# TRINITY ON THE HILL ANNUAL REPORT

**JANUARY 26, 2025** 



2024

# Annual Parish Meeting Agenda

Sunday, January 26, 2025

12:30 pm

Sanctuary (and via Facebook live)

Blessing, Opening Prayer, Address to Annual Meeting – The Rev. Mary Ann Hill, Rector Call to Order

#### Housekeeping Items

Appointment of Clerk

Approval of Minutes of the Annual Meeting of January 28, 2024

Appointment of Readers

Approval of the Agenda

Explanation of Voting and Appointment of Tellers

#### Nominations and Elections

**Vestry:** 3 candidates for 3-year terms

Nomination of Candidates

- (1) by the Nominating Committee
  - Michelle Carr
  - Paul Lisowski
  - Lisa Rothrock
- (2) Self-nominations
- (3) Nominations from the floor

**Diocesan Convention:** Diocesan Convention delegates were elected to a 2-year term in 2023.

Review of the 2024 Financials – Leni Moore

Adoption of 2025 Budget – Leni Moore

Filing of the Wardens' and Ministry reports

Recognition of Outgoing Vestry, Delegates, Treasurer, and Vestry Clerk

**Closing Prayer** 



#### Our Mission:

The mission of Trinity on the Hill is to share the power and joy of God's love, to fully embrace all God's children, and to respond to the needs of our community and the world in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

#### Our Core Values:

**Worship**: In our shared worship in the Episcopal tradition, we experience the power and joy of God's love.

**Community of Faith:** In our church community, we welcome newcomers into our midst, where we appreciate, support, and nurture one another.

**Outreach:** In our connection with the world, we reach out with God's love and message of hope, responding to the needs of others.

#### Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

#### 2024 ANNUAL REPORT, JANUARY 26, 2025

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#### PARISH OFFICERS, 2024

Position Rector Senior Warden Junior Wardens Vestry Clerk Treasurer	Name Rev. Mary Ann Hill Kandice Favorite Mark Hartman Claire Singleton Leni Moore	E-mail momaryannhill@gmail.com kdfave@gmail.com mhartman@hubwest.com admin@latoth.org moore.leonardi@gmail.com	Phone 1 505-662-5107 505-310-4411 505-690-3892 505-662-5107 505-551-2836	Phone 2 505-231-0815
		moore.iconardjægman.com	303 331 2030	
VESTRY MEME Term ends:	BERS			
1/2025	Kelli Maginot Rebecca Foley	kbmaginot@gmail.com beccarostand@hotmail.com	361-549-7678 505-412-2595	
1/2026	Mark Hartman Kay Dreamtrader Mary Ogle	mhartman@hubwest.com kdreamtrader@gmail.com mogle@zianet.com	505-690-3892 505-402-7628 505-455-0251	505-500-8051
1/2027	Isabella Stephens Kandice Favorite Andy Light Patrick Moore	scarlettrayzor78@gmail.com kdfave@gmail.com andylinda67@gmail.com pmoore1031@gmail.com	505-695-4178 505-310-4411 513-725-5645 850-529-8086	
2023 Diocesan Co	onvention and Deanery I	Valenates		
Until 1/25	Judy Crocker	judithcrockernm@gmail.com	505-662-9117	505-490-1817
Until 1/25	Jo Moore	moore.mikenjo@gmail.com	850-529-6871	
Alternates	Andy Light	andylinda67@gmail.com	513-725-5645	
	Mark Staples	mstap24842@aol.com	505-239-1038	
Endowment Con Term ends:	nmittee			
1/26	Judy Crocker	judithcrockernm@gmail.com	505-662-9117	505-490-1817
Parish Staff and (	Officers			
Parish Admin. Office Manager Bookkeeper Sexton Music Director Nursery Manager	Nancy Coombs Claire Singleton Angela Keiter Wendy Huff Margaret-Mary Sauppé Wendy Strain	admin@latoth.org admin@latoth.org bookkeeper@latoth.org whufflanm@gmail.com dotsanddashes6.28@gmail.com wendykathrynstrain@gmail.com	505-662-5107 505-662-5107 505-662-5107 505-920-5121 813-502-7272 505-490-2280	505-412-0219 505-231-0815

<b>TOTH Ministries</b>	Contact person	Phone
Administration	TOTH Office	505-662-5107
Trinity Tidings	Claire Singleton	505-662-5107 / 505-231-0815
TOTH web site	Nancy Coombs	505-662-5107 / 505-412-0219
Buildings & Grounds	Mark Hartman	505-662-0857 / 505-690-1669
Christian Education		
Sunday School	Zandrea Glenn, Keith Stephens	505-709-0805 / 505-500-2181
Adult Christian Ed.	Susan Sprake	505-570-0676
Outreach	Cathy Walters	
Shop on the Corner	Lesley Cochran, Ellie Giovanielli,	505-412-0140 / 505-663-1068
	Ruth Cox, Susan Quintana	505-412-1071 / 505-662-9492
House of Hope	Jon and Julie Bulthuis	505-412-1003 / 505-412-5465
Parish Life	Rebecca Foley	505-662-3042
Stewardship	Paul and Marilyn Lisowski	505-412-2838505-412-0324
Welcome	Maggie Moore	505-216-8340
Worship	The Rev. Mary Ann Hill	505-662-5107
Volunteer Schedules	Claire Singleton	505-662-5107
LEMs	Joe Cox	505-412-0663
Acolytes	Susan Sprake	505-570-0676
Altar Guild	Ellie Giovanielli, Marilyn	505-670-2928, 505-412-0324
	Lisowski, Linda Light	513-520-4228
Organist	Margaret-Mary Sauppé	813-502-7272
Chancel Choir	Louisa Singleton (from 10/24)	505-500-7446
Finance Committee	Andy Light	513-520-4228
<b>Endowment Committee</b>	Judy Crocker	505-661-9117
Pledge Secretary	Paul and Marilyn Lisowski	505-412-0324
Audit Committee	Cathy Walters, Susan Sprake	505-690-2309; 505-570-0676
Account Reconciliation	Deb Wagner	505-699-1414

#### Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, January 28, 2024 12:30 pm Sanctuary and via Facebook Live

Any actions that required a motion and a second were carried out appropriately.

#### Blessing, Opening Prayer, Address to Annual Meeting

Mother Mary opened the meeting at 12:35 with a prayer. She declared she would hold her remarks until later in the meeting.

#### Call to Order

#### Housekeeping items

**Appointment of Clerk:** Nancy Coombs was appointed clerk for the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting were accepted as written.

**Appointment of Readers:** Judy Crocker and Joanna Gillespie were appointed as Readers for the 2024 Minutes.

**Approval of Agenda:** The agenda for the meeting was approved as written.

**Appointment of Teller:** Judy Crocker was appointed as a teller if one were to be needed.

#### Nominations and Elections

**Vestry:** We have 3 candidates for 3 Vestry positions, each to serve 3 years. Mother Mary Ann called attention to the biographies of the candidates beginning on page 6 of the Annual Report. She then asked if there were any Vestry nominations from the floor.

Jeff Favorite proposed voting by acclamation; the motion was seconded and Kandice Favorite, Andy Light, and Patrick Moore were unanimously elected as the new Vestry members.

**Diocesan Convention and Deanery:** Diocesan Convention delegates were elected to 2-year terms in 2023.

#### Review of the 2023 Financials

Leni Moore took the floor.

Page 42 of the Annual report shows the balance sheet, essentially an overview of our bank accounts. Leni has been involved in tracking our finances since 2014 and has never seen the church end the year in a deficit as we did this year. Last year at the annual meeting a \$470,000 budget was approved, then adjusted in April to \$489,000 after hiring Mother Mary Ann. That was the largest budget this church has seen. Although we only spent \$467,000, the vision was too ambitious and we did not receive the necessary revenue to meet the budget. We received \$373,000 for operations, which meant that we ended the year with a \$111,000 deficit. The total revenue for the year was \$409,797, but that included contributions to restricted funds, which are not available for normal operations.

Significant payments were made towards reducing the mortgage, which is now well below \$400K, due to an extra \$50,000 in principal payments in 2023. There are three sources of payment towards principal:

- 1- Payment has been maintained at the original payment amount. Each year the loan is reamortized, which reduces the required monthly payment, thereby benefiting the bank. Many years ago we agreed to maintain the same payment amount, which last year meant we paid an extra \$460 per month to the principal (in addition to the minimum payment).
- 2- Designated contributions. We receive contributions from parishioners designated for the principal.
- 3- Contributions from rental income. Of the rent money coming from All Individuals First, our tenants downstairs, and from various groups, half is designated for capital improvements (such as the new furnace), and half to the mortgage.

To help bring the budget into balance, the Vestry moved funds from restricted accounts to the operating budget at its January meeting. (This is not reflected in the Annual Report.) A past Vestry had voted that if restricted funds had not been active for quite some time, those funds could be transferred for other uses. An example of an inactive ministry includes the Healing Ministry. If something is created that is similar, we will fund the new ministries.

#### Adoption of the 2024 Budget (p. 50)

This year the projected budget is based on actuals from 2023 in some areas (with some trimming), and an expense budget based on what we want to do. It is a deficit budget by \$58,000, meaning the budget is higher than last year's revenues.

The balance sheet presents the balance of all these special "savings accounts". This includes petty cash, the Rector's discretionary fund, and all restricted accounts such as Altar Guild, capital improvements, House of Hope, and Shop on the Corner, which all have their own accounts. This is how we keep track of the money going in and out of our bank accounts. When people give designated monies, they go into restricted accounts.

Page 50 of this report presents the proposed 2024 budget, which includes restricted accounts, as well as operating accounts. Operating accounts do not roll over from year to year, but restricted accounts do.

#### Questions

Why was Fair Share less than projected? The Diocesan Fair Share is directly proportional to what we bring in, minus outreach and principal payments. The extra principal payments helped lower our Fair Share.

What is our Policy on cash reserves? Originally the unofficial guideline was based on maintaining two months of expenses, requiring a reserve of \$60K. We did not maintain that last year. This year the finance committee is committed to updating our financial policy.

The 2024 budget was accepted as presented by a unanimous vote.

#### Filing of the Wardens' and Ministry Reports

The following reports were filed by title:

Rector

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Parish Administrator

Office Manager

Library

Nursery

Children's Ministry

Children's Sunday School

Kelli Maginot added that there were two Sunday School classes and each class needs two adults present. Currently the only volunteers are parents of participating children; she asked other adult parishioners to consider volunteering.

Women Alive

House of Hope

Children's Christmas Bazaar

Shop on the Corner

Cathy Walters commented that the Shop on the Corner made \$90,000 in sales last year, with 10% tithed to the church.

Funeral Receptions

Prayer Shawls

Confidential Prayer Chain and TOTH Caring Board

Acolytes

Altar Guild

Chancel Choir

Volunteers for coffee hour

#### **Rector Comments**

Mother Mary Ann extended her thanks to the congregation. She is impressed by the care and interest of parishioners, and that we carried on so well for two years with a 2-3 days-per-week supply priest.

She is very grateful to be here in Los Alamos. Things are picking up after Covid. She plans to start a Bible study on Tuesday afternoons in the near future.

**Recognition of outgoing Vestry:** Lisa Rothrock, Maggie Moore, and Linda Light are all at the end of their terms. Mother Mary Ann presented each with a gift and thanked them for their service.

#### Closing

Mother Mary Ann closed the meeting with a prayer at 1:38 pm.

# Rector

The Rector's Report will be submitted at the Annual Parish Meeting.

#### **Change of Status 2024**

Baptisms	Baptismal Date	<u>Marriages</u>		Date
Thomas Jace John Hopkins	1/7/24	(None this year)		
Isla James Besante	7/14/24	Burials/Memorial Services	Death	Service
Confirmed/Received/Declar	<b>ed</b> 0	Lars Wecksung	2/22	3/22
Commined/ Received/ Decial	<u>.eu</u> <u>0</u>	Bo West	3/16	4/6
		Katherine Attrep	5/26	6/1
Transfers In	7	Active Members at Year's E	and	
Jenice and Wayne Yoder		Baptized Communicants (16 a	nd over)	175
Maureen and Andy Luksic		Communicant Children (unde	r 16)	8
Matthew Brennan		Total Communicants		183
Morgan Childs		Baptized Non-Communicant		2
Colin Kelly		Total Active Members		185
Transfers Out	3	Tota	ıl membe	rs = 185
Beth Pattillo				
Anne Huysman				
Michelle Stump				

Note: A communicant is a member who receives communion. A "communicant in good standing" is a confirmed person, over the age of 16, who has received communion at least 3 times in the past year, who participated in corporate worship, and who is a "contributor of record." "Active" members are those who have attended church in the past year.

Status Changed to Inactive

#### Worship Statistics 2024

Regularly Occu	rring Ser	vices					
		8:00	10:30	Weds 12:30	Compline		
	2021	946	4914	414	N/A		
	2022	1118	4312	504	63		
	2023	1098	4654	473	357	6582	
	2024	812	3501	364	436	5113	
		1					Attendance at Special Sunday Services
Acts of the Ch	urch		Ash Wed	nesday	97		(included in numbers above)
	_	1					5 1 0 1 0 1
Weddings:	0			Thursday	50		Easter Sunday, 3 services 207
Burials:	3		Good Fri		60		Palm Sunday 135
Baptisms:	2		Easter Vi	gil	50		Animal Blessing 9
Confirmations:	0		Christma	s Eve, 5:00 pm	90		All Saints' Sunday 107
Receptions:	0		Christmas	Eve, 10:00 pm	38		458
Declared:	0		Christma	s Day	12		
TrnsIn/Reinst:	7		Epiphany		46		
Transfers Out:	3						Regular + Special Services 2024 7928
Removed:	78		Home Co	mmunions			
		•	( no	t included above)	364	۱ ۱	

**Note:** during the pandemic years we overestimated the numbers of on-line viewers. This is reflected in the lower numbers for 2024.

# Senior Warden's Report

Overall 2024 was a good year in the life of Trinity on the Hill. We celebrated Mother Mary Ann's first year with us! We are blessed and thankful to have her and Cuthbert alongside us on our spiritual journey. Otherwise, as in 2023, ministries continue to grow but still need additional volunteers, and we ran a budget deficit most of the year. Thankfully, we received some sizable monetary gifts near the end of the year that helped our financial position.

A couple of things to prayerfully consider in this year 2025: It takes many volunteer hours and a lot of money for Trinity on the Hill to fulfill our mission. Is there a ministry to which you could dedicate some time? As you read the ministry reports, consider what seems interesting to you and reach out to the ministry chair. There are many ways to help out, both big and small, and the chair will be happy to let you know how to go about that. Any amount of time will be greatly appreciated. How can you contribute financially? Can you remain faithful to your pledge and keep it going throughout the year? Maybe make a one-time gift at some point? Perhaps you can help us brainstorm ways to cut expenses or new ways to bring in money. We will be gathering a group of parishioners to work specifically on this. Be on the lookout for upcoming information, or reach out to me if you are interested! This is extremely important work, as operating with a budget deficit year after year is not sustainable. At last year's Annual Meeting, three new Vestry members were elected: Patrick Moore, Andy Light, and I. Mark Hartman agreed to serve again as Junior Warden and I agreed to serve as Senior Warden. I want to express my gratitude to all the Vestry members. Our meetings have been thoughtful and productive. This Vestry consistently demonstrates the love that they have for TOTH, its members, and the important work that we do bringing people to Christ and sharing God's love and message of hope. I also want to thank Paul and Marilyn Lisowski for leading our Stewardship Program, as well as Leni Moore, our Treasurer, and Andy Light, our Finance Committee Chair.

Our music program experienced positive changes this year. We are grateful for the choral leadership and incredible organ music from Margaret-Mary Sauppé. Many thanks to our substitute organists and pianists who filled in while she was on maternity leave. Louisa Singleton led our Chancel Choir during Margaret-Mary's absence and agreed to continue in this role after Margaret-Mary's return. Louisa is doing a great job helping the choir enhance worship services with beautiful music offerings. Additionally, Isabella Stephens has been leading compline on Sunday evenings, and Louisa Singleton and John Singleton are making plans for the return of Choral Evensong.

The Young Families ministry continues to thrive. They are working on planning activities for middle schoolers, including a pumpkin carving night last fall. Many thanks to the leaders and the families who participate! Many other ministries are flourishing and exciting things are happening throughout our parish. Please take the time to read the ministry reports included in this Annual Report to learn more!

Kandice Favorite Senior Warden

## **Buildings & Grounds**

#### Junior Warden's Report

So, it was happy for you in 2024? Since that calendar has now paged out, I am writing to you as I look back, and then will invite all of you to look forward with me to a better 2025.

2024 was the third year of my most recent Vestry membership term. As such, the bylaws require that I not serve directly on the Vestry for the 2025 calendar year, but I am expecting to be available to serve you again in 2026, if you were to specifically ask.

The year 2024 came and went pretty quickly and fairly quietly, although there were several more fire alarm calls, resulting in fire engine visits during 2024, than there had been in other years. Many of those were due to alarm panel equipment age and deterioration causing false alarm reports, but then there were also incidents due to candles or hot chocolate or construction dust or other things like that. I was able to get the equipment stabilized for a few months but I can tell that trouble is brewing again with one of our alarm panels, so a \$1000 replacement project should be undertaken when I can find time in 2025.

The exterior area at the north entry is continuing to deteriorate and the 2024 Mother's Day Saturday snowy sleety storm caused water to run into the building. If you missed the fun or have forgotten, a whack-a-doo pile up of icy wet snow/hail/sleet/slush accumulated in the outside area between Kelly Hall and the sanctuary. That was a fun afternoon. We need to spend a few thousand dollars to seal the cracks that have formed throughout the poorly executed construction of the north stairs and flat walking area leading to the Kelly Hall lobby. Choosing, obtaining and applying some sealant to stem the tide will be a key component of that impending capital improvement project. Looking back, I wonder if a roof over the area would have been a preferred investment rather than the snow-melt equipment that was mandated by our county building official.

Inside the building, our heating systems are seemingly operational, for the moment. I have written about replacing the Old Parish Hall heating system and keep hoping we can get through another winter. Soon though, another capital improvement project, costing between 25 and 30 thousand dollars, will be needed. The Kelly Hall system, which also heats the undercroft, has an idiosyncratic condition that requires an occasional reset, so if you notice it being cold in there, reach out to me or to Leni and report that. For the Education wing, Wallers Plumbing says that heat boiler should be replaced but, with another round of replacing ancillary parts, they were able to keep it going for a while longer. The Office boiler is the oldest but seemingly the most reliable.

The Pella wooden entry doors to the Undercroft were replaced in September with metal doors that will be much more durable, but several of those similar Pella doors upstairs around Kelly Hall are still deteriorating and have become ill-fitting, meaning that they do not close by themselves. This is a reminder that, whenever you open any of them, please remember to make a deliberate effort when closing, to make sure that they are closed tightly, keeping leaves, snow, and animals out of the building. Replacing each pair of doors when they become completely unusable is another capital improvement expense which will eventually be necessary.

Judy Crocker and I have been in conversations with contractors about filling the cracks in the walls around Kelly Hall and re-painting, so you will probably see that work when it gets underway.

The Kelly Hall window fan project will resume sometime before the warm weather gets serious and I would like to ask for some volunteers to help me finish that.

I would also like to request volunteers for some Happy Work Days in a couple of months' time, to get other things done too. Let's clean out the closet behind the Kelly Hall stage and build more shelving in there to make the room more efficiently usable. Opportunities to volunteer will be part of this

I am in the process of upgrading the computer network/Wi-Fi internet infrastructure throughout the building to extend and improve internet conferencing availability in each of our meeting rooms. Some volunteer opportunities will present themselves during that work in the sanctuary, the office and the education wing.

#### Some miscellaneous service opportunity suggestions for the coming year that you could join:

Snow shoveling and ice melt: I defer the frontline of those concerns to others but they need help, so any effort you can offer in this area is yet another opportunity to volunteer.

Coming in spring, trimming rose bushes, trees and shrubs is another thing someone with thick gloves could do for the greater good. We have a landscaping person who does some lawn tasks, but it is difficult to communicate specific trimming tasks to him so volunteers could fill in the gaps.

Rain gutter cleaning: We need surefooted somebodies to stay ahead of the pine needles and tree leaves that collect on our roofs.

Parking lot litter: The wind blows a lot of miscellaneous litter onto our property from out in the neighborhood that occasionally gets left behind.

Inside the building: Whenever you pass them, straighten the floor mats at each entry door to catch the mud and snow from shoes entering the building (and to prevent a tripping hazard);

Door maintenance: We have some locks and handicap door buttons that need battery replacement occasionally, keyways that need lubrication, hinges that need tightening, and the continual problem of door stops. Reach out to me if you can volunteer in these areas.

Kelly Hall kitchen cabinet doors: I had created a "tools and materials" kit for repairing all the loose screws. If you are interested in doing this or willing to learn, reach out to me.

Light bulbs: There will always be some dead light bulbs but many of our light fixtures have unique light bulb requirements, which are different than the table lamps at your house. If you are willing to learn the intricacies of our light fixtures and how to choose the appropriate replacement light bulbs for each, please reach out to me.

Does anyone have other items or categories that could be added to this list? Reach out to me and we can work together to compile a more organized list and get things accomplished.

I hope you have had fun reading this or at least found enough interest to inspire your joining in or offering support in some other ways.

Mark Hartman – your Junior Warden (until January 26)

#### **TOTH Office 2024**

Angela Keiter, our Bookkeeper, has worked with the Treasurer and Rector to streamline some of our extensive categories in the accounting system. We moved to new accounting software, Realm Accounting (provided by the same company), which transfers member contributions directly from the office Realm to the accounting Realm, simplifying some processes and saving money.

Claire and Nancy continue sharing Office duties. What exactly do they do?

Although it may be the smallest part of our jobs, answering the phone and interacting with Office visitors (mainly parishioners) may be the most enjoyable part. We hope we create an environment you all feel comfortable visiting! We know some of you only drop by to see Cuthbert.

Other shared duties include updating the TOTH Google calendar, specifically for room bookings, interacting with parishioners and non-members who want to use the TOTH building for special events (did you know you can have birthday parties and work events in Kelly Hall?), helping parishioners make copies, ordering supplies for the Office and for our Sexton, Wendy Huff, and all the other day-to-day Office tasks. We are thankful to be in a job-sharing arrangement that we both enjoy, and that we can sub for each other when necessary.

As Parish Administrator, Nancy oversees contribution counting (thank you to all volunteers) and bookkeeping in the Realm database, and creates payment requests for church invoices. She has expanded some of her bookkeeping duties to the Realm Accounting side, including cutting some of the payment checks and running the payroll under Angela's guidance.

Nancy is also the church Webmaster, updating the seasonal colors, extracting and posting captioned sermons on the Sermons page, and adding/updating pages as needed. This year Zandrea Glenn handled the Children's Christmas Bazaar page, and she has helped with pages relating to children and young families. Thank you Zandrea! Claire's only contribution to the TOTH website is to upload the 10:30 am bulletin, the Tidbits insert, and the Lessons for Sunday to the website each week. These are available for those watching remotely via Facebook Live and they remain available for a week at a time.

The process of culling through years of paper and shredding what is no longer needed continues as well. Nancy has made great progress in this field over the past 3 years, as well as reorganizing the physical filing system in the Office.

Claire's Office Manager duties also include:

- Compiling and printing the Sunday bulletins, Tidbits (bulletin insert), and printing the Children's Bulletins;
- Printing the Lessons for Sunday, sending them in advance to the Lay Readers, and placing them in the Sacristy for use at both Sunday's services;
- Compiling and printing bulletins for special services, such as funerals, and additional services during Holy Week and the Easter, Advent and Christmas seasons;
- Programming the electronic sign at the corner of Diamond and Trinity Drives;
- Scheduling the Lay Readers, Chalice Bearers (we still refer to them as Lay Eucharistic Ministers or LEMs), readers for Prayers of the People, Ushers, Greeters, Media Team, and 8 am Servers;
- Sending a reminder to all of the above each Friday morning;
- Compiling and editing the monthly *Trinity Tidings*;

- Printing out the birthday and anniversary lists, cards, and mailing labels every 2 months and arranging for them to be signed (by Mother Mary Ann) and mailed. Kay Dreamtrader has assisted with these duties for the past few years and now Jenny Bishop is once again helping out. Thank you to both of them!
- Making name tags for new parishioners (or those who have lost theirs).
- Serving as Vestry Clerk, which means attending meetings and taking the minutes, as well as taking the minutes for the Annual Parish Meeting (i.e. today!);
- Babysitting Cuthbert and the occasional actual baby.

If you have any questions about what we do, please do not hesitate to ask.

Nancy Coombs, Parish Administrator Claire Singleton, Office Manager

# **Christian Education & Youth Ministry**

#### **Adult Sunday School**

Before the viewing of season 4 of *The Chosen*, the Adult Sunday School participants took a deeper look at Mary Magdelene, Nicodemus, and Peter.

During the summer and through the fall of 2024 the Adult Sunday School participants viewed *The Chosen* (TV Series) Season 4, Episodes 1 – 8. In the official study of season 4 of *The Chosen*, about the life of Jesus, God's Goodness for the Chosen parallels each episode, revealing how God uses suffering to bring about good in the lives of those He loves. It explores how:

- > Death is Eclipsed by life;
- > Grief is eclipsed by praise;
- Questions are eclipsed by resolve;
- Confusion is eclipsed by grace;
- > Temporary things are eclipsed by eternal things;
- ➤ Heartbreak is eclipsed by love;
- Sin is eclipsed by obedience;
- Pain is eclipsed by the fullness of God's plan.

Just as it was for the early followers of Jesus, suffering is a painful reality of life. But the hard things we experience are always eclipsed by the bigger things God is doing in and through them. This means that, even in our suffering, we can know and hold fast to how radically good God is.

Following the conclusion of season 4 of *The Chosen*, Mother Mary Ann held a number of sessions addressing questions about theology or church history.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Sprake

#### Library

The Parish Library is in use more often these days, with Bible Study being held on Thursdays, from 12:00 - 1:00.

With great intent, the book collection is finally being evaluated for accuracy and physical condition. At some point, up on a top shelf will be a box of plastic jacket covers! Eventually, it would be helpful for classes, groups and parish members to check out books. I suspect, while we may someday have an on-line (not our personal computer) listing of holdings, we may be using check-out cards and personal time responsibility to borrow books or AV.

Judy Crocker

#### Nursery

The year 2024 was a fun one!

We have regular little ones, now that young family attendance is growing within our church family.

I would like to thank Zandrea Glenn, who has volunteered her time many Sundays to help in the nursery. Also, Kara and Adam Dean have helped when there have been no attendants. Last but not least, with the departure of Luke Favorite, who is now at college, we were lucky to be able to hire our new attendant, Fortis Brown, who is great with kids. If you haven't met him yet, please stop by!

I would like to mention that any youth interested in becoming a Nursery Attendant can stop by the Nursery or call/contact the TOTH Office. You must be at least 12 years of age and love children. I would also like to encourage any adults willing to help out occasionally to contact me.

Thank you for the privilege of serving in this ministry.

Blessings, Wendy Strain, TOTH Nursery Manager 505-490-2280

#### Children and Young Family Ministry

It was another year of growth for the Children & Young Family Ministry at TOTH in 2024, praise be to God!. We have continued to hold monthly family dinners throughout the school year that include food, fellowship, and a variety of activities, such as decorating the Christmas tree in December and hanging the doves in the sanctuary for Pentecost. We also had some gatherings throughout the summer, such as gathering for a picnic dinner on a local restaurant patio, as well as a lovely morning on a local hiking trail.

Thanks to Zandrea Glenn and Keith Stephens, we continue to be able to offer youth Sunday School classes for younger and older youths. Children's Chapel also continues to be offered during the 10:30 am service on Sundays during the school year (see Zandrea's report on Children's Sunday School for more amazing details on that!).

We are trying to provide more support for our middle school students. The middle-schoolers met at Jeff and Kandice Favorite's house on Sunday, October 20, for fellowship, Frito pies, and fun! The fun was carving pumpkins. We would like to increase the frequency of events in 2025. If you can think of a fun activity or event and would like the company of some great pre-teens, let Jeff or Kandice know.

If there is one thing we wish for, it is volunteers to help with Children's Chapel on Sunday mornings. In order to keep our young TOTH-ers safe, we need two adults present each week to be able to offer Children's Chapel. We have been low on adults willing to help with this and, in an effort to not burn out the few adults we have, there have been weeks where we cannot offer the program at all. You need not be a parent in order to help! In fact, TOTH members who have been around a long time can probably remember a time when the regular Children's Chapel leaders were not at all parents of young children! If you feel a little tugging from the Holy Spirit to help with this ministry, please reach out to Kelli Maginot or Maggie Moore.

Kelli Maginot (361) 549-7678 kbmaginot@gmail.com Maggie Moore (505 216-8340 maggiemoore1981@gmail.com

#### Children's Sunday School

#### Preschool - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Zandrea Glenn's class meets in Classroom 4, 9:15 – 10:15 am. Our class is in its second year of exploring the main characters and stories in the Old Testament. Thank you to all who volunteered in class: Kelli Maginot, Bill Ogle, and Mary Ogle. The kids learn so much from YOU!



1 and 2 Samuel: Samuel asks God for proof



David as a Shepherd. The kids making sheep.



Dressing Goliath in "playdoh" armor.



1 and 2 Kings: Solomon builds Jerusalem. The kids built with Legos.

1 and 2 Chronicles: Review Old Testament stories using our classroom board, which illustrates artwork made by the kids for each major story and its leading characters.

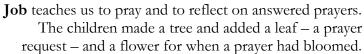


**Ezra:** Rebuilt the temple after the Israelites" exile from Babylon.

**Nehemiah:** Rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem. Teaches that we can be both humble and confident.



**Esther:** A story about a woman who defeats her oppressor with beauty and wit. Since there is no photo from this activity, please enjoy this photo of Lily and Josh on the playground.







Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon: We studied various verses from each book to become more wise.

Our class will resume its study in 2025, starting with the Prophets. Below are a few more photos of our youth having fun, in and out of church.







#### Third grade-Middle School

Keith Stephens' class meets in Kelly Hall, where topics have included the miracles of Jesus; putting on the full armor of God; the trials of Job, heroes of the Bible. Lessons often include examples and live science experiments!



#### Women Alive in Mind, Body and Spirit 2024

The primary goal of Women Alive is to love, encourage and support one another in body, mind and spirit. We share what is on our hearts and minds in a place that is safe and confidential, and we end with special prayers. When we meet in person, we gather around the person who prepared the breakfast and program and pray for her.

To be a member of Women Alive, you do not need to be a member of TOTH (or any church), nor is regular attendance a requirement. You do not even have to live in Los Alamos, because you can join most of the meetings by Zoom.

Most meetings of Women Alive start at 7:30 am and last about an hour.

The current schedule is:

First Tuesday of the month: meet at a trail head and hike for half an hour, followed by breakfast at a café/restaurant/grocery store (Ruby K's, Film Festival, Smith's or the Co-op). In the summer the First Tuesday walks may start earlier to take advantage of the earlier daylight.

**Second and Fourth Tuesdays**: meet in Sherrill Hall; one of our members provides breakfast as well as a program or short devotion. Zoom is provided for those who cannot be physically present.

Third and Fifth Tuesdays: only on Zoom with a program or devotion if someone has volunteered, otherwise a more general discussion of topics appropriate to the season.

Women Alive met as scheduled almost every Tuesday in 2024. On a couple of Tuesdays where we would normally have met in Sherrill Hall, we had the meeting on Zoom because no one was able to volunteer to bring breakfast. We missed two walks because of bad weather and also did not meet on December 24.

Sometimes the devotion is very simple, for example, reading and discussion about a "Holy Person" from the book "A Great Cloud of Witnesses," or a travelog, book review, or something else the presenter thinks would interest the group. Examples of these include a presentation on the design and fabrication of quilts, beautifully illustrated on Zoom by one of our members who lives in Albuquerque, and photos and a description of the House of Hope's most recent trip to Juárez.

If you think you might like to come to our meetings, please contact Rozelle Wright or Claire Singleton, or the church office, to arrange to receive email notifications and Zoom invitations for the meetings.

Respectfully submitted, Rozelle Wright and Claire Singleton

## **Outreach Ministry**

#### House of Hope

House of Hope had a great year! We were able to provide a home for Sandro and Michelle and their 3 children in February of 2024. We purchased beds for each family member as well as a stove, refrigerator, and cistern. We were also able to provide a food outreach and afternoon of crafts for the children of the community.

Participants on the building mission trip were Julie, Jon and Sara Bulthuis, John Gibson, Joanna Gillespie, Karen Humphrey, Maria Saunders, Kim Selvage, Claire Singleton, Beth and Roger Smithson and Seneca Tsoodle.

We were blessed to have so much support from Trinity on the Hill and our Los Alamos community for our several fundraisers. We ran a trial Charcuterie Box sale for the parish in May and followed up with 3 more in June, July and August for the greater Los Alamos community, with boxes ready for pick-up in time for the Friday night summer concerts at Ashley Pond. Our Fiesta Dinner, with silent auction and live dessert auction in November, was a huge success!

We were fortunate to receive many generous donations from parishioners and friends including a sizable donation from Shop on the Corner.

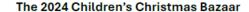
All of this has made it possible for us to build another home, which will take place November 9-12, 2025. We have raised the \$14,500 to pay for the home and hope to be able to purchase some additional items for the family.

We are in the process of creating our team for November. We welcome anyone who may be interested. No prior building experience is necessary!

We are grateful to all those who participated in our fundraisers. It took many hands to make them successful and many generous donations. Your support and prayers are greatly appreciated.

We look forward to a wonderful 2025!

Respectfully submitted, Julie Bulthuis



Did you know that many of the Bazaar volunteers volunteer a lot? Some of them give time to non-profits and community projects and then dedicate another chunk of their time at our church, assisting with all sorts of tasks, such as Shop on the Corner, serving on the vestry, teaching Sunday School, decorating for liturgical seasons, hosting congregational events and trainings, and organizing a significant fundraising initiative for House of Hope. I am so

thankful for each of our volunteers and want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed their time, energy, and support not just to the Bazaar, but to so many outstanding and important community projects that help kids, parents, families, and neighbors.

The Bazaar attracted 215 shoppers and their families and it was a success because of the dedication of 80 volunteers on both Friday and Saturday. I eagerly anticipate your participation next year.

In addition to the awe-inspiring number of volunteers, the volume of baked goods we received this year was also truly impressive. Attendees at the December 8 church services may have noticed an extraordinary array of baked treats adorning the snack table in Kelly Hall.

This was made possible by Ivette Jimenez and her son, who meticulously organized every baked good donation - from the community, as well as from our church family into single-serving portions on Friday. By 4 PM that day, over 800 individual servings were prepared for

Saturday's event. Additionally, on the following morning, another substantial collection of baked goods, equivalent to at least three large trays, was added. Around noon on Saturday, a volunteer arrived for her shift, bringing yet another amazing batch of cookies. The enchantment of the Bazaar is truly fueled by the efforts of our community and our volunteers and their very generous contributions.

Last, but certainly not least, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our dedicated Planning Committee for their outstanding work. Since April, this group has diligently met monthly, meticulously coordinating every facet of the event and proactively addressing issues that arose from the previous year. For example, the 2023 Children's Christmas Bazaar experienced overcrowding in

Sherrill Hall, the designated waiting area for parents. Recognizing this challenge, the committee thoughtfully devised a new traffic flow plan for this year's event. By directing shoppers to enter Kelly Hall through the door opposite the church office, they successfully diverted at least 30 people every half hour away from Sherrill Hall. While Sherrill Hall unfortunately remained quite crowded this year due to the increase in shoppers per half hour, their effort and dedication is very much appreciated. I look forward to another year of great ideas and planning.

Thank you, Children's Christmas Bazaar 2024 Planning Committee, for your unwavering commitment to this event and for planning yet another wonderful day for our Los Alamos and White Rock community! I feel truly blessed to work alongside such a talented and dedicated team.

The generosity surrounding the 2024 Children's Christmas Bazaar is remarkable, with a grand total of \$4,000 in cash donations received. A small portion of these funds will be wisely allocated towards the purchase of essential supplies needed for next year's event. However, the vast majority of these generous donations will be directly gifted to two incredibly important local organizations: All Individuals First and House of Hope. These organizations provide invaluable services to our community and to families around the world, and we are thrilled to be able to support their vital missions.

As we look forward to the future of the Children's Christmas Bazaar, please mark your calendars for the upcoming Spring Donation Collection in April 2025. This event relies heavily on the tangible gifts of support from our community and we are profoundly grateful for each and every donation.

Sincerely, Zandrea Glenn, Bazaar Chair

#### Shop on the Corner

Another recording breaking year for the Shop! Thanks be to God for providing us with about 40 very hard-working volunteers, an abundance of donations from the community, and our faithful customers who come from a large surrounding region. Besides providing the bulk of the outreach funds emanating from the parish in the way of grants to about 38 worthy charities, the Shop also provides a service to the community through recycling and offering low-cost items to those who cannot afford the high costs in retail stores. Our mission focuses on helping those charities in Northern New Mexico that provide food, shelter, medical treatment, educational resources, and services to special needs individuals.

Our Leadership Team has worked especially hard to keep operations running smoothly and puts in an amazing number of hours. As of the end of the year, the team consists of Ruth Cox, Valarie Prestwood, Cathy Walters, Susan Quintana, Jill Sherrill and Juanita Jebbanema. You may not recognize some of these names because they are not TOTH members but are nevertheless committed to our mission and we could not function without their help and expertise. I could say the same about all of our volunteers!

Our normal hours of operation are:

Every Wednesday from 8:30 am-noon and the second Saturday of each month, the same hours. Sorting and preparation takes place on Mondays and Thursdays. We are flexible and will gladly accommodate potential volunteers who can work other times.

#### Financial Summary for 2024

Beginning of year balance	\$ 76,040
Gross Sales	+112,844
Given back to TOTH (10% 1st half-year, 15% second half)	-14,084
Grants - 2023 sales	-67,100
Grants - 2024 sales (please see list attached)	-79,802
Expenses	<u>-1,562</u>
End of year balance	\$ 26,336

(NOTE: \$5000 of this balance is reserved for the TOTH furnace in 2025)

In addition to monetary grants, the following in-kind donations of boxes and bags of unsold merchandise were distributed:

Big Brothers/Big Sisters 1618 Hope Pregnancy Center 13 Bernal Community Center 381 St Elizabeth's Shelter, SF 9

MANY boxes of books (Shop on the Corner does not sell adult books) given to:

The Bluffs, Friends of the Library, schools in Pojoaque, Chama, and Espanola;

Clothes, toiletries, school supplies given to:

Espanola schools/shelters, Crisis Center NNM, McCurdy and Pojoaque schools;

Sports, martial arts, dance, and photography equipment given to LA schools, soccer programs, pre-K teachers, etc.;

Glasses, pill bottles given to House of Hope, other items to Children's Christmas Bazaar;

Finally, appropriate items were passed on to these LA entities:

Sombrillo Nursing and Rehab Center, Bee Hive, Animal Shelter, Senior Centers, Boy/Girl Scouts.

Cathy Walters, for the Shop on the Corner Leadership Team

#### Shop on the Corner Grants Made in 2024

LOCAL	
TOTH Rector Discretionary	2500
TOTH reserve for new Shop furnace	5000
LA Cares	3000
Self Help, Inc.	4000
Friends of the Senior Centers	1000
JJAB	2500
HOPE Pregnancy Center	1000
First Born, LA	1000
All Individuals First	1000
Peach Street Group Home	3000
SANTA FE	
La Familia Health	1500
Esperanza Women's Shelter	3000
St Elizabeth's Shelter	1500
Interfaith Community Shelter	1500
Bienvenidos Outreach	600
Food Depot	2500
Food Depot Neighbor to Neighbor	1000
Kitchen Angels	600
Desert Rose Women's Resource Center	600
Cancer Foundation for NM	2000
Life Link	500
ESPANOLA/NORTHERN NEW MEXICO	
El Centro Family Health & Dental	12000
Barrios Unidos Chimayo	1000
Inside Out Recovery	1000
Rio Grande Addiction Treatment Program	4000
Espanola Pathways Shelter/Homelessness Coalition	2500
Crisis Center of NNM	3000
Dream Tree Project (homeless teens Taos)	3000
Las Cumbres Community Services	1500
Communities in Schools of NM	1500
Rio Arriba Adult Literacy Program	600
Rio Arriba Imagination Library	600
Habitat for Humanity	1200
Mesa to Mesa	2000
Espanola Humane (animal shelter)	1000
NM Wildlife Center	1000
BELEN/SOUTHEAST US/ROSWELL/RUIDOSO	
Boys & Girls Ranches (serving all of NM)	2500
Episcopal Relief & Development (Hurricanes)	3000
Diocese of Rio Grande (Ruidoso Wildfires)	2000
Roswell Flood Relief (Oct)	<u>2102</u>
	\$84,802

(includes \$5000 being held for a new heating unit for the Shop space)

# Parish Life Ministry

Greetings from your Parish Life Chair! 2024 was another busy year for our congregation. We hosted an Epiphany dinner, for which Richard Triplett prepared his famous roast lamb. Additionally, we hosted the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, and several parish-wide potlucks. Toward the end of the year, we began having monthly game nights, which I hope we can continue!

Parish Life is not without issue. We continue to struggle to have people volunteer to help with our Sunday coffee hour. Please consider helping with this vital part of our Sunday services! It is an excellent way to get to know the congregation, as well as providing a forum for welcoming newcomers to TOTH.

In closing, I'd like to thank all of you who volunteered to help at the various events we've hosted. Without you Parish Life wouldn't happen. As I am going off Vestry in 2025, TOTH needs someone to fill the Parish Life Chair role. I will still be involved with this vital ministry, but I'd love for someone to step forward to lead the effort.

Respectfully submitted, Rebecca Foley

#### **Funeral Receptions**

Trinity on the Hill is honored to offer a reception following memorials and funerals of family members and friends. Families have a relaxed opportunity to visit while sharing a little food and beverages.

Trinity on the Hill held three receptions in 2024: Lars Wecksung, Bo West, and Katherin Attrep. We are grateful for our fine cooks and those who assist in preparation, serving, and clean-up. If you feel called to help with this ministry, please call the church office.

Judy Crocker and Ellie Giovanielli

#### Confidential Prayer Chain and TOTH Caring Board

The **Confidential Prayer Chain** is a Realm group of prayer warriors willing to pray for the confidential prayer needs sent to them. You do not need to use Realm or have a Realm account to participate and receive prayer requests. You only need to give your name and email address to the TOTH Office.

An emailed prayer request is to be regarded as confidential unless specifically communicated otherwise in the relevant email. To be part of the Confidential Prayer Chain is to be held in trust to keep the details of a person's needs private and not to share them with anyone else.

Alternatively, if you have a prayer need that does not need to be kept confidential, this can be written on the white board outside the Office (**TOTH Caring Board**), where you can also list the reason for the prayer request, if appropriate.

Lastly, people in need of prayer may also be listed in the **bulletin** by name only. The Tidbits bulletin insert does not have space for any further details.

Prayer requests for any of the above may be emailed to the TOTH Office, where the Parish Administrator or Office Manager can copy them word-for-word into an email (for the Confidential Prayer Chain), write the person's name on the TOTH Caring Board, or add names to the bulletin prayer list, as requested.

Send requests to <u>admin@latoth.org</u> or call 505-662-5107. Thank you.

Claire Singleton Office Manager

# **Stewardship Ministry**

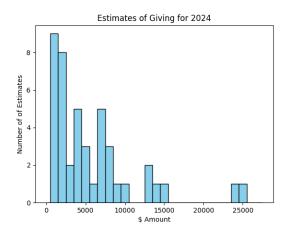
The Stewardship campaign encourages parishioners to share their gifts with our church in order to do the work God calls us to do.

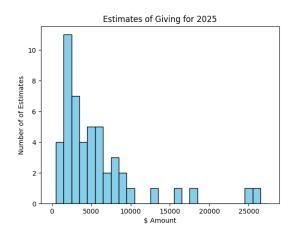
This year Paul and Marilyn Lisowski and Joanna Gillespie led the Stewardship Campaign. This effort began on October 13, 2024, with a short presentation to the congregation, highlighting the importance of Stewardship and a request that members begin planning their Estimate of Giving for 2025. That was followed on October 27 by a presentation by our Treasurer, Leni Moore, who described TOTH's financial status and explained why providing an Estimate of Giving, or Pledge, is important to allow us to effectively manage our finances. At that time, Estimate of Giving sheets were prepared by the Office and inserted in the bulletins at both services, along with a letter from our Senior Warden about the importance of making a commitment to support our church.

On November 3, information about Stewardship was included in the sermon by Fr. Colin Kelly and Joanna Gillespie talked to the congregation about the importance of sharing our gifts through stewardship. We asked the TOTH Office to update the website link for donations to reflect the current year. On November 10 we gave a final message about the Stewardship Campaign and the 2025 Estimates of Giving were collected. A "thank you" from Mother Mary Ann was sent by the TOTH Office to everyone who returned an Estimate of Giving for 2025.

As a result of the annual campaign, 49 parishioners submitted Estimates of Giving, representing \$282,627 for 2025. By comparison, there were 43 Estimates of Giving in 2024 with \$256,148 in planned giving. This represents a 14% increase in the number of parishioners providing Estimates of Giving and a 10% increase in the amount pledged.

The graphs below show a comparison of the Estimates of Giving for 2024 and 2025. This year's amount represents about 60% of the required TOTH funds.





Respectfully submitted, Paul Lisowski, Marilyn Lisowski, and Joanna Gillespie

# Worship and Music Ministry

Most of what needs to be reported will be included in the following reports. Worship is the most important thing that we do as a church - in fact, it's our *raison d'être*. In a liturgical church, the work of fulfilling our main purpose involves many participants. I am grateful for all of our youth and adult volunteers, which include acolytes, lectors, lay eucharistic ministers, adult servers, the altar guild, our organist and choirmaster and our substitutes, the Chancel Choir, instrumentalists, ushers, the media team, the children's pageant volunteers, the Compline choir and of course our office manager, Claire, who does the bulletins. We are so blessed to have such a cadre of dedicated and well-trained people leading us each week.

This year, we have continued with regular Sunday and Wednesday Eucharists. Our Compline group offers the service most Sunday evenings at 7 pm. We are pleased to announce that Choral Evensong will make a come-back in 2025! We have also held special services such as the Great Vigil of Easter, Advent Lesson and Carols and the Blessing of the Animals.

If you would like to be more involved with our Worship Ministry (beyond being a worshipper in the pews - ALSO important), there is most certainly a way to contribute. I would be happy to talk with you about that or point you in the direction of someone who can help you.

Mother Mary Ann+

#### **Acolytes**

The strength of any congregation lies not only in its collective spirit but in the dedication of its members to serve. In this vibrant community of Trinity on the Hill (TOTH), the acolytes stand as shining examples of commitment and willingness to serve at the altar.

The acolyte program at TOTH continues to show a remarkable commitment from both young individuals and adults. I have immense pride in the willingness of these resolute individuals to serve God at the altar. Notably, our young adults, such as Ben Foley, Luke Favorite, Mariah Stephens, River Yamada, and Isabella Stephens, displayed remarkable versatility by taking on various roles, from Server to Crucifer and even Torchbearer when the need arose.

The dedication of Richard Triplett, Joe Cox, Ben Schilling, Luke Favorite, and Andy Light, who faithfully served as Crucifer/Server and Lay Reader at the 8:00 am service, exemplifies the adaptability and commitment of the acolytes. This commitment was not limited to specific roles or services but extended to random needs of the altar party. The new and continuing members of the 10:30 am service – Peter Maginot, Josh Moore, and River Yamada – stepped up to be trained as Crucifer and served as Torchbearers when needed, demonstrating the growing strength of the acolyte team. Torchbearers such as Cece Gulsby, Anna Moore, Gregory Maginot and our newest, Zachary Maginot contributed significantly, displaying their enthusiasm.

The church was blessed to have a full acolyte party for Holy Saturday and Easter morning services. On Holy Saturday, Isabella Stephens was the Thurifer; Luke Favorite, Sanctus Bells Ringer and Server, and Susan Sprake, Crucifer. In keeping with the tradition established over the years, our graduating High School Senior, Luke Favorite, was Thurifer for the Easter morning service, with Susan Sprake as Sanctus Bells Ringer and Server, Peter Maginot as Crucifer, Cece Gulsby and River Yamada as Torchbearers, and Gregory Maginot as Boat Bearer.

The church had a full acolyte party for the Christmas Eve High Mass with Mariah Stephens as Thurifer, Luke Favorite as Sanctus Bells Ringer and Server, Isabella Stephens as Crucifer, and Richard Triplett and Susan Sprake as Torchbearers. We did not engage a Boat Bearer for this service this year. The service was blessed by such an experienced group of acolytes who fulfilled their roles dutifully and did so with a level of expertise that enriched the overall worship experience for the congregation.

The goals of the acolyte program are twofold: to support the worship ministry and to instruct children from an early age to serve comfortably and respectfully at the altar. The emphasis on nurturing a spiritual base for the youth is evident, with the hope that they will carry this connection with God's altar into their adult lives. We held training throughout the year following the 10:30 am service for new and advancing acolytes. The adult acolytes provided a solid example of respect and expertise in their roles.

In conclusion, the acolytes contribute not only to the smooth functioning of worship services but also to the spiritual growth of the congregation. As TOTH continues to navigate changes, the resilience and dedication of the acolytes shine as a beacon of faith and service at TOTH.

If you have any requests or suggestions for the acolytes, please bring them to my attention or to the Worship Ministry. Thank you for your patience and kindness as we muddled through all the changes the last two years have wrought.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Sprake, Acolyte Master

#### Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is charged with caring for the main Sanctuary Altar and the Chapel Altar, as well as candles and flowers that adorn them. We work in small teams, handling sacred vessels and linens. Some of us set up the altars each month as scheduled, while others keep vestments in good condition and order supplies. We feel blessed to care for sacred objects and come to feel the very presence of God in our service to the Lord.

The current Altar Guild members are Judy Crocker, Ellie Giovanielli, Karen Humphrey, Andy and Linda Light, Marilyn and Paul Lisowski, Jo Moore, Mary and Bill Ogle, Kathleen and Pete Peterson, Sarah Rochester, Renée Roybal, Susannah Smith, Marybeth Stephens, Isabella Stephens, Rozelle and Brad Wright, and Kara Dean.

The Altar Guild has taken care of 160 eucharists in the main Sanctuary and the Chapel for services and funerals in 2024.

With our priest, the Rev. Mary Ann Hill, and visiting priests the Altar Guild prepares a Common Cup, which may also be intincted. Our scribe, Karen Humphrey, has kept up-to-date instruction sheets for set-up and clean-up before and after services.

We held two business meetings this year. The first was held on February 2, 2024, to plan Altar Guild support for Lenten and Holy Week services. The second was held on November 2, to plan for Altar Guild help at Advent and Christmas services.

The Altar Guild operating budget covers wine, wafers, candles, candle oil and other costs associated with preparing the altars for services. Money for Easter Lilies, Christmas poinsettias and flowers for the Altar of Repose comes from special collections and donations. Vestments and altar linens are purchased using funds from a separate restricted account. This year we paid for a new Fair Linen to replace one which could no longer be mended, and for professional cleaning of vestments and linens soiled by mouse droppings in the Chapel.

Caring for consecrated objects brings a sense of peace and closeness to our Lord. We encourage congregants to consider membership in the Altar Guild to experience this for themselves. Men and women both serve in the Guild. If you are interested in learning more, please contact one of the cochairs: Ellie Giovanielli, Linda Light, or Marilyn Lisowski.

Marilyn Lisowski

#### **Chancel Choir**

This year was another year of new beginnings, with the division of the Organist and Choirmaster positions: Louisa Singleton returned to Trinity on the Hill as full-time Choirmaster in October 2024, with Margaret-Mary Sauppé continuing as Organist. Ms. Singleton directed the Chancel Choir with the help of substitute pianists and organists from October through December, and will continue to do so with Dr. Sauppé in the spring. Ms. Singleton is glad to be back at Trinity on the Hill and is looking forward to continuing her work with the Chancel Choir in 2025.

In 2024, the Choir ended the choir year on Trinity Sunday and resumed after the summer break on Wednesday, August 28. Choir rehearsals are scheduled from 6:45-8:15 pm, with warm-ups on Sundays beginning at 10:00 am. Dr. Sauppé's last day as Chancel Choir Director was October 6 and Ms. Singleton's first day was October 9.

Substitutes for Dr. Sauppé's maternity leave were Sean Lo, Nick Denissen, and John Singleton. Brian Huysman and Nelly Case subbed for a few Sundays during the year.

The Chancel Choir enjoyed singing music from the 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> centuries. They participated in the Lenten Soup Suppers in February. For Easter, the Choir was joined by a brass quartet, with Bruce Letellier and Phil Jones on trumpet, and Allen Morinec and Stan Brown on trombone.

On December 8 the Chancel Choir (and guests) presented an Advent Lessons and Carols program that was attended by about 40 people. Ms. Singleton chose the anthems for all services in December, as well as organizing, with the help of John Singleton, all readings and music for the Advent Lessons and Carols Service.

On Christmas Eve, we enjoyed music by a string trio comprised of Kristina Montoya (violin), Robin Pekar (violin), and Chloe Keilers (cello). Kristina and Robin also played violin for some Choir anthems throughout the year. Luke Favorite played flute for some anthems, and Kara Dean on violin and Kandice Favorite on flute joined us for another. Ms. Singleton assumed the role of director of the 2024 Christmas Pageant, titled "Archangel Gabriel's Awesome Adventure", which was presented at the 5 pm Christmas Eve service. She was assisted by Jeff Favorite, Kandice Favorite, and Isabella Stephens, and musicians included Peter Maginot on trombone, Anna Moore and Kandice Favorite on flute, Josh Moore on trumpet, and John Singleton on piano.

On June 22 Dr. Sauppé presented a program of "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza," designed to introduce children and adults to the pipe organ. It was very well-received by the community, with 27 attendees and about \$125 raised for the music program. Other local organists attended the lunch hour and were present to answer questions about the organ. There was significant interest in having another PPP in the future.

Some former Chancel Choir members have returned, bringing numbers up, despite missing a few names from last year. New members are always welcome; please contact Louisa Singleton for up-to-date information about rehearsals and events.

In the spring, we are looking forward to restarting the service of Choral Evensong once a month, with Ms. Singleton directing the choir and her father, John Singleton, accompanying the organ. Dr. Singleton previously accompanied and directed the Choral Evensong choir at TOTH until its disbanding in the summer of 2018. We are excited to have him back and assisting in this service.

Many thanks go to Mother Mary Ann, who chose the hymns for 2024 and is highly supportive of the music program, Claire Singleton and Nancy Coombs in the office for their invaluable knowledge and willingness to print music, and to all the members of the Trinity on the Hill Chancel Choir for making our musical endeavors possible.

2024 Chancel Choir Members (those who sang at any time in 2024)

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors	Basses
Jordan Bailey	Alison Bailey	Joan Brown	Joe Cox
Lynn Godwin	Ruth Cox	Stan Brown	Jeff Favorite
Karen Humphrey	Kandice Favorite	Judy Crocker	Benigno Sandoval
Kristina Montoya	Linda Light	Colin Kelly	John Singleton
Kara Pekar	Rebecca Sandoval	Jason Rutledge	
Robin Pekar	Marie Schmidt	Mark Staples	
Lisa Rothrock	Isabella Stephens	Cathy Walters	
Andrea Schmidt			
Claire Singleton			

Respectfully submitted, Louisa Singleton, Choirmaster, and Margaret-Mary Sauppé, Organist

#### Media Outreach

Our media outreach includes the church's Facebook page and live streaming/recording of services and special events.

The Facebook page, managed by the Office, has 434 followers and receives approximately 3,000 views per month. A small, dedicated media team streams and records the 10:30 am worship service and special events. This initiative began during the COVID pandemic and initially averaged 30 weekly viewers.

Two years ago, the streaming infrastructure was upgraded, with a control station in the back of the Sanctuary, featuring three ethernet cameras, a dedicated PC running broadcast software, and ethernet connectivity to the Facebook page. The sound system was also enhanced, with four high-quality microphones and complete rewiring. All services are streamed live and archived on the church website for future viewing. For example, a sermon delivered by seminarian Sam McRae during the Christmas season received 71 views post-service.

As in-person attendance has resumed, the average number of remote viewers is now eight per week. However, this ministry remains vital for extending our reach.

#### **Potential Improvements:**

- Expanding to YouTube for broader and more accessible streaming;
- Adding a fourth camera for improved coverage and redundancy;
- Integrating stage lighting control into the system;
- Using the front wall screen for projection;
- Building a platform to conceal wires and enhance the media team's vantage point.

#### Join Our Team!

If anyone is interested in joining our media team, we would love to have your help! Whether you're experienced or eager to learn, we have many ways for you to get involved in this important ministry.

Rick Rothrock

## Financial Reports

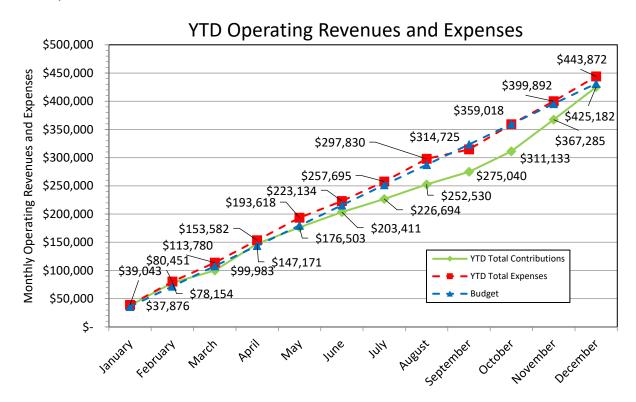
#### Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Year 2024

Greetings from your friendly neighborhood treasurer and welcome to the financial report for TOTH for the 2024 year. We will first discuss where we ended 2024 from a financial status and then discuss the plan for 2025.

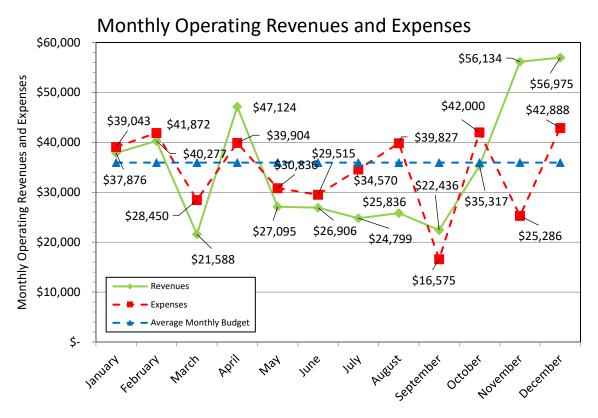
The operating budget for 2024, approved by the Vestry, was \$424,401. This was the amount of money budgeted to run the church. The budget does have a projected restricted budget. These are donations that are designated for a specific purpose, such as supporting our seminarian, principal reduction, etc. These donations don't help us keep the lights on, they are designated for a special project and go into our restricted funds, which can be regarded as savings accounts. The money is then spent from those restricted accounts for the purpose for which it was donated. The projected operating revenue was set equal to 2023 actual revenue. This created a \$51,132 projected end-of-year deficit. In other words, in 2024 we expected to spend \$51,132 more than was donated.

The actual total operating expenses at the end of the year were \$443,872, which is \$19,471 more than budgeted. The final 2024 operating revenues were \$425,182, which is \$51,812 over what we expected to receive. We therefore ended the year with a \$18,690 deficit.

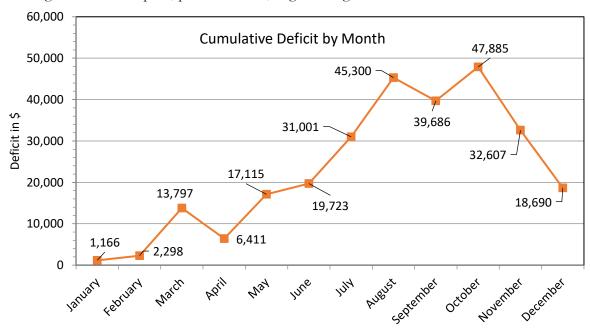
I am a visual person, so now is the fun part where I get to show off a bunch of graphs. This first graph shows our cumulative revenue and expenses for the year with a line for the budget projected evenly over the year.



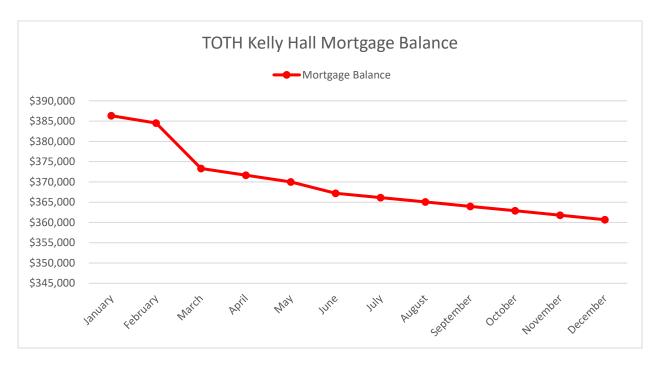
This graph shows our revenues and expenses compared to the average monthly budget by month, instead of cumulative.



This graph shows the result: The monthly deficit over the year. The deficit is how much less money we brought in than we spent, positive is bad, negative is good.



One of the tools the Vestry used in 2024 to minimize expenses and thereby minimize the deficit was to stop sending extra payments to the mortgage. We had been sending \$420 per month out of the operating budget and half of rent revenue as extra payments to reduce the mortgage. This year we stopped sending all extra payments to the mortgage. The half of the rent that we had been sending was put into a restricted account for the Vestry to use to offset the deficit if required, which came to fruition. Therefore, in 2024 we paid only the minimum mortgage payments. We ended the year with the mortgage principal at \$360,679.



Finally, in 2024 we had to cover the \$18,690 deficit because we do not want to bounce checks. The Vestry chose to take most of the deficit from the reserved rent. The following amounts were taken from other restricted line items to cover the deficit.

Accounts	Account	Amount Taken from Account
010100 Clergy Discretionary Acct - EBT	\$ 6,125.49	\$ 2,500.00
111125 Vestry Designated Principal	\$ 11,160.92	\$ 11,160.92
011203 Library Cash Account	\$ 542.82	\$ 38.08
011213 Youth Choir Cp Stoney Cash Account	\$ 5,000.00	\$4,000.00
011221 Elders' Group Cash Account	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
011224 Music Cash Account	\$ 2,651.85	\$ 741.00
		\$ 18,690.00

For 2025 the Vestry approved an operating budget of \$457,378 with expected revenues set to last year's actual revenues, which created an anticipated deficit of \$38,801. It is now up to you all to prove us wrong and give more than last year. If the budgeted deficit becomes reality, we will have to start making sacrifices.

The financial addendum (separate document) contains the final 2024 financial statements and the 2025 budget.

Respectfully submitted, Leonard Moore, Treasurer