? Due to the pandemic, many things associated with our Share the Bounty event had to be changed. We figured out how to hold the event virtually and ended up raising as much or more than we have in past years. Shopping for the gifts was also something that needed to be modified, but creative minds and willing hearts were able to make it work. COVID numbers in Michigan were spiking at this time, forcing us to make decisions regarding in person gatherings. Church Council and Pastor Bill made the tough decision to discontinue in person worship.

December 2020 – How could we make Christmas worship meaningful in a pandemic? Christmas is always a special time of year with special gatherings to celebrate the birth of our savior Jesus. Finding ways to make these celebrations meaningful virtually was definitely challenging. Thanks to the creativity and flexibility of Dale and Pastor Bill, we were able to provide our church community a meaningful Christmas worship experience. More staff changes became necessary when Michelle Spunar accepted a Controller job. I remained patient putting my trust in God to work things out.

President's Report (Continued)

January 2021 – How were we going to staff the office now? Earlier interviews for this position were not successful. At this point, could we possibly wait to hire until we had a new pastor? As an interim solution, Dale offered to handle the duties of Parish Administrator. In addition to the office staffing changes, Bishop Kreiss informed me that he needed to move Pastor Bill into a new transitional position within the coming few months. God was really challenging my faith at this point.

February 2021 – What would we do in the interim until we were ready to call a Pastor? God provided for our needs! Pastor Truland, an ordained ELCA pastor who had recently moved to southeast Michigan, was available at Holy Trinity until we called a new pastor. Again, a situation that was beneficial to both Pastor Truland and to Holy Trinity. God at work again!

March 2021 – When would the Call Committee be ready to recommend a candidate for Call? I was getting very anxious to have a called Pastor in place – someone who could help with the long-range visioning for Holy Trinity. The patience and perseverance of the Call Committee was rewarded when a recommendation was made to offer Pastor Andrew Chavanak the call as Senior Pastor at Holy Trinity. God's presence and guidance was visible in the excitement felt by all in this decision.

April 2021 – Would the congregation vote to accept the recommendation of the Call Committee? I had a lot of stress dealing with all the details of the call – making sure all the paperwork was completed correctly and the congregation meeting was run correctly. This worry was all for naught as the congregation meeting and paperwork details went smoothly. Pastor Andrew and I already have a good working relationship and are looking forward to working together with excitement for the future.

May 2021 – Would the congregation support the annual Stewardship Appeal? Running a Stewardship Appeal is a lot of work, not only the physical work of mailings but also the thought needed for the planning. Thank you to Paul Stratton for his work and guidance in overseeing this appeal and encouraging a generous attitude at Holy Trinity. God at work again!

June 2021 – How do we move forward from here? Getting ready for our congregation meeting has been a challenge. Giving for the past year has been down – will the congregation be generous to support our budget for the coming year? Church Council has been discussing options for changing our structure to encourage more visioning for the future. Pastor Andrew has already been involved in these discussions and there is much excitement for the future. I'm sure God will be with us as we welcome Pastor Andrew to Holy Trinity and move forward in ministry together.

I am thankful to God for His leading throughout this past year and for helping me get through all of these challenges. I am also thankful to you, the people of Holy Trinity, for your patience and support. As I move into my last year as President of Church Council, I look forward to what God has in store for us and pray that God will continue to bless our work at Holy Trinity as we strive to accompany Him in mission within our community. God is ever present and leading us into the future.

As I look toward the coming year, I pray for faith to trust God's words in Mark 4: 39-41:

"He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Yours in Christ,
Debbie LaFontaine, Council President

Opportunities to Serve Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity is one body with many members. God has gifted each of us with different talents and interests and each of us is an important part of God's ministry at Holy Trinity.

**How is God calling you to serve both inside and outside the congregation?
How is God calling you to use your gifts to serve others?**

There are many opportunities to serve at Holy Trinity. Please prayerfully consider how you can be an active participant in our ministries. There are many opportunities to share your gifts by serving on our various committees. You don't need to make a long-term commitment because there are plenty of opportunities to help on a single event or project.

- **Faith Development and Community** – Supporting one another in our faith development and practices is an essential part of creating a strong community of believers. No special training is needed, just a willingness to share how God is active and at work in your own life. Contact the Pastor or church office for more information. Do you have another idea to promote Faith Development and Community? Feel free to offer it up.

Bible Study and Fellowship of Faith – Join one of our existing groups to learn from others and share your own faith experiences.

JAM (Jesus and Me) and Bible Buddies -- Share bible stories and your own faith experiences with our little ones.

Faith Stepping Stones -- Support our young people in their faith journey. Each step of the journey is marked by a special event – bibles for 3 year olds, bibles for 3rd graders, First Communion, Confirmation and High School graduation.

Shepherd Ministry – Help us keep in touch with those who are not able to join us in person, those who are dealing with illness, and those who have lost a loved one.

Prayer Chain – Our faith tells us that God answers prayers. Join others in praying for the needs of our congregation, the community and the world.

Fellowship and Service Events – Plan fun events for our faith community to help create stronger bonds. Some sample events include book clubs, patio parties, women's tea, prayer shawl ministry, advent tea.

Music Programs – Share your musical talents with others while serving the Lord. Join one of our music groups – choir, praise team, bells, special music performances.

- **Outreach and Missions** – In baptism, one of the promises we make is to *proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed*. Holy Trinity has many opportunities to reach out to our community in service and to make connections. Contact our Outreach Chairperson, Margaret Ash (mash@holylivonia.org) for more information. Do you have another idea not included below for Outreach and Missions? Feel free to offer it up.

Kids Hope – Be a mentor to one student from the local elementary school, meeting with them on a weekly basis to develop a strong, caring relationship; training is provided.

God's Work, Our Hands – Organize activities for this ELCA day of service in the community.

Share the Bounty and Families in Need – Organize this fun event and service project to help families at Christmas.

Opportunities to Serve Holy Trinity (Continued)

Community Connections – Make connections with people in the community around us, such as **Independence Village, Tiny Tots, Scouts, Livonia Youth Choir**, and other groups using our building. This could involve organizing workshops/seminars on topics of interest, organizing service projects for joint participation, providing promotional information about happenings at Holy Trinity and invitations to participate.

Community Fun - Organize and help run fun activities for the general public and our own church family, such as **Vacation Bible School, Easter Egg Hunt and Halloween Party**.

Community Service - Oversee service opportunities to help those in our neighboring communities, such as **Empty Pockets, Food Pantry, Flint Water, Pumpkin Patch, Crop Walk, NOAH Lunches, Workcamp**.

- **Trustees and Building Support** - Our church building and grounds require ongoing maintenance and upkeep, which cannot be done by our custodian or a single trustee. There are hands-on opportunities to get "down and dirty" as well as opportunities to serve in consultation. Contact our Head Trustee, Jim Ash (jash@holytrinitylivonia.org), for more information.

- **Stewardship and Generosity** - This is more than just a campaign for funds each year; it is a way of living. You can be a part of the ministry team that helps our congregation live generously. It takes a team of people to plan and implement a successful stewardship program. Contact our Stewardship Chairperson, Paul Stratton (pstratton@holytrinitylivonia.org), for more information.

Annual Appeal – Running a successful stewardship appeal is hard work. There are opportunities to help with the planning and visioning for the appeal as well as to prepare promotional materials for print and distribution.

Financial Education – Help plan seminars and workshops to educate our congregation and the community on things like Estate Planning, Planned Giving, Budgeting and other financial matters.

- **Worship Support** – There are many ways you can help during scheduled worship services. Contact Dale Love (dlove@Holytrinitylivonia.org), Director of Music and Worship Ministry, for more information or to sign up.

Worship Support – Opportunities are available to help with worship each week: light the altar candles, carry the cross into/out of the sanctuary, help serve communion, serve as a lector (read the bible passages), serve as an assisting minister (read the prayers), run the sound board and AV equipment. These opportunities are open to all – young and old. Support is also needed to with special worship services, especially for holidays. Examples include: Blessing of the Pets, Healing Services, Easter Vigil and Holy Week, Christmas, Advent and Lent Midweek.

Altar Guild – Setup/cleanup for communion, which is an important part of each of our worship services.

Offering Counters— Count offerings after Sunday worship services; training is provided.

Sacristans – Assist the Pastor in getting ready for worship, making sure doors are unlocked, lights are turned on, sound system and AV equipment is ready.

Ushers – Assist people who attend worship by distributing worship bulletins, directing them to seats and providing direction for communion.

Greeters – Be a welcoming presence for worship, greeting people as they enter the building especially visitors and occasional attenders.

Ways to Financially Support Holy Trinity

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21

We are thankful you recognize the blessings God has given to you and your desire to share those blessings to support God's mission through Holy Trinity. Please contact the church office at 734.464.0211 or htlc@holytrinitylivonia.org if you have questions.



Checks

Checks payable to **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church** can be placed in the offering plate during worship or mailed to the church office at:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
39020 Five Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48154

All gifts will go toward the General Fund unless otherwise noted in the memo line.



Online Giving

Visit our website www.holytrinitylivonia.org and click the GIVE ONLINE button to make a donation using the Tithe.ly Giving App. You will be able to choose the amount, the frequency of your gift (one time or recurring), and the fund. Choose to pay with a credit card, a debit card, or a checking/savings account (lowest fees option). And, if you choose to cover the fees,

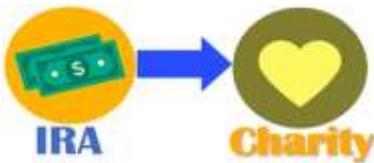
your gift goes even further to support God's mission. The Tithe.ly Giving APP is also available for download to your Apple or Android device.



Stock Donation

Holy Trinity can accept direct donations of stock into our Brokerage Investment Account. When you donate stock directly to Holy Trinity, you will not have to pay capital gains tax and you are eligible to deduct the full fair-market value of the asset you donated from your income tax (up to the overall amount allowed by the IRS). A win-win for both you and for Holy Trinity!

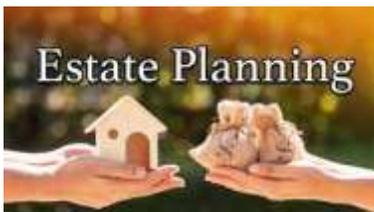
Please let us know that you are planning to make a donation of stock by completing the Stock Donation Form found on our website and returning it to the church office. Information that your broker needs to complete the stock transfer is included on the form.



Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

Funds transferred directly from you IRA to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church can be counted toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year. Such giving is referred to as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) and can potentially lower your tax liability for the year and provide a

greater contribution to Holy Trinity. Please consult your tax advisor for details.



Estate Planning - Create a Lasting Legacy

Estate planning is for everyone. Creating an Estate Plan enables you to provide a lasting legacy and protect your loved one. You can make a lasting contribution to the ministries of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church by including Holy Trinity in your Estate Plan. Your legacy can be assured by beneficiary designation in your will, trust or charitable gift annuity. Please contact your

financial advisor or the church office for more information. Holy Trinity will be providing additional information on Planned Giving in the coming months. Watch our announcements for more information.

Ways to Financially Support Holy Trinity (continued)

Other ways to support the ministries of Holy Trinity



Shop at Smile.Amazon.com and Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price to Holy Trinity without impacting your cost. Signup at www.smile.amazon.com.



Since its inception in 2010, Thrivent has provided more than \$458 million in charitable outreach fund through the Thrivent Choice program. Thrivent members with eligible plans can direct Choice Dollars to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Contact your Thrivent representative for more information.

Membership Changes - July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Transfers in: Jaclyn Crawford and 2 sons, James and Andrew - April 12, 2021
From Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bryan, OH

Transfers out: Darla Bycott - May 13, 2021
To Ward Church, Livonia, MI
Dan and Holly Clemans - January 2021
To Hope Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills, MI

Deaths: Donna Sepke - September 8, 2020
David Hagen - October 19, 2020
Robert Valo - February 9, 2021
Robert Graham - February 20, 2021

Baptisms: Audrey May Endicott - May 21, 2021
Parents: Ashley and Jarrod Endicott
Sponsors: Jessica and Kyle Robinson
Julia Ann Perri - June 8, 2021
Parents: Jaclyn Crawford and Michael Perri
Sponsors: John Crawford and Orienda Franchi

Call Committee

The Call Committee held its first meeting on September 15, 2020. Members of the Call Committee were:

- Bill Deacon
- Jim Grosh
- Michelle Groven Nelson
- Debbie LaFontaine
- Jonathon Spunar
- Sherri Wisniewski

Our first task was to review and finalize Holy Trinity's Ministry Site Profile (MSP), which had been prepared by the Transition Team. The MSP was finalized and submitted to the synod on September 30, 2020. While waiting for potential candidates, the committee prepared for the interview process by developing a set of interview questions, deciding how to hold interviews during a pandemic, and holding a practice interview with a synod intern.

The committee was presented with five potential candidates on October 14, 2020. By the first week of November, we had conducted Zoom interviews with each candidate. Second interviews were held via Zoom at the end of November. Navigating Advent and Christmas, and following all COVID-19 protocols, we held a third interview on December 28, 2020, in person at Holy Trinity. Each of these candidates had many gifts. But after much discussion and prayer, the committee came to the difficult conclusion that none of them was the best fit for Holy Trinity. It was a challenging time for the committee, but we knew God had a plan for us and for Holy Trinity and we continued to push forward.

We were presented with two new candidates in mid-January. We held Zoom interviews with them in February and in-person interviews in March. Both were strong candidates, but one stood out. The committee presented Pastor Andrew Chavanak to Council on March 16th, and we are so happy, excited, and blessed to have him join Holy Trinity on June 14, 2021.

The six-month process, starting with our first meeting September 15, 2020, and ending with the presentation to Council on March 16, 2021, was a bit intense and stressful at times. The importance of our mission was never lost on us, and God was with us every step of the way. Throughout the discernment process, we relied on prayer to guide us, keeping Pastor Lauren Kirsh-Carr's words in mind and "wrapping everything we did in prayer." We thank the congregation for their prayers, too. This gave us the strength and courage to keep moving forward with a sense of urgency, making some difficult decisions along the way. Each member of this committee shared different perspectives and points of view and we were able to leverage that as a team to get to where we are today. We grew to know one another and grew in our faith. We are blessed for the time we spent together and grateful for what we learned and experienced.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Wisniewski

Board of Education

As is the story across the board, our Education Team encountered a lot of COVID related restrictions and obstacles, but with God's help and guidance, we were able to find a new path and accomplish many of our goals just the same.

Our Team meetings are typically spent in discussion to discover new ways to encourage members of all ages to participate together in Faith Formation. We also use this time for brainstorming ways to connect with each of the age groups we have at Holy Trinity, from the very young, and all along the spectrum to our oldest members. We love our most recent idea! It's called Bible Buddies.

FAITH FORMATION: Zoom has been the primary platform for our church family time, following worship on most Sundays, during the past year. It is great when all are learning and discussing together. In the Fall, when we returned to in-person worship for a short time, Faith Formation continued via Zoom. In-person worshippers simply remained in the sanctuary and participated in the Zoom meeting from there.

We used the Bible Project's Church at Home resources for our Zoom time, and group discussions were engaging. Some of the topics were: Peace; Love; Heaven and Earth; Character of God; and Transgression. Weekly presentation and discussions were led by Pr. Bill, Education Team members, and occasionally other church members.

Book studies are another resource to promote discussion on Sundays. Amy Morse led the 2 book studies held in the past year. Those were: "You are Never Alone" by Max Lucado, and "Elijah" by Priscilla Shirer. It was very encouraging to see our HTLC members being quite receptive and engaging in these book study discussions.

Faith Formation during Advent and Lent included mid-week worship on Wednesdays. It was conducted via Zoom, and included a 30 minute Worship service, followed by break-out sessions for 20-30 minutes of discussion. Participation was great! "Worship in the Waiting" from Engage Worship was used during Advent. "Again & Again - A Lenten Refrain" from Sanctified Art was used during Lent. To further connect with our members and the general public, daily devotions were sent via email and posted on Facebook using the Sanctified Art resources.

Due to COVID-19, we decided to forego most of our typical service projects. However, we were pretty excited about the 2020 Lenten service project, which was part of the Generosity Project, and since it was so rudely interrupted by the pandemic, we brought it back this year. For each 2-week period during Lent, we challenged our church members to be generous so we could provide for those in need who we weren't able to help out last year. Challenges included: collecting canned goods for St. Christine Christian Services in the Brightmoor Community of Detroit; collecting socks and underwear for the NOAH Project in Detroit; collecting sheets and towels for the Wayne County Family Center. Congregation members were very generous with their donations, and our donations were very warmly received by the organizations.

No Easter Sunday activities took place again this year, due to COVID restrictions.

Despite COVID, we were still able to pack lunches for NOAH several times throughout the year. Modifications were made to make sure we were following safety guidelines for social distancing. Congregation members were asked to make cash donations. Joan Gaul and Layne Fagnani purchased all of the supplies and organized the actual sandwich making and lunch packing.

Board of Education (Continued)

TINY TOTS July 2020 – June 2021: Tiny Tots Preschool is a ministry of our congregation, and we continually look for new ways to stay connected with “our” school.

Tiny Tots was able to open for classes in September 2020. They were committed to the safety of their students, staff, and parents, and developed an extensive safety protocol with COVID restrictions in mind. The plan involved the staff swapping out toys after each class, kids changing shoes before entering the classroom, limiting class sizes to 10-11 students, taking temperatures, and not allowing parents into the building. Tiny Tots received several grants to support their operations for the school year. With funds from one of the grants, they purchased a disinfecting machine that helped with cleaning the classrooms. Another grant provided one month of tuition reimbursement for parents.

Many of the students registered for Fall 2020 dropped out before school started, but throughout the school year, enrollment slowly increased back up to near capacity.

Tiny Tots was able to have their traditional spaghetti dinner fund raiser at the end of April, but it took on a new look. It became a drive-thru event! Although they did not sell all 500 dinners they had planned for, they were able to raise enough funds to maintain their science program for next year.

The Moving On ceremony for the soon-to-be kindergarteners was a drive-thru event. Once again, the year-end picnic had to be cancelled. Registration for the Fall is going very well, with approximately 80 students enrolled. Capacity = 100.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL : Our original 2020 dates were the week of July 13-17, but with COVID restrictions, and our decision to change the platform to virtual, the timing needed an adjustment as well. VBS began July 20, and met on Zoom each Monday, for 5 weeks. The weekly schedule allowed time to put together packets of materials that could be picked up at Holy Trinity each week. “Compassion Camp” from Illustrated Ministries was selected as the resource for VBS, as it had helpful information and ideas for conducting a virtual VBS. The 30 minute Zoom sessions were led by Dale Love, Debbie LaFontaine, and Amy Morse. Videos and other resources were published on Facebook and YouTube during the week.

We continued the tradition of having a VBS service project by asking participants to make monetary donations to NOAH online. There were approximately 5 kids each week, which is lower than expected, but those participating had a good time. We did not charge for this VBS.

WORK CAMP : Work camp has become a cross-generational activity, as we volunteer our services locally, rather than travel to other parts of the country. All members of our congregation are encouraged to join the work camper activities.

In 2020, our original work camp plan was to be the traditional 3 days in August, but COVID issues caused us to modify that plan for the safety of our workers, as well as people at the work locations. We decided that there would be only one day of work camp this year, and it was designated as “work around our church day”. To comply with COVID guidelines, the workers brought their own snacks, and lunch, and also their own work tools, gloves, etc. Bottled water was provided. The work around the church date ended up being on the rain date of August 5, and there was a good turnout. Many adults, and a few youth participated.

With some COVID restrictions still in place, this year’s plan for work camp will be modified as well.

Board of Education (continued)

We will pick one day in each month in June, July and August, and will be helping those in need in our own community. Our scheduled dates are Saturdays – June 19, July 24, and August 21. HTLC will benefit from the June work event.

HOMECOMING : Our Homecoming Day on September 13, began with an outdoor service, which was also broadcast via Zoom. It was also God's Work Our Hands day, so following worship, our volunteer workers divided and conquered, by heading to several work locations which included outdoor yardwork at a COC group home, outdoor yardwork at the homes of two different members, and many outdoor tasks at Holy Trinity.

CONFIRMATION: Confirmation classes resumed in September 2020. Brooke Brown and Grace Conley were in class for a few weeks, while they finished their 2nd year of instruction, and then were confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 25th. Mason Newman was in class with Brook and Grace, while finishing his 1st year of instruction, and was then joined on November 1, by the three incoming students: Jonathan Morse, Brady Newman, and Liam Villalobos.

Classes continue to be conducted via Zoom. Confirmation students are required to participate in various church events and activities, including Advent and Lenten services and discussions, as well as work camp, and helping with VBS.

FIRST COMMUNION : Erik Brown received his First Communion on Transfiguration Sunday, February 14, 2021. Erik and his family participated in Zoom instruction the day before to prepare for this special day. As is an HTLC tradition, Erik will be included in the acolyte roster once in-person worship resumes.

GRADUATION QUILTS : Graduation quilts were presented on Sunday, June 13th, to our 2021 high school graduates - Griffin Conley and Aidan Villalobos. Congrats to our grads! As they head off to college or other endeavors, these handmade quilts are a great way to remind them that the love and comfort of God, and the church family, is with them. Debbie LaFontaine coordinated, and the production team consisted of Linda Schwelnus, Marty Schmidt, and Deb Lone. Karen Hissong and Lisa Hissong made special handmade cards for the graduates. THANK YOU, LADIES!!

SEASONAL CONNECTIONS – LIFTING SPIRITS: In the Fall, we reached out to our families with younger kids – another way to connect. We put together packages of Halloween treats and trinkets, including a small pumpkin, cake in a mug kits, stickers, book markers, etc. We shared in delivering these fun packages to the homes of the families.

BIBLE BUDDIES : This is the product of one of our recent brainstorming meetings. Kids love Bible stories. We hope to have members who enjoy reading to young children make recordings that will be posted on Facebook and YouTube. To get us started and determine the interest level, we made a short list of those we thought would like to help us out. We received enthusiastic responses. Our first Bible story was posted in early June and has been well received.

Our God truly is an AWESOME God who is with us ALL of the time – something for which we can be truly THANKFUL.

Team Members:

Debbie LaFontaine, Dale Love, Amy Morse, Sherri Wisniewski, Sue Mount-Campbell

Board of Outreach

Outreach Mission Statement

We believe that, as followers of Jesus Christ, we are God's representatives in the local community. We reach out to our neighbors to share God's love and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ, with the intent of bringing our neighbors to join the family of Christ at Holy Trinity.

In Outreach, the scripture verses below are at the center of why we do what we do:

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Matthew 25:34-40

As we grow in our understanding of outreach, we are striving to be more intentional and engaged in our efforts to be God's ambassadors in our own community and surrounding areas. Our Outreach Team is continually exploring ways to develop relationships and share our God stories through our service activities. We would like to be known as the church that cares – not just another group that provides for needs. The Outreach Team is committed to reaching out, sharing God's love with others, and maintaining relationships.

Outreach during a pandemic? It would have been easy for us to step back, do nothing and wait for the pandemic to run its course. No one would have thought less of us for doing just that. So, why do we do what we do? We believe that God blesses us everyday. As His ambassadors, we are to share these blessings with others. Doing for others is doing for Christ. However, ultimately we do what we do because we are witnesses for Christ. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Outreach Team found ways to reach out, to serve and love our neighbors and share God's love with one another. It wasn't quite the same as we have done in previous years, but we found more creative ways to do it. Through it all, the one thing that has remained constant is God's unconditional love for us. God's Work, Our Hands!!

Listed below are summaries of the outreach opportunities we accomplished in the last 12 months.

God Stories

We have become more intentional in sharing our God stories and talking about how God has been at work in our lives. Each week, a God story is included in the Weekly Announcements. Sharing our God stories helps others in multiple ways – it helps to build their faith and it helps them learn how to share their own God story. The more we share our God stories, the more confidence we gain to be witnesses for Christ in the world.

Thanksgiving Harvest Blessing Mix Bags

It had been eight months since the onset of the pandemic. Thanks to Zoom technology and social media platforms like Facebook and YouTube, most members of our congregation have been able to worship on Sunday and maintain a somewhat limited means of personal contact with one another. What could we do for those who do not have this technology available to them? We made Harvest Blessing Mix Bags containing Bugles crackers, pretzels, candy corn, dried fruit, M&M, and a Hershey's Kiss.

Board of Outreach (Continued)

These bags were delivered to 48 of our shut-in members and those who we haven't seen in a while and 50 bags to Independence Village. On each little snack bag was a tag as a reminder of all we have to be thankful for:

- A symbol of our nation's abundance
- The freedom sought by those who founded our country
- The sacrifices of the Pilgrim's first winter
- The promise of a future harvest
- Gifts from our bountiful land
- Memories of those who came before us to guide us to a blessed future
- And the love of family and friends

Debbie, Layne and Margaret personally delivered these bags. Our members who received them were very happy to see us and to know that we are thinking of them. They couldn't see our smiles behind our masks, but we were happy to see them too!!

A Bountiful Harvest – A Little Different This Year

For the past several years, we collected non-perishable food and fresh fruit and vegetables that were delivered to Salem Lutheran Church in Flint for inclusion in their Christmas food boxes. However, this project took a different direction for Christmas 2020. Instead of food, we purchased personal hygiene items for Salem and Randolph Elementary School using funds from two Thrivent Action Team grants. Items purchased included toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving cream, razors, deodorant, shampoo, etc. Families who use the State of Michigan Bridge Card for food assistance benefits cannot purchase these basic personal hygiene items using the card. Thank you to Joan Gaul and Margaret Ash for applying for these funds and to Thrivent for approving the request.

Easter Service Projects

Easter 2021 found us still in the grasp of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although celebrating Easter remotely again this year wasn't what we had hoped for, the Outreach Team persevered in our mission of sharing God's love with one another. Two weeks before Easter, several members of the Outreach Team met at the home of Layne Fagnani to assemble small jelly bean bags with a Jelly Bean Prayer tag attached to each bag explaining that the color of each jelly bean tells a wonderful story, all for God's glory. Layne and Margaret delivered the bags to our shut-in members and members who we haven't seen in a while. Many of these people don't use social media to stay connected. We also made an additional 50 jelly bean bags for the residents of Independence Village. Jen Sackett from Independence Village left a very nice note for Layne to let us know that they are grateful for the Easter jelly bean bags as well as the Sunday bulletins and announcements that she delivers weekly.

We were unable to have an Easter Egg Hunt for our Tiny Tots students and the children of Holy Trinity again this year, so what did we do? We filled hundreds of plastic Easter eggs with candy and assembled 70 bags for our Tiny Tots students and 43 bags for the children of Holy Trinity families. The bags for the Tiny Tots children also contained a craft project. Since the Holy Trinity children range in age from preschool to high school, the contents of their bags were age-appropriate. The bags for younger children contained filled plastic Easter eggs and the older children received a full size candy bar. All of the Holy Trinity children received the small bags of jelly beans and a \$5.00 McDonald's gift card. Layne and Margaret personally delivered all of these bags and we were delighted with the response from the recipients. The parents were thankful to know that we are thinking about them during times when we can't be together and the children were happy to receive their Easter treats!! This project was well worth the time and effort it took to make it happen.

Additionally, Layne and her Caring Ministry Team mailed 195 Easter cards to our shut-in members and others.

Board of Outreach (Continued)

Boy Scout Troop 782

Our Boy Scout Troop 782 acknowledged the achievements of four Eagle Scouts in a Court of Honor presentation at the pavilion at Noon on Sunday, May 16, 2021. Debbie wrote a congratulatory letter from Holy Trinity for each scout. Since 1954 there have been 326 Eagle Scouts from this troop – one of the highest in the nation!! Now that’s something to celebrate!!

Tiny Tots Preschool

Tiny Tots Preschool is not just another preschool in Livonia – it’s a very important mission of Holy Trinity. The Outreach Team is grateful for the wonderful relationship we have with our Tiny Tots teachers and staff. The 2020/2021 school year was a challenging year for all teachers. Our Tiny Tots staff and teachers went above and beyond to make learning fun while keeping the children safe. As a token of our appreciation for the work that they do, we hosted a Welcome Back luncheon on October 21, 2020 and a Teacher Appreciation luncheon on May 27, 2021.

Tiny Tots Year-End Programs

The “Moving On” program for 38 of our Tiny Tots students who graduated from our preschool and will be going to Kindergarten or Young Fives in the fall was held on May 19, 2021. Although we couldn’t be there in person, we wanted to let these graduates and their families know how much we appreciate them. As a gift from Holy Trinity, each student received a small stuffed dog with a tag attached saying “Dog gone It, we’re going to miss you. Congratulations graduate”. Thanks to Lisa and Karen Hissong for your work on championing this project. As their end of the school year gift, all enrolled students received the book “Dear God” with a tag attached saying “This year was one for the books!”

Keep On Keepin’ On

We look forward to reengaging in more outreach opportunities as some semblance of normal life returns in 2021. Working together, we are embracing our PEWS Outreach philosophy of **P**articipate, **E**ngage, **W**itness, **S**tart today. Join us by implementing the PEWS philosophy in your everyday life. You can “Start today”. Call or text a friend to see how they are doing. Send a card. It’s really that simple!!

Blessings,

The Outreach Team

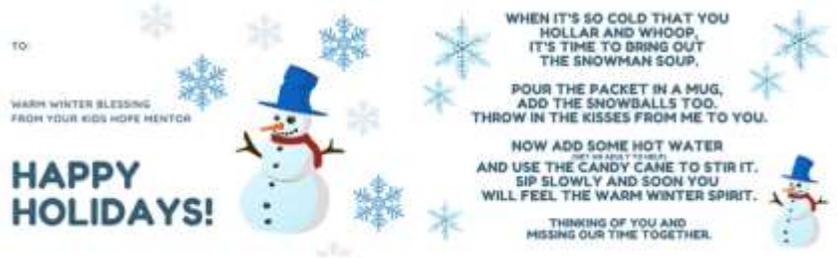
Margaret Ash, Audrey Andison, Wendy Andison, Layne Fagnani, Lisa Hissong,
Debbie LaFontaine and Paul Stratton

Kids Hope USA

What a year 2020/2021 has been for Kids Hope – nothing has been normal, nothing has been easy. Students have been in and out of the classroom throughout the year. Some students opted to attend virtually for the entire year. Other students opted to attend in person, and then ended up being virtual for part of the year. Mentors were not allowed into the building. Teachers had many extra pressures to ensure the safety and well-being of students.

Ten Kids Hope students returned to Randolph this year; the other three students from last year moved to other schools. Mentors tried to connect with their students in various ways. Letters were written and delivered to Randolph or mailed to home. A few responses were received which was a real treat for the mentors. A couple mentors were able to connect with their student in person by dropping a note or gift at their home. Mentors and prayer partners continued to pray for their student throughout the school year.

Each student was given a hot chocolate treat and note from their mentor at Christmas to help them remember they are loved. The Randolph PTA sold ring pops for Valentine's day. Each Kids Hope student received one of these Valentine treats with a special note from their mentor. Gift bags were given to each student at the end of the school year to let them



know their mentor is thinking of them. Each gift bag included a few items for summer fun, as well as some ideas to help keep students busy throughout the summer months. Jen Wilson, our Kids Hope liaison at Randolph said "Not having Kids Hope this year has been a huge loss to the kids. I am really hoping next year looks so much different."

Carol Koponen stepped down as Kids Hope USA Director in January. Many thanks to Carol for her leadership of the Kids Hope ministry for the past 10 years. Carol's creativity and commitment will be dearly missed. Debbie LaFontaine will continue as volunteer coordinator for Kids Hope.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our Kids Hope ministry at Holy Trinity.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie LaFontaine
Kids Hope USA Volunteer Coordinator

Men's Ministry

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY has continued uninterrupted by the pandemic to provide men fellowship and spiritual enrichment. We have been guided to see God working in our lives through reading and discussing Experiencing God's Presence by Sarah Young and more recently the gospel of John from Life Lessons from John, by Max Lucado. We meet every other week, spending about 30 minutes in fellowship and an hour reading and discussing biblical issues. Zoom has allowed us to meet during the pandemic, and soon we hope to meet in person, sharing a snack as well as fellowship.

MEN'S RETREAT was postponed from spring to fall in 2020 due to the pandemic. Under safe conditions a small contingent of present and past Holy Trinity men were hosted by Gary and Marla Hafemeister at their home on Silver Lake and convened at Grace Adventures for a weekend focused on Christian life and family issues from a man's perspective. The next retreat is planned for October, 2021.

MOVIE NIGHT was an every-so-often event sponsored by the men's group before the pandemic prevented us from meeting in person at church. We hope to resume sharing a meal and a movie at some time in the near future and will welcome all who care to join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Stratton

Women of the ELCA

"This year was one for the books!" We quoted this saying on our year-end gift for the Tiny Tot students and it holds true for all of us.

Although we were unable to meet in person due to all the restrictions, we were able to have our Share the Bounty and combined it with the Giving Tree for the Families in Need. With the generosity of our Holy Trinity family we raised \$9,850.00, received gift cards totaling \$170.00, and received donations of household items for families at Salem. Ten families from Salem Lutheran in Flint and seven families from Randolph Elementary received these blessings.

*"To all the wonderful people at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church,
First, I would like to say a huge thank you!! Because of the generosity of you all, my family had the best Christmas ever!! I have never seen them smile bigger and of course I had tears of joy...."
From Amy K., Salem Lutheran*

"Thank you Jennifer (Jennifer Wilson at Randolph) for choosing our family! This has taken a burden off my shoulders being a single parent and trying to keep my kids excited for Christmas."

As we begin a new season at Holy Trinity, we look forward to gathering together and planning ways to share our blessings with others. Hopefully this Fall we will have our Kick-off meeting to plan an "in person" Share the Bounty and several other events. The Holy Trinity's Women of the ELCA Leadership Team thanks all our church family for their continued prayers and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Hissong on behalf of the WELCA Leadership Team

Board of Missions

Our Holy Trinity family is a very generous group – even in a pandemic. They witness their faith in Jesus Christ by giving generously to support the missions of Holy Trinity. This past year has been a challenge for all of us, forcing us to make changes in the way we do things.

Collections for Empty Pockets did not take place this year as we were not meeting together in person.

The annual CROP Walk, to raise funds and provide aid for hungry families, did take place this year – virtually. Overall, eight churches and 47 walkers took part in the Livonia/Garden City event, raising a grand total of \$12,006 for CROP. Holy Trinity raised a grand total of \$2,145. This amount included \$500 for meeting the online challenge and the youth challenge. Thank you to all who participated.

Holy Trinity was able to pack 300 lunches for NOAH on two different dates this past year – once in September and again in March. Again, procedures had to be modified in light of the pandemic. Cash donations totaling \$3102.06 were received to offset the cost of supplies for the lunches which totaled \$2344.66. Joan Gaul and Layne Fagnani did all of the shopping and packing of the lunch bags; congregation members made the sandwiches. Thank you to all for your financial gifts and participation.

We did not have our pumpkin patch fundraiser this year due to safety concerns with the pandemic.

We donated \$10,000 to Southeast Michigan Synod ELCA Benevolence. Other donations that were made this year: \$50 to Lutheran World Relief, \$300 to Livonia Cares and \$300 to Blessings in a Backpack, Livonia Chapter.

Tiny Tots donated \$1000 to Make A Wish of Michigan out of the surplus from their operating budget. This charity was chosen by the Tiny Tots staff because they currently have a student who was diagnosed with cancer in the eye at the age of 1 1/2. This student recently received her Make a Wish, and after seeing how much it meant to the student, the staff decided they would like to help provide a similar opportunity for other children who are battling illnesses.

Although it is not a budgeted line item, we continue to provide rent-free classrooms for our Tiny Tots preschool. This includes utilities, use of the fellowship hall and kitchen, daily cleaning, snow removal – everything they need to have for their preschool operations. Similar services are provided for Boy Scout Troop 782 for which we are the chartering organization. In all, these services are valued at about \$30,000 annually.

Donations to our food pantry are taken to Gleaners on a regular basis. We are also able to service the needs of people who come into our building for help.

It is with sincere thanks to all at Holy Trinity for living generously to touch and support the lives of those in need.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie LaFontaine

Board of Stewardship

Growing a Culture of Generosity is the major goal of the Stewardship Board at Holy Trinity. “Living generously together” is now part of our purpose statement as one way we witness our faith. We recognize that financially supporting the ministries of Holy Trinity is an act of worship, one way we glorify God and give thanks for God’s abundance. During Lent “The Generosity Project” provided opportunities to learn and practice generosity in our lives. Generosity has also been the focus of bulletin announcements and newsletter articles. As one member shared, “giving for God’s work is good for my heart.”

Stewardship for All Seasons (SAS) has provided training, consultation and support over the past year. In spite of the pandemic, Zoom has been a blessing by allowing pastors and their stewardship leadership from the Southeast Michigan synod to join together for interactive learning experiences or to tune in to recorded sessions, as needed. This synod-sponsored training included the following topics: nurturing a generosity culture, conducting an annual stewardship appeal and special appeals, communication for inspiration, generosity during a pandemic, strategic planning, volunteer engagement, and legacy gifts.

As important as training, SAS has provided consultation and support. For example, when Holy Trinity could not do an in-person stewardship appeal in spring 2020, our SAS consultant suggested we do a capital appeal, focusing on the roof, which needed to be replaced. I thought that was impossible during a pandemic, when everything seemed to be falling apart. However, following SAS instructions and encouragement, a special roof appeal was conducted, and our Holy Trinity family was so generous that they donated more than we asked and almost enough to completely pay for replacing the roof and gutters. The congregation also approved installing energy-efficient LED lighting, which is expected to pay for itself over time through reduced electricity consumption and maintenance costs.

Our spring 2021 appeal took place between Easter and Memorial Day. Under the theme, “Our Journey of Renewal,” additional funds were requested for three initiatives: enhancing our remote worship to reach out to people who cannot worship in person, making the Fellowship Hall safe and comfortable by replacing two 25-year old HVAC units, and maintaining ministry excellence against raising costs. A \$10,000 challenge gift enabled two generous donors to enhance the impact of their contribution by encouraging generosity in others. This spring appeal resulted in more people who indicated their intent to donate than usual (68 of 150 invitations). These pledges claimed the entire challenge gift. Those pledges covered about 2/3rds of the estimated costs of ministry for the next fiscal year. Additional donations are also expected from people who add to their pledge through the year and from those who make regular offerings but do not pledge. We trust in God’s abundant provision to inspire people to support the ministries of Holy Trinity.

Planned Giving is a new 5-session track provided by SAS. This focuses on establishing a planned giving program that gives information and tools for estate planning. Tools will also be available for people who want to include Holy Trinity in their estate plans, including the option of contributing to our perpetual endowment for mission.

Submitted by Paul Stratton, Stewardship Chairperson

Endowment Fund Report (as of May 13, 2021)

Past Year's Performance: The Endowment Fund will be able to make a distribution in 2021 in the amount of \$22,597. The Endowment Fund balance started the 2020/21 financial year at \$290,902.04 and with the recovery of the financial markets, after the onslaught of the Corona Virus, ended the year at \$376,614.71, a 29.4% increase. This has been a very good year as the average annual increase for the past 11 years has been 6.9%. The Fund's financial year starts May 1st and ends April 30th.

The inflation for the past year was 4.16% which escalates the required perpetual principle to \$310,003.08. The fund operating guidelines require that no more than 6% of the ending market value be distributed in any year, thus the total distribution this year is \$22,597 of which \$10,169 will be allocated to the Gail Ann Copple Bequest Fund and \$12,428 will be allocated for Local Missions Outreach.

The Endowment Fund is invested in two entities; 97.6% of it is invested with Thrivent Financial Management in Equity and Fixed Income mutual funds, and a money market account, the remaining 2.4% is invested with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (HTLC). The amount currently invested with HTLC is \$9,000 and is being returned and reinvested with Thrivent through monthly payments of \$1,900.00.

The current amount will be fully returned after 4.74 additional monthly payments. Since June 2008 the fund has distributed \$127,934 for uses guided by the Holy Trinity Giving Committee.

How was the Endowment Fund Created? The Endowment Fund monies came from 3 sources;

- 1) Consolidation of Epiphany Lutheran Church and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in 1984,
- 2) A generous bequest from the Gail Copple Estate, and
- 3) A bequest grant from Thrivent Financial on behalf of Gail Copple when monies were invested from parts 1) and 2) with Thrivent Financial.

If anyone wishes to create further endowments or make additional principle donations in the form of cash or stock to the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, please contact Tom Musselman.

How is a Distribution of Funds Determined? All three parts of the endowment fund have limitations on the amount of the annual distribution as originally defined in the church constitution. Paraphrasing the requirement, the interest received above and beyond what is required to maintain the principle after it is adjusted for the past year's inflation, can be distributed up to a maximum of 6%.

How Can the Monies be Used? The use of the funds also has some limitations. Distributions from Part 1) are designated for local missions only and this fund is called the Local Missions Outreach Fund. Distributions from Parts 2) & 3) which resulted from Gail Copple's bequest can be distributed for any cause the church decides and this fund is called the Gail Ann Copple Bequest Fund.

The Giving Committee assists with determination of where the monies will be directed. If the members of the congregation have suggestions for use of the monies, please forward your suggestions to the Giving Committee members.

How are the Funds Invested?

The endowment funds are invested with Thrivent Financial and Holy Trinity as shown in the chart.

Investment	Amount 1/	Percentage
Thrivent Money Market	\$42,018.68	11.2%
Thrivent Mutual Funds – Equity	\$234,032.10	62.1%
Thrivent Mutual Funds – Fixed Income	\$91,563.93	24.3%
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church – Fixed Income	\$9,000.00	2.4%
Total	\$376,614.71	100%
1/ = April 30, 2021 account balance statement.		

Submitted by:

Tom Musselman May 13, 2021
Endowment Fund Manager

Board of Finance

2019-2020 Financial Results		Income	Expenses	Surplus/(Deficit)
	General Fund	\$402,141.00	\$391,259.00	\$10,882.00
	Tiny Tots	\$108,341.00	\$112,434.00	(\$4,093.00)
	WELCA	\$12,235.29	\$0.00	\$12,235.29
	Total	\$522,717.29	\$503,693.00	\$19,024.29
2020-21 Financial Results		Income	Expenses	Surplus/(Deficit)
	Budget through April	\$364,167.00	\$378,592.00	(\$14,425.00)
	Actual through April	\$314,013.00	\$312,093.00	\$1,920.00
	Tiny Tots Actual through April	\$112,694.00	\$80,773.00	\$31,921.00
Working Cash on April 30, 2020		\$129,160.00		
Working Cash on April 30, 2021		\$148,443.00		
Working Cash Increase		\$19,283.00		

- Please consider giving online using the Tithe.ly Giving App *for your weekly giving. It's easy to use and provides a great benefit to the Church for financial planning.*
- Remember that our Congregation gives at least 10% our general fund income for Missions.
- With your **generous giving** we replaced the entire shingled roof, gutters, downspouts and installed leaf guards. In addition we were able to upgrade all of the lighting at Holy Trinity. Both of these projects will result in a much nicer facility and lower annual maintenance costs.
- The next project to be completed at Holy Trinity will be replacement of two 30+ year old AC units on the flat roof. In addition to upgrading these units this should stop the water leaks in the Fellowship Hall.
- Other improvements that we are looking at include upgrading our Technology equipment so we will be able to continue our On-line presence and broadcast of our church services
- We are holding off on repairs and facility upgrades at this time to the parking lot, and fire and alarm systems until we are able to pay for these items.
- We have a **God of Abundance** watching over us. The 2018 Budget began paying back the money to the Endowment Fund that was invested in the carpet. This September the entire amount will be paid back with interest.
- Thank you to all who are faithful in their giving. God has blessed your lives and we are thankful that you recognize this with your gifts back to Holy Trinity.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Deacon, Finance Chairperson

Board of Trustees

The last twelve months have been very busy for the Board of Trustees. We have completed numerous maintenance, repair and upgrade projects. Listed below are the completed and pending projects:

Roof Project: In May 2021, Pintican Roofing Company completed the new roof installation including new gutters and gutter guards, new downspouts, and heat tape over the south entrances. The outside brown trim boards were repainted before the gutters were installed. The total cost of this project was \$99,865.00.

LED Lighting Upgrade: Electro-Matic Ventures Company completed the LED lighting upgrade project on December 16, 2020. All the inside and outside lights were replaced with new led lights. New sanctuary spotlights were added inside to light the beautiful stained glass windows at night. The church steeple bell spot lights and the three crosses spotlights were also replaced. The church council and the church congregation approved the project since it will reduce monthly inside and outside lighting energy costs. It is anticipated that this project will pay for itself within the next three to five years. The total cost of this project was \$55,792.62.

Plumbing: On August 20, 2020, Horton Plumbing fixed a leaking toilet gasket in the women's rest room next to Tiny Tots. They also fixed the kitchen faucet leak and checked the cold water temperatures in the kitchen and the women's restroom next to the Welcome Center. On December 10, 2020, they repaired the two leaking urinals in the men's restroom adjacent to the welcome center.

Parking Lot: On June 13, 2020, Tom Wrenbeck filled in three large potholes on the east side of the parking lot.

Fire Inspections: On July 27, 2020, ADT completed our annual fire inspection by testing and inspecting all smoke detectors, manual pull stations, horn/strobe units and door closers. No problems were discovered.

On April 13, 2021, Fire Equipment Company conducted the annual kitchen Ansul fire extinguishing system test over the stove and oven areas in the kitchen. Additionally, all of the fire extinguishers were inspected.

HVAC Upgrades, Repairs, and Maintenance: Slasor HVAC Company completed fall and spring furnace and air conditioning maintenance on October 13, 2020 and May 6, 2021 respectively. These inspections included changing all the furnace filters, checking the blower belts, cleaning the burner and flame sensors and checking the heat exchangers. The outside air conditioning units were inspected to make sure they were working properly and Freon was added as necessary. The total cost for both inspections was \$3,210.00.

On December 29, 2020, the two 25-year old fellowship hall furnaces were repaired. Total cost: \$2,632.17.

On January 20, 2021 and January 26, 2021, three Carrier furnace ignition control circuit boards and one blower motor assembly were replaced in the main furnace room. These furnaces supply heat to the sanctuary. Total cost: \$2,811.10.

On February 2, 2021, Slasor HVAC completed the annual hot water heater inspection for Tiny Tots. This inspection is required by the State of Michigan. Total cost \$129.00

On March 26, 2021, the east fellowship hall furnace was shut down due to the development of carbon monoxide from a faulty heat exchanger. The necessary repairs were not made, because it was too costly

Board of Trustees (Continued)

and there are limited parts available for this 25-year old furnace. The west side furnace is still working for heating and air conditioning in the fellowship hall.

Door Repairs: On December 31, 2020, Altech Door Company repaired the closing arm at the north entrance door. The door rods to the west entrance door were also repaired so the door will now lock properly.

Security: On March 30, 2021, the ADT security system access codes were all updated along with the church key holder list. All the keys were returned from the church members who no longer need access to the church.

On April 30, 2021, the ADT security system was programmed to auto-arm at 11:00 p.m., 7-days per week to ensure that the church is protected in case the last person in the building did not arm the system.

Camera: On March 26, 2021, an existing Wi-Fi camera was installed in the southeast corner of the welcome center to observe activity in this area as well as the main north/south hallway.

Sump Pump: Don MacRae installed a new sump pump in the furnace room to remove water from the underground ducts under the sanctuary and welcome center. Total cost: \$187.00.

Carpeting: On April 10, 2021, Tom Wrenbeck met with Aqua-Chem Solutions Company to inspect the carpet tiles in the fellowship hall. They determined that the tiles were installed correctly and they recommended that double-sided tape be used to secure any loose carpet tiles. Also, the carpeting needs to be re-stretched in Room #11 in the education wing.

HVAC Proposal: On May 26, 2021, I wrote a final HVAC upgrade proposal recommendation that will be discussed and voted on at the church council meeting on June 21, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Ash, Head Trustee

Music Ministry

- Most of the service music has been recorded by Dale Love, singing and playing either the organ or piano. It was recorded this way to make sure that the congregation will be able to easily follow along via Zoom.
- While Chancel Choir and Trinity Bells were not able to meet during the year, opportunities were available for those willing to participate.
- Some of our musicians participated in the SE Michigan Synod Virtual Choir for Christmas and the ALCM Virtual Choir for Easter.
- Some of our singers recorded their parts and our musical tech arranger, Don Bartkowiak, put all the parts together for us to use during some of our worship services. A few of these arrangements included music from our *Praise Band*.
- A brass quartet played for Easter Sunday by recording their individual parts.
- Some instrumentalists provided solo recordings.
- For Trinity Sunday, a trio recorded together in the sanctuary, for the first time in over a year, with Don Bartkowiak at the piano.

Respectfully submitted by Dale Love, *Director of Music Ministries*

Tiny Tots Preschool

This school year was one we will never forget. With the uncertainty of being able to open or not because of the pandemic, we developed new rules and regulations per licensing regulation for the safety of our families and staff. Multiple families chose to keep their children home when we opened for the school year in September. Due to the new rules and the fear of the unknown, Tiny Tots started the school year with 48 students. It was evident that the safety protocols that we had in place were working and slowly but surely, families started to reenroll. We ended the school year with 67 children! Only three children away from being at capacity for this school year! That number is not our typical cap for enrollment, but smaller class sizes for the year was one of the ways that we were able to ensure safety protocols. We found that the smaller number gave us a chance to focus on establishing great relationships with our families while keeping everyone safe. God sighting!

At the end of the 2020 school year, Sue Corney retired from Tiny Tots after over 30+ years of service. All other Tiny Tots staff members came back for the school year and worked harder than ever to give the children a safe and happy year. No new hires were needed.

This year we did not offer our Teeny Tiny Tots class as parents weren't allowed in the building. We have decided to open it up again for next year and already have multiple classes full! We really did miss having those families join us this year.

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year began in early February with our currently enrolled families. It then opened up in late February to alumni and to the community. As of today, we have 84 students enrolled for next school year, which is amazing! Multiple classes are already at capacity, some with waiting lists.

During COVID-19, the state awarded grants to childcare centers for financial assistance to use at their discretion. Tiny Tots Preschool was approved for three grants and has been able to use them for salaries, a Clorox disinfecting machine, general supplies, and upgrades to the school. The school also applied for a tuition reimbursement grant from the State of MI that was offered for families enrolled in the month of September. The school received a \$200 stipend to pass along to each family as a credit on their December tuition statements. A great Christmas bonus to them!

The Tiny Tots staff has done an outstanding job this year of "going with the flow". We had to change our Christmas Program, Valentine's Day Program, Spaghetti Dinner and the Graduation Program. Every day activities had to be tweaked with safety in mind, no parents were allowed in the building (drop off and pick up curb side), children changed shoes to come into the classrooms, temperatures were checked daily upon arrival, teachers/classmates did not mix, and that's just naming a few! All of this was done without hesitation or question, and every staff member contributed to the success of this school year. We pride ourselves in the fact that nobody at Tiny Tots (staff or students) contracted Covid19 and we were able to keep the school running from the day we opened until the end of the school year! I couldn't be prouder of my staff, students, or families!

We look forward to what we hope is an easier year next year!

Respectfully Submitted, May 14, 2021
Stacy Kraus

June 14, 2020 Congregation Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Opening	President Debbie LaFontaine called the congregational meeting to order at 11:00 am via ZOOM conferencing with prayer. She welcomed everyone and presented the Annual Report. There were 51 voting members present.	
Old Business		
Secretary's Report (Approval of Minutes)	President Debbie LaFontaine presented the minutes of the June 9, 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting. Motion: (Dave Wilbert) to approve the minutes as written. Second: (Jeanette Wiljanen) Motion approved.	
New Business		
Interim Pastor's Report	Pastor Bill Kirsh-Carr gave highlights of his report. He discussed Covid-19 and that we are following the Safe Start Procedures from the SEMI Synod. We are presently in Stage 4.	
Stewardship Appeal Update	Paul Stratton gave an update on our Stewardship campaign for 2020/2021. We are postponing the appeal until we are able to meet in person.	
Special Appeal Capital Campaign	Paul Stratton presented a one year Capital Campaign to raise \$80,000 to replace the roof at Holy Trinity. The congregation is asked to raise the first \$80,000 and Council will seek funding sources for the remainder of the cost. Letters of intent will be sent in July. Once all costs and details have been decided, a Special Congregational Meeting will be held to approve a new roof.	Special Congregational meeting to be held at a later date for approval of new roof.
Review and Approval of the 2020/2021 Budget	Bill Deacon presented the 2020/2021 budget. Two line items were added - \$2,000 for flowers and \$8,400 for the Praise Band. Discussion followed. Motion: (Dick Schmidt) to accept the 2020/2021 budget as written. Second: (Dave Malcomson) Motion approved. 45 Yes votes, 2 No votes, 1 Abstain	

June 14, 2020 Congregation Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Election of Officers	<p>Michelle Spunar presented the Congregation with a ballot of proposed officers to fill vacant positions.</p> <p>President - Debbie LaFontaine Stewardship - Community Life - Worship - Mission -</p> <p>Nominations from the floor were asked, no one volunteered for Chairperson of Stewardship, Community Life, Worship, and Mission.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> (Michelle Spunar) to elect Debbie LaFontaine as President.</p> <p><u>Second:</u> (Lisa Hissong)</p> <p>Motion approved.</p>	
Voting Members for Synod Assembly	<p>Volunteers from the floor were asked to attend the October 2020 Synod Assembly TBD. No one volunteered.</p> <p>Volunteers from the floor were asked to attend the May 2021 Synod Assembly TBD.</p> <p>Bill and Chris Deacon volunteered to attend.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> (Lisa Hissong) to elect Bill and Chris Deacon as our voting members and Debbie LaFontaine and Paul Stratton as alternates.</p> <p><u>Second:</u> (Marlana Krolicki)</p> <p>Motion approved.</p>	
Transition Team Presentation	<p>Michelle Spunar presented an update from the Transition Team. They are working on our Ministry Site Profile and will be forming our Call Committee in the future. Michelle presented Holy Trinity's Purpose Statement:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A welcoming community of believers that witness our Christian faith by serving together, praying together, and living generously together.</p> <p>The video "We will Serve the Lord" was shown.</p>	
Closing and Adjournment	<p>Pastor Bill Kirsh-Carr adjourned the meeting with remarks and prayer at 12:26 pm.</p>	

Respectfully submitted,
 Karen Hissong, Council Secretary

August 16, 2020 Congregation Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Opening	President Debbie LaFontaine opened the Special Congregational Meeting via ZOOM at 10:51 am with prayer. Debbie conducted a verbal roll call. There were 52 voting members present.	
Old Business		
New Business		
Replacement of Shingle Roof	<p>Paul Stratton presented the roof appeal. A total of \$95,635 has been pledged. The challenge pledge of \$10,000 has been met and is included in the \$95,635. To date \$43,232 in cash has been received.</p> <p>Finance Chairperson Bill Deacon presented the roof proposal and possible financing. We have chosen Pintican Building and Maintenance. Work would start as soon as financing is secured. They would work around Tiny Tots schedule. Work will take around 3 weeks. Discussion followed.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> (Bill Deacon) to approve spending up to \$130,000 to replace existing shingle roof, gutters, and downspouts and secure financing necessary for the roof project.</p> <p><u>Second:</u> (Tom Wrenbeck)</p> <p>Motion approved.</p>	
LED Retrofit	<p>Paul Stratton presented the LED retrofit proposal to the congregation. Electro-Matic Visual is the company chosen. We would use 65% less electricity, bulbs would last longer, less maintenance. The church steeple would once again be lit. It is estimated that we would qualify for a DTE one-time rebate after installation. It is also estimated that we would save \$1,161 monthly. Discussion followed.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> (Paul Stratton) to approve spending up to \$55,000 to replace existing lighting (inside and out) with LED bulbs and fixtures and secure financing for said amount.</p> <p><u>Second:</u> (Bill Deacon)</p> <p>Motion approved.</p>	
Closing and Adjournment	Pastor Bill Kirsh-Carr closed the meeting at 11:40 am with Psalm 84 and prayer.	

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Hissong, Council Secretary

April 18, 2021 Congregation Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Opening	President Debbie LaFontaine opened the Special Congregational Meeting via ZOOM at 11:00 am with prayer. Debbie conducted a verbal roll call. There were 72 voting members present.	
Old Business		
New Business		
Recommendation of Pastor Andrew Chavanak as the next Senior Pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church	<p>President Debbie LaFontaine shared Pastor Andrew Chavanak's credentials via a Power Point presentation. She then presented the compensation package set by the SEMI Synod for Pastor Chavanak. Discussion followed and questions answered.</p> <p><u>Motion: (Debbie LaFontaine)</u> to call Pastor Andrew Chavanak as our Senior Pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church with the compensation package presented.</p> <p><u>Second: (Bill Deacon)</u></p> <p>Motion approved: Yes: 71 No: 0 Abstain: 1</p>	
Closing and Adjournment	Pastor Rebecca Truland closed the meeting at 11:36 am with prayer.	

Respectfully submitted,
 Karen Hissong, Council Secretary



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Return Service Requested



<p>Ministers: All Baptized People of Holy Trinity Senior Pastor: Andrew Chavanak prchavanak@holytrinitylivonia.org Director of Music and Worship Ministries: Dale Love dlove@holytrinitylivonia.org Parish Administrator: Dale Love htlc@holytrinitylivonia.org Kids Hope USA : kidshope@holytrinitylivonia.org Tiny Tots Preschool Director: Stacy Kraus tinytots@holytrinitylivonia.org Custodian: Don MacRae dmacrae@holytrinitylivonia.org Council President: Debbie LaFontaine dlafontaine@holytrinitylivonia.org</p>	<p>Find us online!   htlclivonia</p>
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