

2017-2018  
Annual Report  
*Trinity Episcopal Church*

1734 Huntington Turnpike  
Trumbull, CT 06611

January 21, 2018



*Mission Statement: Our mission is to proclaim by word and deed, the good news of Jesus Christ reaching out to all in His name. Our desire is that others may come to faith in Him, drawn by the example of our lives.*

**Annual Parish Meeting**  
**Sunday, January 21, 2018**  
**10:30am – Parish Hall**  
**AGENDA**

- I. Invocation
- II. Presentation and Adoption of Voting Members
- III. Certification of a Quorum
- IV. Adoption of the Minutes of the February 5, 2017 Annual Parish Meeting
- V. Report of the Interim Rector
- VI. Report of the Treasurer and Presentation of 2017 Budget for Adoption
- VII. Other Reports (appended)
  - a. Altar Guild
  - b. Caring Connections
  - c. Christian Education
  - d. Facilities
  - e. Hospitality
  - f. Men's Group
  - g. Worship
  - h. Music
  - i. Community Partnerships
  - j. Sacramental Report
  - k. Transition
    - Discernment Team
    - Recruitment Committee
  - l. Warden's
- VIII. Elections
  - a. Officers
  - b. Vestry
  - c. Delegates
  - d. Nominating Committee
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business
- XI. Adjournment
- XII. Prayer for Transition and Benediction



# Trinity Episcopal Church

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The Reverend Paul J. Carling Ph.D. Interim Priest

## Trinity Episcopal Church 2018 Parish Voting List

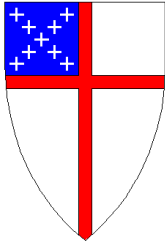
### Trinity's By-Laws

**Canon I, Section 6.** *Of the members of the Parish only those shall be entitled to vote at any Parish Meeting, who shall be adult communicants (16 years and older) and who for at least six months prior to that meeting shall have been faithful attendants at the services of the Church in the Parish, unless for good cause prevented, faithful contributors to its support, and faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God; these facts to be determined in each case by the Vestry, in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of this Canon.*

Alexander & Phyllis Aiello  
Michael & Susan Alcock  
Wallace Berg  
Joe & Sharon Buzzeo  
Madeleine Buzzeo  
Louise Caterson  
Tim & Caroline Cepetelli  
Fran Cronk  
Nicole & Joe Culotta  
Bill & Carolyn DeFranco  
Angela Doyle  
Dave & Georgeann Erhardt  
Al Fernald  
Edward Fisher Jr.  
Sarah Galan  
Martha & Richard Garrow  
Joseph & Pamela Gill  
David & Amy Ginter  
Lurena Hoinacki  
Simon Howes

Patricia Kay  
Bond Koteas  
Fred & Elizabeth Langhammer  
Colleen Linane  
George Malishchack  
Christian & Sylvia Medina  
Christian Medina  
Kathleen Miranti  
Lesley & Francisco Moises  
Laurie & Duke Morano  
Daniel & Alessandra Musso  
Nancy & Peter Myer  
Candice & Megan Myers  
Erin Nicholson  
Gary Ostrowski  
Lou Payne  
Claire Pinciario  
Robert Pitzschler  
Shirley Roehrlich  
Dave & Debra Robison

Patricia Robson  
Joan Root  
Craig & Jocelyn Russell  
Jane Sampson  
Manuel & Gayle Silva  
Arlene Stalvey  
Mike & Brenda Stapleton  
Zachary Stapleton  
Ron & Cindy Stevenson  
Sam & Donna Sutter  
Zachary & Barbara Taylor  
Brittany Thornton  
Kathy Viola  
Alison Walsh  
Thelma Whiteside  
Lynn Wilson  
Nancy Wilson  
Richard Worth



**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
NICHOLS, CONNECTICUT  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
February 5, 2017**

The meeting came to order at 10:30 AM with an opening prayer by the Rev. Dr. Paul J. Carling, Interim Rector.

The Parish Clerk, Robert Pitzschler, certified that a quorum was reached with 44% of the voting members present. (15% minimum required)

Fred Langhammer moved to adopt the 2017 Trinity Parish Voting List as listed in the 2016-2017 Annual Report. The motion was seconded by Alison Walsh. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Donna Sutter moved to accept the minutes of the January 17, 2016 Annual Parish Meeting as published. The motion was seconded by Patti Kay. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Report of the Interim Rector:

Rev. Carling summarized his report as appended to the 2016-2017 Annual Report. Additionally, he thanked Parish Administrator Sharon Buzeo for her work, explained that we are reviewing all of our operating “systems” to make them more efficient and that job descriptions have been developed for all employees. Rev. Carling also thanked Bob Pitzschler for his work on revising the various Parish documents and he updated everyone on the work of the Executive Committee.

Treasurer’s Report:

The Treasurer reviewed the financial statements showing an expected income for 2016 of \$211,187.64 and expenses of \$223,673.01. Total assets are \$2,334,194.81. The proposed budget for 2017 shows an projected income of \$227,648 and expenses of \$241,849. The Treasurer’s Report was accepted, subject to audit. A motion was made by Martha Fernald and seconded by Claire Pinciario to approve the 2017 budget as proposed. The vote was all in favor with one abstention.

Reports:

Reports, as appended to the 2016-2017 Annual Report were summarized with the following additional comments:

- Altar Guild – Martha Fernald – there is a need for new linens, especially a new white set. A list of needs and costs will be developed – consider ways to fund.
- Caring Connections – Georgeann Erhardt – when we notice a “regular” not in attendance or if someone is ill – let Georgeann know.
- Christian Education – Brenda Stapleton – we need to get the word out to people about the good programs that we are offering.
- Facilities – Gary Ostrowski – we will start taking a look at getting the kitchen remodel underway.
- Hospitality – Lurena Hoinacki – Rev. Carling expressed his gratitude at all the work that Lurena does to make Trinity a beacon of hospitality.

- Men's Group – Joe Buzzeo – no additional comments
- Worship – Rev. Carling – we will possibly schedule “Mass on the Grass” more often during the warmer weather – we were pleased to have our Seminarian, Erin Flynn, for a part of the year – she has brought a new dynamic to our services, but will complete her term in May – several of our high school age youth have agreed to a youth preaching series – we continue to look to ways to have the young people involved in our services.
- Music – Jeff Stokeley – no additional comments
- Community Partnership – Sam Sutter – possible activities discussed: Beatle's Concert to benefit the food drive, Card Show, Rock-a-Thon or Dance.
- Sacramental Report – Fr. Carling – no additional comments
- Transition – Bob Pitzschler – no additional comments
- Warden's – Simon Howes – thanks were expressed for the work and contributions made by Gary, Claire, Lurena, and Rich.

The nominating committee submitted the following slate of Officers, Vestry Members and Delegates for consideration:

For 1 year terms:

Wardens: Senior: Simon Howes and Junior: Nancy Wilson

Treasurer: Sam Sutter

Associate Treasurer: Dick Worth

Clerk: Robert Pitzschler

Vestry Members for 3 year terms:

William DeFranco

Judy Ingerman

Patti Kay

Colleen Linane

Diocesan Delegates: Robert Pitzschler and Simon Howes

Alternate Delegates: Sam Sutter and Nancy Wilson

Greater Bridgeport Ministry Network Delegate: Robert Pitzschler

Trumbull Interfaith Council: Martha Fernald

There being no further nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Bill DeFranco and seconded by Claire Pinciario to have the Vestry Clerk cast one vote to accept the nomination slate of Officers, Vestry Members, and Delegates. The motion was approved unanimously. The Vestry Clerk cast one vote in favor of the recommended slate and announced the slate as submitted approved.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Martha Fernald announced the following Trumbull Interfaith Council events: Good Friday Noontime Service at Holy Trinity Lutheran, the Crop Hunger Walk at Seaside Park, Bridgeport on May 7<sup>th</sup>, the Trumbull Clergy Dinner on September 13<sup>th</sup>, and a Thanksgiving Concert on the Monday before Thanksgiving.
- Bob Pitzschler asked for volunteers for a committee to develop major fundraising activities during the year as called for in the Parish Handbook. Judy Ingerman, Donna Sutter, Sam Sutter, Brenda Stapleton, and Alison Walsh volunteered.

There being no further business, Patti Kay moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Angela Doyle. The motion passed unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM with a closing prayer by Rev. Carling.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Pitzschler, Vestry Clerk

## Interim Rector's Report

It's been a busy and wonderful productive year, building on the deep relationships we built in the second half of 2016. I'm especially proud of how much we have accomplished together:

- Initiated a "full service bulletin" containing all readings, hymns and prayers which has supported stronger congregational participation
- Continued Caring Connections Ministry to provide pastoral care to parishioners
- Continued to support Acolyte Ministry by scheduling acolytes every other week
- A Youth Preaching Program in which four of our youth met to learn how to preach and then each delivered a magnificent sermon
- Confirmation classes through which 2 were confirmed and 3 were received into the Episcopal Church
- Dedicated trees on the Town Green for the local garden club
- Held two sold – out Beate's Concerts to raise money for local food pantries
- Held a joint Vestry Retreat jointly with Trinity Church in Seymour
- Had two Parish Clean Up days which filled two dumpsters and still needed the town to come and collect the leftovers
- Said goodbye to our seminarian Erin Flinn and welcomed our new seminarian Mary Beth Mills – Curran
- Mary Beth, in addition to helping lead worship and preaching has begun working with youth, and also supporting Brenda with the Church School Program
- Supported the Discernment Team and the Recruitment Team in accomplishing excellent work preparing for a new Rector
- Revised all staff job descriptions, equalized benefits and terms of employment
- Reviewed contracts with all those using our facilities and created new facility use guidelines
- Supported our Clerk, Bob Pitzschler, in revising a wealth of documents relating to parish history, policies and website descriptions
- Led Book Group on Alan Roxburgh's *Joining God, Remaking Church, Changing the World*
- Led weekly Bible Studies on Acts of the Apostles and on Genesis
- Joined St. John's in Bridgeport for their annual Pentecost service
- Continued Mass on the Grass in the summer
- Updated our stewardship approach to emphasize engagement of all parishioners in Community Partnership ministries – formed three "God Squad's" (Fighting Hunger, Supporting Children and Serving Seniors) and asked every parishioner to sign up for one, and formed a Community Partnership Leaders' Team to oversee Trinity's missional work
- Participated in the ECCT Annual Convention
- Held Christmas Fair
- Developed the first balanced parish budget in a number of years for 2018 and committed to ongoing balanced budgets
- Worked with Music Ministry attempting to create more of a singing congregation and to begin planning for a multi – generational choir – said goodbye to Jeff Stokely and arranged for Herb Lazration to become Music Director

In 2018, we will need to create a Welcoming Ministry, to re-evaluate the web site, and to undertake a variety of projects to prepare for the new rector. Through it all, I assure you, God has, and will continue to bless our labor, our love and our laughter in the process.

Rev. Paul+

## Treasurer's Report

Thank you for your continued support of time, talent and treasure this past year. 2018 brings another year of anticipated promise of spreading God's word. Rev. Carling has set us on a new path in preparation for our new priest, I want to express my thanks to him.

The attached financial reports are set up differently this year. In order to save space and multiple reports, I combined the 2017 income and expense statement with the 2018 budget. The spreadsheet shows 2017 actual, 2017 budget and the 2018 budget.

The 2018 budget includes expenses for interim priest from January to April 2018 and new priest expenses from April to December 2018. At time of this report, a new priest had not been called, therefore, I based expenses on candidates' cost.

On the balance sheet, each investment is printed in bold type.

Bill DeFranco

### FINAL Trinity Episcopal Church INCOME AND EXPENSE 12/31/17

<b><u>BUDGET 2018</u></b>			<b>2017</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2,018</b>
Account	Description	Type	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>01</b>	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>Income</b>			
	<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	Group			
4000	Loose Offerings	Detail	1,416	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
4011	Coffee & Redeemables dona	Detail	275	400	<b>300</b>
4020	Christmas	Detail	905	500	<b>1,000</b>
4030	Easter/Lent	Detail	801	1,200	<b>1,000</b>
4040	Special Offerings	Detail	0	500	<b>2,000</b>
4110	Initial Offering	Detail	255	250	<b>250</b>
4111	Thanksgiving offering	Detail	120	100	<b>100</b>
4120	Pledge	Detail	89,934	92,046	<b>78,000</b>
4125	Pledge receipts above stated pledge	Detail	0	0	<b>9,000</b>
4130	Pledge Pay - Prior Year	Detail	516	0	<b>0</b>
4135	Pledge Pay- Next Yr	Detail	400	1,000	
4137	<b><u>INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS</u></b>	Group			
4137-001	dividends/interest	Detail	6,829	6,000	<b>6,800</b>
4137-002	land fund monthly income	Detail	72,000	72,000	<b>80,000</b>
4144	<b><u>OTHER RECEIPTS</u></b>	Group			
4200	Facilities Contributions	Detail	21,870	23,000	<b>26,000</b>
4261	St. Nick fair income	Detail	1,684	2,000	<b>2,000</b>
4262-001	Sept fundraiser	Detail	0	1,500	<b>2,000</b>
4275	Benefit concert proceeds	Detail	5,818	0	<b>6,000</b>
4276	Benefit concert donations	Detail	322	0	<b>0</b>
4280-001	Discretionary Income	Detail	241	0	<b>150</b>
4280-004	Capital Improvements	Detail	1,864	4,000	<b>2,000</b>
4280-010	S & S Scripp 5% income	Detail	200	0	<b>200</b>
4280-014	Xfers from cap imp fund	Detail	0	0	<b>9,000</b>
4280-015	xfers from powell fund	Detail	0	0	<b>7,000</b>
4280-020	SR scripp 5% income	Detail	250	0	<b>250</b>
4281	Rummage and Tag Sale	Detail	0	0	<b>1,000</b>
4285	Rectory Rent	Detail	13,150	16,200	<b>2,600</b>
4460	Special Offerings	Detail	10,000	0	<b>500</b>

4550	Receipts for Specific Exp	Detail	1,160	0	0
4590	Memorial Garden	Detail	0	1,000	1,000
4639	Book of Remembrance	Detail	1,718	2,000	2,000
		<b>Income Totals:</b>	<b>231,841</b>	<b>227,646</b>	<b>242,150</b>
5005	<b><u>DIOCESAN ASSESS &amp; OUTREACH</u></b>	Group			
5005-001	Rector's disc. disburse	Detail	0	0	0
5010	Diocesan Assess/Tithe	Detail	25,128	25,128	18,471
5050	Consultant-Transition	Detail	0	1,250	0
5051	Transition Expense	Detail	750	1,250	1,000
5052	Mock Interview for Rector	Detail	200	0	0
5060	Other Outreach-RENAMED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHUIPS	Detail	3,325	500	0
5060-007	Community Partnerships	Detail	0	0	3,000
5060-001	Family matters	Detail	0	250	250
5060-002	Calvary St. George	Detail	0	0	0
5060-005	Camp Washington	Detail	0	0	0
5060-006	Greater Bpt Deanery Donat	Detail	1,850	0	600
5065	TIC	Detail	0	800	100
6609	St. Luke/St. Paul food	Detail	0	250	250
5074	Benefit concert band pmt	Detail	2,400	0	2,400
5061	Scholarships given	Detail	675	0	0
5105	<b><u>RECTOR'S COMPENSATION</u></b>	Group			
5110	Salaries-Clergy	Detail	1,300	0	17,600
5111	Interim Salary	Detail	29,377	28,650	10,061
5120	Housing Equity Allowance				917
5130	Parsonage Allowance	Detail	0	0	0
5131	Interm Parsonage	Detail	14,688	14,325	5,032
5132	SS Allowance-clergy	Detail	4,483	0	2,915
	SS Allowance-interim				3,168
5140	<b><u>STAFF SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</u></b>	Group			
5150	Wages-Sexton	Detail	18,987	17,600	19,000
5160	Salaries-Organist	Detail	12,091	12,100	13,600
5170	Wages-Administrative	Detail	20,108	20,860	20,860
5175	Wages-Christian Ed	Detail	5,663	8,600	8,600
5176	Bookkeeping Services	Detail	10,098	9,500	8,250
5185	Supply Priest	Detail	805	1,000	1,000
5190	Fees-Supply Organist	Detail	156	1,200	750
5200	Med Tax	Detail	1,007	1,000	1,016
5210	SS Tax	Detail	4,307	8,540	4,344
5241	<b><u>RECTOR-BENEFITS &amp; ALLOW</u></b>	Group			
5242	Rector-health ins.DIOC	Detail	936	0	13,167
5243	Interim Health Insurance	Detail	10,269	10,800	4,072
5244	Rector-travel allowance	Detail	0	200	0
5244-002	supply travel allowance	Detail	0	0	0
5245	Rector-continuing ed	Detail	0	1,750	1,750
5245-001	Clergy Conference	Detail	767	200	1,000
5246	Rector-dental-DIOC	Detail	2,200	2,700	1,800
5246-001	Interm Dental Insurance	Detail	200	0	0



5250	Pension Premiums-Clergy	Detail	0	0	5,717
5250-001	Pension Premiums- Interim	Detail	15,084	13,450	0
5251	Rector - life insurance	Detail	25	0	225
5251-001	Interim Life Ins	Detail	275	300	0
5260	Seminarian payments	Detail	4,300	2,000	2,000
5260-001	Mileage	Detail	700	0	350
5270	<b><u>UTILITIES &amp; INSURANCE</u></b>	Group			
5280	Heating -So Ct Gas-church	Detail	4,744	5,000	5,000
5285	Heating-So Ct Gas-Rectory	Detail	0	0	1,500
5290	Electricity-Church	Detail	8,959	8,000	9,540
5295	Electricity- rectory	Detail	0	0	1,200
5300	Water usage- church	Detail	702	700	700
5301	Water usage- rectory	Detail	48	0	200
5305	Property & Liability Ins	Detail	5,580	6,000	6,000
5306	Workers Comp Ins/DIOC	Detail	1,212	1,300	1,300
5310	<b><u>MAINTENANCE</u></b>	Group			
5320	Repairs-Property & Equip	Detail	213	3,000	1,500
5321	Capital Improvements	Detail	0	0	9,000
5330	Service Contracts-church	Detail	40	1,000	1,000
5330-010	service calls-boiler	Detail	0	0	250
5331	Service Contract-rectory	Detail	0	0	250
5340	Fire Alarm monitoring	Detail	405	600	600
5340-010	Fire Alarm annual testing	Detail	0	600	600
5340-020	FA service calls	Detail	0	0	0
5350	Maintenance-church	Detail	1,780	4,500	4,500
5351	Repairs rectory	Detail	1,017	1,000	1,000
5352	Rectory svc contracts	Detail	190	0	0
5353	rectory rental expense	Detail	0	0	0
5410	Sewer Usage	Detail	746	800	800
5411	Property Tax- Rectory	Detail	12,142	7,000	6,000
5430	Lawn Care	Detail	3,657	1,800	2,300
5440	Trash Removal	Detail	1,364	960	960
5450	<b><u>PROGRAM</u></b>	Group			
5460	Office Supplies	Detail	2,329	2,400	2,400
5461	Subscriptions	Detail	0	0	0
5462	Bank Charges	Detail	186	0	50
5465	Computer Supplies	Detail	125	0	125
5466	Seminars /Classes	Detail	258	0	0
5468	Computer Internet Access	Detail	121	300	150
5468-002	Website expense	Detail	239	5,000	250
5469	Payroll Service	Detail	1,620	1,450	1,600
5471	Accounting Services	Detail	1,300	1,300	1,300
5475	inserts/offer envel	Detail	240	500	250
5476	Plastic outside sign	Detail	244	0	0
5480	Postage	Detail	0	300	300
5490	Tract Literature & Pub	Detail	143	300	300
5495	Christian Ed Supplies	Detail	901	500	500
5540	Telephone and internet	Detail	1,868	1,900	1,900
5541	Rectory telephone	Detail	0	0	600
5543	Copier Lease	Detail	1,248	0	1,080

5570	Bulletins & Inserts	Detail	109	1,500	285
5575	Stewardship Supplies	Detail	0	0	0
5580	Altar Supplies	Detail	153	999	250
5600	Food & Beverage	Detail	354	0	0
5610	PMPH supplies	Detail	1,252	900	1,200
5610-001	non cash donations	Detail	585	0	0
5620	Gifts & Awards	Detail	0	0	0
5640	Independent Contractors	Detail	0	0	0
5641	Professional Services	Detail	688	0	0
5642	Licenses & certificates	Detail	160	0	160
5650	Advertising	Detail	1,132	600	700
5750	Furniture & Eqpt. Purchas	Detail	553	0	0
6005	Interest-expense	Detail	0	0	0
6606	monument inscriptions	Detail	215	0	0
		<b>Expense Totals:</b>	<b>251,218</b>	<b>245,612</b>	<b>240,865</b>
			<b>(19,377)</b>	<b>(17,966)</b>	<b>1,285</b>

**Trinity Episcopal Church  
Balance Sheet (UNAUDITED)  
Consolidated - December 2017**

**INVESTMENTS BOLD PRINT**

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

CHECKING ACCOUNTS-PEOPLES

Operating-012-4090863	\$8,646.14
Vicar's Dis. 029-7008389	2,415.50
Dennis Sav-012-6032200	5,693.19
cap impro sav-012-9090863	34,707.69
altar hangings donation	500.00
altar linens donation	685.00
Subtotal Checking Accounts-peoples	52,647.52

**INVESTMENTS**

<b><u>Cockerton Fund # 04575</u></b>	<b><u>35,376.20</u></b>
<b><u>Dennis Fund #04579</u></b>	<b><u>90,228.12</u></b>
<b><u>Powell Fund #17259</u></b>	<b><u>55,549.98</u></b>
<b><u>Book Rememb Fund #04576</u></b>	<b><u>24,370.99</u></b>
<b><u>Memor Garden Fund# 04673</u></b>	<b><u>11,300.76</u></b>
<b><u>Land Sale Fund# 90030</u></b>	<b><u>964,688.39</u></b>
Govt Sec-Aiello 220-03248	24,211.36
CD-Almquist-118-8001905	1,996.45
CD- Britton-012-8018328	16,557.44
Subtotal Investments	1,224,279.69
Subtotal Current Assets	1,276,927.21

FIXED ASSETS	
LAND AND BUILDINGS	
Land	563,187.00
Church, Cathedral, Chapel	254,169.00
Rectories & Other Bldgs	214,579.00
Building Contents	105,613.20
Subtotal Fixed Assets	1,137,548.20
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,414,475.41
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	2,414,475.41
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$2,414,475.41

### **Altar Guild**

The Altar Guild is a dedicated group of men and women that prepare the chapel and the main sanctuary for Sunday services of Holy Eucharist, and special services such as: Morning Prayer, holy days, baptisms, confirmations, funerals, and weddings. The Altar Guild does their work quietly; to insure that all the items needed for worship are present. Its members are responsible for caring for vestments, linens, altar coverings and sacred communion vessels. The Altar Guild also clears the church after worship services.

Martha Fernald has recently stepped down as our Director of Altar Guild. We would like to thank Martha for her many years of dedication in keeping our church always looking beautiful.

With Martha's departure, this left Sharon Buzzeo as the only Altar Guild member. The call was put out for new members and we would like to joyfully welcome the following to Trinity's Altar Guild: Lou Payne, & Angela Doyle, Ed Fisher, Kathleen Miranti and Lurena Hoinacki. Carolyn DeFranco cleans and presses the linens.

This year we are thankful for the talents of Robert Pitzschler and Lurena Hoinacki who helped arrange plants, and decorated the church for all to enjoy at Easter and Christmas.

In 2017 the Altar Guild supported: 2 baptisms, 0 weddings and 5 funerals.

This year the Altar Guild purchased a new paschal oil candle and is in the process of purchasing matching stoles from Almy for our altar coverings. We are also repairing some chasubles, and frontals as well as modifying a frontal.

If you are interested in assisting in this important ministry – men, women or teens, please contact Rev. Paul or Sharon Buzzeo.

## **Caring Connections**

Caring Connections has reached out to members of our church family who have been ill or now in nursing facilities.

Wallace Berg has had visits from at least 6 church members and he enjoys the company very much. Simon has been visiting and bringing communion to Wallace. Wallace very much appreciates these visits.

Jim Bottom has received cards sent from Carolyn letting him know we are thinking about him and miss him. I as well have sent cards when he had his surgery.

I have sent notes to some parishioners who I haven't seen at mass for a while.

I am pleased with the amount of commitment the Caring Connections ministry has had this year.

Georgeann Erhart

## **Christian Education Report**

One of Trinity Church's biggest blessing is our wonderful Church School! Children of all ages come every Sunday to eagerly learn and share the Gospel. It's been a joy to see our older youth and our younger children serving and sharing during our church service. Thank you to all the volunteers who offer their time and talent to the Church School. Please continue to keep **all** children and our church school in your prayers.

Brenda Stapleton

## **Facilities Report**

2017 has been a pretty busy year around Trinity. The following list represents items done on the building and grounds during the year.

- A new copier has been leased for the office
- Outside North wall washed
- Music Room lockset replaced
- Handicap ramp waterproofed
- Kitchen stairs reinforced and waterproofed
- Broken molding around office door replaced and painted
- Hole in basement wall repaired
- Bushes around church and rectory trimmed
- Refuse in church and barn removed and loaded into dumpster
- Vestibule doors repaired
- Pump room exhaust fan replaced
- Carpet in West Lounge replaced
- Church & Rectory gutters cleaned
- Major clean out of church
- Windows put in doors in Rectors office to comply with safe church
- Window put in kitchen/parish hall door
- New washer and dryer bought and installed in Rectory.
- Closet doors fixed in Rectory.

- New fuses installed in breaker box which controls kitchen outlets.
- Various items fixed per order of the Fire Marshall.

Items we could / should do for 2018.

Seeking bids to reglaze and paint or replace the large window in the clock tower.

We do need to finish remodeling the kitchen in some way, based on our plans for its use in the long term.

Edward Fisher & Joe Buzzeo

## **Hospitality Report**

With the help of many people, 2017 was a very busy year, for both joyous and solemn occasions.

Thank you for everyone's generosity and joyful participation in this most important ministry!

Lurena Hoinacki

## **Men's Group Report**

The Men's Group at Trinity has diminished drastically. Up until now it has been myself, Simon, Gary and Dave Robison who meet on occasion when we can. As a result of limited participation of men and spiritual leadership we have started meeting with the men's group at St. Paul's Church in Huntington. This is a group of about ten guys with Deacon Knute Hanson as the spiritual leader. They have warmly welcomed us and are a really great group of guys.

Joe Buzzeo

## **Worship**

In 2017, we continued the progress we made in worship in 2016:

- Continuing to hold one service at 9:00am and reaching out to those who had attended either of the other services (8:00 and 10:00) who were not attending at the new time, especially young families with children.
- We continued offering *Mass on the Grass* monthly during the summer.
- Seminarian Erin Flinn continued to serve at Trinity until the end of the spring term (May 2017) and our new seminarian, Mary Beth Mills-Curran, began to serve in September. In addition to serving at the altar, Mary Beth also sang in the choir and began working closely with Brenda on the Church School Program and Youth Program.
- We initiated a Youth Preaching Series in Lent and four of our youth – Maddie Buzzeo, Zachary Stapleton and Christian Medina participated. We trained them in preaching and then worked with them as they drafted their sermons. Parishioners were thrilled with the maturity and content of their sermons.
- Acolytes continued to serve every other week, with Brenda's skilled scheduling.

Rev. Paul+

## Music Notes

2017 was the year we began to focus more intensely on making Trinity more of a singing congregation and developing an all – ages choir for the parish. Jeff began “practicing” “warming up” the congregation, and having a small number of parishioners sing a piano – accompanied hymn at the Offertory. In late 2017, vestry leaders began planning for a more expanded music role at Trinity and began a search for a new organist. Through that process, Jeff left Trinity in early 2018, and Herb Lazration, a highly skilled organist with experience establishing choirs in small congregations, became Trinity’s Organist and Music Director.

Rev. Paul+

## Community Partnerships

In April and September of 2017, Trinity hosted two Beatles tribute band benefit concerts designed to support local food banks/ministries. Each concert was close to a sell out and after band expenses, \$3,600 was divided and given equally to the Trumbull Food Bank, St John's/Bridgeport, and St Luke/St Paul's Bridgeport. In addition, a total of 11 shopping carts of non-perishable food donations was given to the Trumbull Food Bank.

In November, the parish was divided into three groups: Seniors, Children, and Hunger, with the intent of focusing our efforts to help support community members who fall into anyone of these groups. This month, the Senior group delivered individually wrapped gifts to the Trumbull Senior Center so that they can be distributed at Christmastime to a list of Seniors as provided by the Center. We also took in monetary donations in support of the CT Food Bank's "Backpack program", which helps school children who are food insecure receive food on Friday so that they will have something to eat on the weekend when school is not in session. Next year we have already planned on providing Easter food baskets through the Trumbull Senior Center, and once again we have scheduled two additional benefit concerts in June and September. We are always looking for other ways to help out our community partners, especially in one or more of the three aforementioned areas, so if anyone has any ideas, please let me know!!.

In this way, 2017 became a banner year for Trinity in charting a new direction for the parish. Our expectation is now that *every parishioner* will commit to one of these three “God Squads” and be engaged in ways that match their skills and interests in the work of the ministry they have chosen. A key initial aspect of the work of each group is to investigate which other churches and organizations in the communities we serve are also involved in trying to meet one or more of these needs, and to build relationships with them so as to maximize our shared impact. For this reason, we also established the *Community Partnership Leadership Team*, consisting of the heads of each of these three ministries, and led by Sam Sutter, the overall coordinator of this effort.

Sam Sutter

## Sacramental Report for 2017

Baptisms:	2	Abigail Rose Ginter Eliza Laure Klein
Confirmed:	3	Michael Patrick Jankovsky Jr. Alison Melanie Walsh Lesley Oliva Moises
Received	2	David Ryan Ginter Simon Howes
Reaffirmation:	0	
Deaths:	5	Charles Clark Jean Forbes Anna Fisher Rosemary Hallquist Eleanor Smith
Weddings:	0	

## Transition

### Discernment Team

The role of the Discernment Team is to: conduct parish-wide discernment exercises, explore God's mission at Trinity, gather and interpret data, develop the Office for Transition Ministry (OTM) and Transition Ministry Conference (TMC) portfolios, design and develop the parish profile, and update the parish web site with this information. The Team met on a near weekly basis from November 2016 until early summer of 2017 to complete these tasks, the results of which are available on the parish web-site at <http://trinitynichols.org>

Robert Pitzschler

### Recruitment Committee Update

During 2017, the Recruitment Committee has led the search process to select a new Rector. The seven committee members have received training in interviewing skills, developing questions for candidates based on our parish profile, and working with the Diocese to solicit applications. Finally, at the end of 2017, the committee received applications from four candidates and began interviewing them. The final selection and the appointment of a new Rector are expected to occur early in 2018.

Dick Worth

## Warden's Reports

### Jr. Warden Report

This has been my first year as Jr. Warden and it certainly has been a learning curve. This position has traditionally been one dealing with property but that has been changing. Luckily Trinity already has a crack team of 'property guys' who take care of repairs and keeping track of what needs done next. Thanks to Joe Buzzeo for heading up the newest incarnation of the team. If you want to help out, give him a call. Thanks also to Simon Howes who as Sr. Warden knows just about everything. My main task this year has been keeping him in check during Executive Committee meetings! Just kidding (kind of)

Our new year will hold lots of changes and excitement. I'm looking forward it.

Many blessings,

Nancy Wilson, Junior Warden

### Sr. Warden Report

A happy and healthy 2017 to one and all.

For me, 2017 was another year where we met our challenges with grace and with faith, in both God and each other. In all my time as warden I really don't remember any unpleasant or stressful moments that weren't resolved quickly and in a friendly and charitable manner. So I want to thank all of you, our Trinity family, for your patience, understanding, commitment, contribution and fellowship, with me and with each other, and thereby creating a wonderful environment for us all to share in doing God's work.

2017 was a year in transition for us, and one of our biggest undertakings was the work involved in finding a new rector and the many challenges encountered on the long and winding road the ECCT set out for us, the Episcopal version of "The Amazing Race".

The Transition Team did a fantastic job of pulling together all the information that so accurately represented who we are, where we hope to go, and who we think will best help us get there. This again demonstrated the strength of this family, everybody gave their input at those meetings after the service, the Transition Team distilled it all down to the essence and their presentation of it on our website is something we are all proud of.

The Recruitment Team picked up for the next leg of the 'Race', and in a very short time the ECCT approved the preparation and provided candidates. Three interviews are now complete and the quality of the candidates is very promising. Another great team effort.

Though my participation in the Transition and Recruitment processes has been minimal, the times I have been present, I have witnessed tremendous leadership qualities within those teams, and this will really bode well for us as we prepare for the next phase at Trinity.

A massive thanks to Bob P who has almost single-handedly moved our website from the 1800s to 2018s, unbelievable commitment and attention to detail; that's Captain Green Beans!

I am optimistic we'll have a new rector in 2018 and I don't doubt for a minute that we will continue to grow in strength, love and faith, on that journey.

Prior to that new rector's arrival we will continue to be blessed and guided by our own good shepherd, Rev. Paul.

Your humble serf,

Simon



**Elections**  
**Nominating Committee Report**

January 21, 2018

The following slate of Officers, Vestry Members and Delegates is presented for election as indicated:

**For a one year term:**

**Warden:** Simon Howes

**Warden:** Nancy Wilson

**Treasurer:** Bill DeFranco

**Associate Treasurer:** Dick Worth

**Clerk:** Robert Pitzschler

**Nominations for a 3yr Vestry Term (2021)**

Alessandra Musso

Georgeann Erhardt

**ECCT Delegates – 1yr Term**

Simon Howes

Robert Pitzschler

**ECCT Alternate Delegates – 1yr Term**

Nancy Wilson

**Greater Bridgeport Ministry Network – 1yr Term**

Robert Pitzschler

**Trumbull Interfaith Council Delegate – 1yr Term**

Lee Forshaw