



TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Eugene C. Zaiser, DMin., Pastor

Mrs. Karen J. Smith, Parish Secretary

Ms. LaRue C. Sheetz, Director of Music

Mrs. Ruth I. Reinhard, Sexton/Mr. Craig W. Snyder, Jr., Sexton/Mrs. Catherine M. Yoder/Sexton

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Kuser, Treasurers

2023 Congregation Council

Mr. Randy Kehl, President

Mr. Willard Carpenter, Vice President

Mr. Richard Deskie, Secretary

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Kuser, Treasurers

Ms. Linda Bewley

Mrs. Kathy Farrington

Mrs. Susan Logan

Mrs. Kay McGowan

Mrs. Sharon Renninger

Mr. Howard Shafer

Mrs. Waynette Shafer

Mr. Oscar Smith

Mr. Kurt Yescavage

Pastor Eugene Zaiser

Other Officer

Mrs. Ruth Weiser, Financial Secretary

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Address & Phone No. Changes.....Pg 40	Gift Card Program.....Pg. 29
Card Ministry.....Pg. 31	Pack 511.....Pg. 38
Cemetery Board Committee.....Pg. 37	Pastor's Report.....Pg. 2-7
Christian Education.....Pg. 24	Prayer Circle Report.....Pg. 26
Committee List.....Pg. 41	Property Report.....Pg. 27
Congregational Meetings.....Pg. 8-10	Simply Giving.....Pg. 19
Contemporary Worship.....Pg. 21	Social Ministry.....Pg. 30
Cradle Roll.....Pg. 35	Technology Report.....Pg. 28
Craft Show.....Pg. 33	TLC Stitches.....Pg. 36
Director of Music.....Pg. 20	Treasurer's Report.....Pg. 11-15
Discipleship Committee.....Pg. 25	Troop 511 Boys & Girls.....Pg. 38
Donations 2023.....Pg. 18	Worship & Music.....Pg. 22-23
Fellowship Committee.....Pg. 32	Youth Group Funds.....Pg. 16

Pastor's Annual Report – 2023

Summary of Pastoral Activity – 2023

General Visits: 70

Hospital Visits: 32

Homebound Visits: 64

Communions at Home: 87

Counseling Hours: 56

Baptisms: Marcella Jusits (1/29), Emma Sell (2/26), Grady Sell (2/26), Grant Sell (2/26), William Henry Harrison V (11/18), Nell Harrison (11/18)

First Communions: Abigail Mann (4/6), Emma Sell (4/6)

Confirmations: Kassie Jo Dulin (7/23)

New Members Received: Gerard Bryce (1/29), Darlene Smith (1/29)

Funerals: Mia Wise* (1/14), Evelyn Stark* (1/19), Cynthia Shantz* (2/8), Gloria Grebe* (2/18), Sister Millicent Drake (2/24), Thelma Stauffer (2/28), Floyd Hangey, Jr.* (3/11), Johann Foisel* (3/14), Todd Burns* (3/24), Doreen Hess* (3/25), Louise Smith* (4/4), Grace Miller* (4/25), Ralph Frey* (5/9), Glenn Wagner* (5/26), Lisa Gaver* (6/8), John Graef* (6/15), Deron Johnson* (6/24), David Johnson* (6/28), Patricia Anderson* (7/11), Betty Ritter (7/14), Louella Garris* (7/31), Kitty Isett (9/9), Anna Stauffer* (9/29), Kenneth Pachella, Jr.* (10/4), Arnie Faust* (11/1), Glenn Beekley* (11/16), John Davison* (12/9), Thomas McFarlane* (12/30)

* Indicates non-member.

Meetings and Events Attended:

12 Council Meetings

Synod Racism Workshop

16 Contemporary Practices

Boyertown Historical Society Opera House Fire Memorial Service

Talent Show/Cook-Off

Roast Beef Planning Meeting

20 Biblical Storytelling Planning Meetings

4 Worship & Music Meetings

Oley Cluster Bread, Bowl, and Bible

Prayer Circle

2 Christian Education Meetings

Roast Beef Dinner

3 Oley Cluster Meetings

East Berks Mission District Assembly

2 Mission District Meetings

Mother/Daughter Banquet

Discipleship Meeting

Synod Assembly
Community Day/Pet Blessing
2 VBS Planning Meetings
2 Synod Council Meetings
VBS 2023
Basket Party Meeting
2 Congregational Meetings
Basket Party
Mission District Council
Community Day
Property Meeting
Youth Group Halloween Party
Thanksgiving Eve Planning Meeting
Gaining Strength Retreat
Community Halloween Hot Chocolate and Cookies
Property Clean-Up
Community Santa in the Park
Community Thanksgiving Eve Service
Sanctuary Decorating

Services Conducted:

47 Regular Sunday Services
Ash Wednesday Service
Maundy Thursday Service
Good Friday Service
Easter Vigil Service
5 Lenten Services
16 Contemporary Services
Community Thanksgiving Eve Service
Longest Night Service
2 Christmas Eve Services

Teaching:

11 Sunday School Classes
6 First Communion Classes
2 New Member Classes

Parish Statistics Summary:

New Members

By Baptism: 6

By Reception/Transfer: 2

Deaths: 4

Baptized Membership – 485 (last year 481)

Confirmed Members Who Communed and Contributed in 2023 – 189 (last year 189)

Baptized Membership (as of 12/31/23)

Acker, Jacqueline	Brown, Mark	Dise, Pat
Acker, Larry	Brown, Ryan	Dise, Stephanie
Almendinger, Linda	Brown, Yvonne	Donelson, Lisa
Angstadt, Emily	Brunner, Linda	Donovan, Lauren
Angstadt, Jeffrey	Bryce, Gerard	Dotterer, Elaine
Angstadt, Lorna	Buchert, Brian	Drumheller, Joan
Auge, Marcia	Buchert, Lauren	Drumheller, Karen
Babel, Gertrude	Buchert, Katherine	Drumheller, Merideth
Bearn, Carlie	Buchert, Madeline	Drumheller, Nicole
Bearn, Cristie	Buchert, Susan	Drumheller, Robin
Bearn, Katie	Buchert, Timothy	Drugatz, Daryl
Bearn, Kellie	Carpenter, Michele	Drugatz, Deseree
Bearn, Larry	Carpenter, Willard	Drugatz, Peter
Bearn, Robin	Carr, Edward	Dulin, Joseph
Beekman, Martha	Carr, Jasmine	Dulin, Joseph Michael
Bender, Barbara	Carr, Michelle	Dulin, Kassie
Bender, Brandon	Christman, Ashley	Dulin, Katelyn
Bender, Dylan	Christman, Gloria	Dulin, Kellie
Benfield, Jeremy	Christman, Maximillian	Eck, Richard
Benfield, Kelsey	Christman, Norma	Eddinger, Sheila
Benfield, Nanette	Corliss, Chance	Eddinger, William
Berger, Kenneth	Corliss, Colleen	Endy, Chase
Berger, Kenneth, Jr.	Corliss, Dakota	Endy, Keith
Berger, Patricia	Crandall, Olivia	Endy, Kelly
Berger, Thomas	Crowe, Eric	Endy, Ronald
Bershas, Pamela	Crowe, Evan	Endy, Seth
Bewley, Linda	Crowe, Jay	Erkert, Dillon
Birkhoff, Kayla	Crowe, Lorie	Erkert, Jessica
Birkhoff, Zachary	Davidheiser, Mary	Erkert, Karie
Blanford, Mardell	Day, Donna	Erkert, Kellie
Blazic, Everett	Delp, Richard	Eshbach, Bradley
Bowers, Heather	Delp, Shannon	Eshbach, Jacob
Bowers, Wendy	Deskie, Connor	Eshabch, Robert
Brensinger, Abigail	Deskie, Drevyn	Essig, Ashley
Brensinger, Andrew	Deskie, Richard	Essig, Bradley
Brensinger, Chad	Deskie, Vanessa	Essig, Chase
Brensinger, Patricia	Desper, Carol Ann	Essig, Karen
Brensinger, William	Diemand, Mary	Essig, Keith
Brooke, R. Dennis	Dierolf, Michael	Esz, Cindi

Esz, Matthew	Haas, Glenn	Hoffman, Douglas
Esz, Nicholas	Hallman, Barbara	Hoffman, Duane
Esz, Peter	Hallman, Dale	Hoffman, Karen
Farrington, Kathy	Hallman, Elizabeth	Hoffman, Richard
Farrington, Richard, Jr.	Hallman, Landon	Horan, Adalynn
Flogaus, Emily	Hampton, Keith	Horan, Hadley
Flogaus, Samantha	Hampton, Keith, Jr.	Horan, Victoria
Fluharty, Benjamin	Hampton, Kevin	Hudock, Destiny
Fluharty, Emma	Hansley, Ariel	Hudock, Tyler
Fluharty, Karen	Hansley, Madison	Huggins, Brenda
Fox, Cory	Harner, Cody	Huggins, Robert
Fox, Kasey	Harrison, Nell	Irey, Karen
Fox, Lisa	Harrison, William Henry V	Irey, Sophia
Fox, Neil	Hartline, Joanne	Isett, Lauren
Founds, Isla	Hartline, Jed	Isett, Rachel
Frederick, Jenny	Hartline, Jordan	Isett, Ryan
Gamler, Kathleen	Hearn, Shawn	Isett, R. Frederick
Gamler, Richard	Heffner, Christopher	Jacobs, Rebecca
Garcia, Richard	Heffner, Eileen	Jacobs, Tyler
Gehman, Brian	Heffner, Matthew	Johnson, Eden
Gehman, Cynthia	Heimbach, Barrie	Johnson, Heather
Gehamn, Matthew	Heimbach, Barrie , Jr.	Johnson, Jeremiah
Gehman, Sekura	Heimbach, Joy	Johnson, Reanna
Gheer, Heather	Heimbach, Linda	Johnson, Xavier
Gheer, John	Heimbach, Logan	Johnson, Zechariah
Gilbert, Leyton	Heimbach, Owen	Jusits, Alice
Gilbert, Raife	Henshaw, Bryan	Jusits, Hannah
Gincley, Mark	Henshaw, Eric	Jusits, Jenna
Gincley, Ricky	Henshaw, James	Jusits, Marcella
Gincley, Ronald	Henshaw, Joanne	Kehl, Craig
Goggins, Beckett	Hettler, Grace	Kehl, Janet
Goggins, Diana	Heydt, Chester	Kehl, Randy
Goggins, Kaleb	Heydt, Deanna	Kehl, Ronald
Good, Earl	Heydt, Deborah	Keirse, Mary
Good, Ruth Ann	Heydt, Haley	Kemp, Sharon
Graef, Jordan	Heydt, Helen	Kemp, Tammy
Graef, Lori	Heydt, Kenneth	Kemp, Terry
Graef, Robert	Heydt, Noah	Kerchner, Clifton
Greenawalt, Gwendolyn	Heydt, William	Kerchner, Suzanne
Grubbs, Jason	Hish, Joshua	Kirner, Carol
Grubbs, Luke	Hite, Tristan	Kirner, Ed
Grubbs, Melissa	Hoch, Austin	Klahr, Emma
Grubbs, Zoe	Hoch, Eric	Klahr, Joshua
Haas, Connie	Hoch, Kelly	Kratz, Aaron

Kratz, Kerry	Miller, Patricia	Renninger, Chase
Kratz, Nicole	Miller, Wendy	Renninger, Matthew
Kratz, Trina	Mohr, Cameron	Renninger, Michael
Kreiser, Barbara	Mohr, Cheyenne	Renninger, Mitchell
Kulp, Adam	Mohr, Tammy	Renninger, Randy
Kuser, Andrew	Moore, Elizabeth	Renninger, Sharon
Kuser, Daniel	Morlock, Diane	Renninger, Tammy
Kuser, Kathleen	Moser, Laura	Repko, Donna
Kuser, Timothy	Moser, Lorie Ann	Rhoads, Aloma
Leiby, Cathy	Moser, Susan	Rhoads, Cody
Leiby, Richard	Moyer, Alexis	Rhoads, Dennis
Leister, Anna	Moyer, Benjamin	Rhoads, Herbert
Leister, Barry	Moyer, Brett	Rhoads, Kerston
Leister, Linda	Moyer, Dakota	Rhoads, Kyle
Lindsey, Chelsea	Moyer, Lillian	Rhoads, Megan
Lock, Adrianna	Moyer, Lori	Rhoads, Susan
Logan, John	Moyer, Mackenzie	Ritter, Daniel
Logan, Rachael	Moyer, Matthew	Ritter, Linda
Logan, Susan	Moyer, Samuel	Romig, Dorothy
Lozier, Margaret	Nagle, Joanne	Romig, Roy
Lydic, Nadine	Nagle, Geoffrey	Rothenberger, Ralph
MacDonald, Jennifer	Orehowsky, Matthew	Rothenberger, Susan
MacDonald, Kaitlynn	Orehowsky, Melissa	Rothermel, Carol
Matz, Lisa	Orehowsky, Michael	Rowland, Virginia
Matz, Nolan	Pachella, Dianne	Sarte, Bruce
Matz, Ryan	Pearce, BillyRay	Sarte, Catherine
Mauger, Marlene	Pearce, BillyRay, Jr.	Sarte, Erin
McElwee, Diane	Pearce, Jennifer	Sarte, Nathaniel
McElwee, Robert	Pittius, Kelsey	Sarte, Stanley
McGowan, Kay	Podulka, Anita	Sarte, Timothy
McIlvee, Shannon	Podulka-Gilbert, Flint	Savage, Daniel
Merkel, Mildred	Powers, James	Schaeffer, Carl, Jr.
Mest, Gregory	Powers, Kathleen	Schaeffer, Chandler
Mest, Nancy	Quinley, Kellie	Schaeffer, Dennis
Mest, Vicki Jo	Reidenauer, Erma	Schaeffer, Sherri
Miller, Chelsea	Reinhard, Allan	Schaeffer, Tyler
Miller, Donald	Reinhard, Ruth	Schaffer, Blake
Miller, Duane	Reitnauer, Annabell	Schaffer, Robert
Miller, Eric	Reitnauer, Benjamin	Schaffer, Sandra
Miller, Gary	Reitnauer, Jeffrey	Schaffer, Steven
Miller, Jere	Reitnauer, Ruth	Schaffer, Timothy
Miller, Justin	Renninger, Alex	Schankweiler, Barry
Miller, Matthew	Renninger, Angela	Schankweiler, Laura
Miller, Megan	Renninger, Brianna	Schankweiler, Rosetta

Schankweiler, Timothy	Snyder, Caylin	Weil, Madison
Schell, Tracy	Snyder, Craig	Weiser, Martin
Schildt, Hailey	Snyder, Jaxon	Weiser, Ruth
Schildt, Jill	Snyder, Laura	Weller, Alice
Schmoyer, Barbara	Snyder, Mary	Weller, Dawn
Schmoyer, Peter	Spataro, Maria	Welsh, Brayden
Schneider, Carolyn	Spencer, Anna	Welsh, Christina
Schneider, Eric	Starry, Paige	Welsh, Jason
Schwager, Lois	Stauffer, Andrew	Wiles, William
Schwager, Ronald	Stauffer, Brandon	Williams, Virginia
Shafer, Howard	Stauffer, Riley	Witman, Deborah
Shafer, Waynette	Stephen, Katie	Witman, William
Seivard, Kyle	Stewart, Barbara	Wolf, Kylee
Sell, Benjamin	Stimmel, Susan	Wolf, Leyah
Sell, Emma	Stone, Shirley	Wolfgang, Lynn
Sell, Grady	Strunk, Carlee	Wolfgang, Louise
Sell, Grant	Strunk, Glenn	Woods, Allanah
Sell, Kathy	Strunk, Tammy	Wyda, Maddy
Sell, Samantha	Thomas, Rebecca	Wyda, Mike
Sellers, Thomas	Trethaway, Liam	Xanthopoulos, Heather
Shaner, Kimberly	Trethaway, Luke	Xanthopoulos, Philip, Jr.
Shaner, Lorna	Urban, Aidan	Yarnall, Mark
Shanley, Heather	Urban, Angela	Yarnall, Sandy
Sheetz, Janice	Urban, Paul V	Yerger, Barry
Sheetz, LaRue	Vermeersch, Robin	Yerger, Judy
Sheetz, Mark	Wade, Kristin	Yescavage, Bradley
Sheetz, Theodore, Jr.	Wagner, Craig	Yescavage, Heidi
Smith, Angela	Wagner, Dawn	Yescavage, Kurt
Smith, Darlene	Wagner, Glenn	Yescavage, Rebecca
Smith, Donna	Wagner, Sara	Yoder, Catherine
Smith, Heather	Wagner, Stacy	Yoder, James
Smith, Lori	Walsh, Caleb	Young, Suzanne
Smith, Melvyn	Walsh, Jeremy	Zaiser, Erika
Smith, Oscar	Walsh, Judy	Zaiser, Eugene C.
Smythe, Ava	Weil, Andrew	Zaiser, Eugene J.

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
BECHTELSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
January 22, 2023**

Pastor Zaiser started the meeting thanking the Fellowship Committee for all their Parish Hall meeting preparation.

The meeting continued with Pastor Zaiser reading the Litany on the back page of the printed 2022 Annual Report.

LaRue Sheetz / Director of Music proceeded by playing "God of the Fertile Fields" on the Annual Report back page.

Randy Kehl / Church Council President started to present the pages of the 2022 Annual Report.

Randy stopped at the Treasurers report and Dan Kuser /Treasurer stood up and started to discuss last year finances.

Dan Kuser stated the General Fund balance reduced about 17K from last year. Dan mentioned there were various activities that occurred this past year including the roof project. Dan also mentioned the cost to sponsor flowers just increased to \$32.00 for one vase.

Randy Kehl continued to present the pages of the 2022 Annual report.

Kathy Farrington had a clarification on the balance of the Youth Group account. She mentioned that Redner's owes the youth group a check for about \$300.00 for submitted Redner receipts.

The music program was thanked for all their efforts throughout the year.

Sharon Renninger received a thank you for her efforts for her continued success in heading our Christian Education department despite the size of our congregation.

Randy Kehl reminded everyone how important the Gift Card Program is here at Trinity in helping the overall financial Budget.

Pat Brensinger mentioned she would like to see the congregation get back to achieving the pre-epidemic script program numbers.

Sherri Schaeffer will audit the church 2022 Financial Report.

Sharon Renninger mentioned that Dan Ritter is retiring from being a counter of weekly offerings and wanted to thank him for all his help over the years.

Barry Yerger made a motion that he wanted to donate means for an eternal flame at the church and fund the ongoing fuel. He also mentioned that he wanted to dedicate the eternal flame in July on his wedding anniversary. This motion will have to be discussed with the property committee and a future church council meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to accept all committee reports as written. All attending members agreed.

A motion was made and accepted for the meeting to be adjourned.

The meeting ended with members reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Deskie

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
September 3, 2023

Scheduled meeting was held after church service for all active church members to consider a proposal to replace the existing fire alarm service along with some other upgrades.

Randy Kehl passed out copies of a quote for the work from Kriebel Security Inc. to the attending congregation.

For the record, Property committee recommended Kriebel Security and brought it to Church Council. Church Council voted and accepted the quote which was scheduled for church congregation approval.

It was discussed that exterior ramp egress provisions from the sanctuary exits will be reviewed in future phased work. In addition, fire drills will need to be scheduled.

Dennis Schaeffer Property Committee chairperson responded to a question on how many companies were contacted for pricing.

Dennis mentioned he contacted four companies and received two (2) bids. One bid was over \$80,000.00 to start and the other Quote was from Kriebel Security Inc. for \$26,995.00.

A question was asked about emergency lighting requirements. A licensed electrician will be needed for that required work.

A question was asked about fire alarm monitoring cost. We currently pay approximately \$30.00 per month to Kriebel Security for that service.

A question was asked about the quote is only good for 30 days which has passed. Dennis confirmed that Kriebel Security understands that church's need time to review and approve any project costs and they will hold on to the number of the quote.

A question was asked if any upfront money was required. Upon review of the quote it stated that 50% of total cost of the work was due.

Randy Kehl stated we are proposing to pay for the cost of the work as follows: 75% from our Memorial fund and 25% from our Property Fund.

Dan Ritter made a motion and was seconded by Angie Smith that the congregation accept the quote from Kriebel's quote. The congregation agreed unanimously for the work and to proceed as quickly as possible.

Another item was brought up for discussion: the church parking lot and driveway repairs.

Randy Kehl offered a motion for a \$15,000.00 allowance to present to Church Council to repair pot holes on the exit drive and in the main parking lot. We want to get the work repairs completed before winter. At least one paving estimate will be received from a local paving company Maloney. A motion was made from Diane McElwee and second with the majority congregation voting and approving to allow \$15,000.00 to be allocated for some repairs. After the estimate(s) are received, the paving work will be prioritized based on the amount of area of paving that can be replaced for the cost.

After no further comments or questions, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Deskie

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
BECHTELSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2023**

Randy Kehl/Council President called the meeting to order and listed the completed projects since the last congregational meeting.

Randy mentioned that the fire alarm system work and the parking lot patching projects are complete. He also mentioned that two additional handicap spaces will be painted next the two existing spaces facing the back of the church.

Next, Randy stated the next order of business was to elect council members for 2024. He mentioned Four (4) council members are up for re-election for a second term including: Wil Carpenter, Kay McGowan, Sharon Renninger and Oscar Smith.

A motion on the floor was made if anyone else was to be nominated at this time for church council. Since none was made; a motion from Maddy Wyda and seconded by Richard Deskie to close nominees from the floor. Next, a motion was made to accept Wil Carpenter, Kay McGowan, Sharon Renninger and Oscar Smith to fill all the open council positions. A motion was made by Sharon Renninger and seconded by Mardell Blanford to accept council nominations. The congregation agreed and the nominations were approved.

Next order of business was to review the proposed church budget for 2024. Copies of budget were distributed to attending church members.

Bill Eddinger from the financial committee came forward to present the budget.

Bill explained some highlights including the proposed salary of the secretary and the pastor.

He mentioned that the secretary did receive a 2% raise like the others but it appears less because of the pay periods and leap year in 2024.

Bill explained that the Pastor's proposed raise was based on his educational advancement of a Doctorate Degree and the savings from the health insurance premium due to a life changing event of losing a child dependent.

Comments on the legibility of the budget photo copies were explained.

Bill inquired if there were any other comments or questions on the budget.

Since there were no further questions, a motion was made by Angie Renninger and seconded by Diane McElwee to accept the proposed 2024 budget. The congregation agreed and the budget was approved.

A motion was made by Sharon Renninger and seconded by Mardell Blanford to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Deskie

Trinity Lutheran Church, Bechtelsville, PA

December 2023	GENERAL FUND	MEMORIAL FUND	OTHER FUNDS	Total Funds
Balance, Beginning of Year	23,283	88,393	61,959	173,635
+ Receipts this year	225,301	1,340	42,487	269,129
- Disbursements this year	235,722	20,246	76,453	332,421
Balance, End of Month	<u>12,863</u>	<u>69,486</u>	<u>27,994</u>	<u>110,343</u>

GENERAL FUND		OTHER FUNDS	Balance	
	This Year			
INCOME				
Current	197,111	Bldg. Maint. Reserve	14,302	
Plate Offerings	6,563	Organ Maint. Reserve	10,066	
Sunday School & VBS	679	Benevolence	-	
Interest Earned - CD, etc.	1,001	Hunger Appeal	-	
Special Offering Envelopes	5,519	Special Music Reserve	2,418	
Thrivent Choice	834	Sound System	958	
Flowers	4,296	Miscellaneous Funds	249	
Fund Raisers	2,265	Payroll Taxes Withheld	-	
SCRIP Programs (net)	4,114	Total	<u>27,994</u>	
Miscellaneous	2,911	ASSETS		
Total	<u>225,293</u>	Checking Account	15,243	Gain
2023 BUDGET	238,000	Petty Cash	100	
gain / (short-fall) =	(12,707)	Vanguard Wellesley Fund	92,262	76,500
		Vanguard Money Market	18,500	18,500
		Total	<u>110,762</u>	<u>110,343</u>
				15,762
				Gain inception thru 2022
				<u>9,622</u>
		Vanguard Wellesley Fund	Gain (Loss) this year	6,140

Notes: For the year 2023 the General Fund Balance decreased \$10,420 from \$23,283 to \$12,863. General Fund Income was \$12,707 less than the 2023 Budget amount, and General Fund Expenses were \$2,278 less than the 2023 Budget amount.
For the year 2022 the General Fund Balance decreased \$17,034.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Bechtelsville, PA

December 2023

EXPENSES	This Year	2023 BUDGET	2024 BUDGET
Benevolence	6,000	6,000	6,000
Pastor's Salary	46,700	46,700	51,000
Housing Allowance	24,875	24,875	24,875
Social Security Allowance	6,180	6,180	6,750
Pension & Health Benefits	46,476	49,600	37,500
Continuing Education	550	550	550
Auto Allowance (mileage)	2,225	2,500	3,000
Secretary's Salary	15,120	15,120	15,080
Organist's Salary	12,850	12,850	13,100
Sexton's Salary	8,229	7,900	8,060
Treasurer's Salary	3,360	3,360	3,430
Financial Sec. Salary	1,175	1,175	1,200
Employer's FICA	3,116	3,100	3,125
Insurance	4,696	4,200	6,000
Repairs & Maintenance	7,665	10,000	10,000
Heating Oil	17,815	15,000	17,000
Electricity	3,845	4,500	4,500
Sewer	520	520	520
Cleaning Supplies	158	500	500
Lawn Care	1,600	1,600	1,600
Telephone	1,601	1,600	1,600
Copier	4,431	4,400	4,500
Office Supplies & Postage	3,924	3,500	4,500
Educational Materials	404	1,000	750
Worship & Devotional	893	800	700
Music Supplies	900	900	900
Discipleship	244	500	500
Publicity	424	500	500
Social Ministry	250	250	300
Envelopes	444	450	450
Flowers	4,549	4,000	4,500
Convention Expenses	1,482	1,000	1,000
Designated Donations	700	1,000	1,000
Miscellaneous	2,305	1,870	2,010
(Over) / Short	15	-	-
Total Expenses	235,722	238,000	237,000
2023 BUDGET	238,000		
over (under) budget	(2,278)		

Trinity Lutheran Church, Bechtelsville, PA

		YEAR-TO-DATE	December 2023		
OTHER FUNDS	Acct.	Bal Jan 1	Income	Paid Out	Balance
Building Maint. Reserve	320	41,962.90	9,638.00	37,298.76	14,302.14
Organ Maint. Reserve	325	9,886.41	180.00	-	10,066.41
Benevolence	330	-	4,124.00	4,124.00	-
Hunger Appeal	332	-	4,042.00	4,042.00	-
Special Music Reserve	342	8,846.65	3,248.85	9,677.86	2,417.64
Sound System	343	1,250.00	1,220.00	1,511.51	958.49
Miscellaneous	350	13.00	11,493.00	11,257.07	248.93
<i>Total Contributed</i>		61,958.96	33,945.85	67,911.20	27,993.61
Payroll Taxes Withheld	210	-	8,476.52	8,476.52	-
Totals		61,958.96	42,422.37	76,387.72	27,993.61
* Miscellaneous Funds	350	Bal Jan 1	Income	Paid Out	Balance
Wawa coupons (Social Ministry)	350				
Wawa #1 finished	350	-			-
Wawa #2 finished	350	(226.00)	278.00	52.00	-
Wawa #3	350		290.00	600.00	(310.00)
Wawa coupons (sub-total)	350	(226.00)	568.00	652.00	(310.00)
Social Ministry (Shoe Boxes)	350	69.00		69.00	-
Samantha's Purse	350	-	65.00	65.00	-
Alex's Lemonade Stand	350	-	350.00	350.00	-
Elf Project	350	-	103.00	103.00	-
Bingo @ Chestnut Knoll	350	-	100.00	100.00	-
Subtotal Social Ministry	350	(157.00)	1,186.00	1,339.00	(310.00)
<i>Freewill Offerings</i>					
Salvation Army	350	-	119.00	119.00	-
In Ian's Boots	350	-	171.00	171.00	-
Lutheran Disaster	350	-	285.00	285.00	-
Boyertown Multi-Service	350	-	145.00	145.00	-
Save the Children	350	-	72.00	72.00	-
Boyertown Multi-Service	350	-	104.00	104.00	-
East Berks Fire Dept.	350	-	177.00	177.00	-
Subtotals		(157.00)	2,259.00	2,412.00	(310.00)
Gifts (Staff Christmas)	350	25.00	1,580.00	1,450.00	155.00
SCRIP 2023 (Weis Mkt)	350	100.00		100.00	-
Biblical Story-tellers	350	45.00			45.00
Candy (Mission Trip '23)	350	-	1,581.00	1,581.00	-
Sight and Sound Bus trip	350	-	4,653.00	4,653.00	-
Fire Alarm Syatem	350	-	100.00	100.00	-
Bechtelsville Rec. Board	350	-	405.00	405.00	-
My Pan	350	-	300.00	300.00	-
Eternal Flame	350	-	615.00	256.07	358.93
Miscellaneous	350	-			-
Totals		13.00	11,493.00	11,257.07	248.93

YEAR-TO-DATE December 2023

FUND RAISERS

Acct. 444

Project	% to Gen Fd	Income	Expenses	Transfer to Project(s)	Transfer to General Fund
Talent Show / Cook-off	100%	177.00	55.00		122.00
Roast Beef Dinner	100%	4,246.00	3,156.51		1,089.49
Basket Party	* 20%	1,965.25		1,572.20	393.05
Pot Pie: Dinner / Sales	# #DIV/0!				-
Craft Show	* 100%	753.45	92.88		660.57
Totals	59%	7,141.70	3,304.39	1,572.20	2,265.11
Project(s)	* 80%	Special Music Fund			
	# set \$ amount	Sound System			

DESIGNATED DONATIONAS

Acct. 580

Paid to:	Amount
Regular - Annual	
Bally Community Ambulance	100.00
Eastern Berks Fire Department	100.00
Bally Lions Club (Use of Wheelchair)	100.00
Oley Cluster	100.00
In Ian's Boots	100.00
Special - Board Directed	
East Berks Mission	100.00
Bcchtelsville Rec. Board	100.00
Total	700.00

YEAR-TO-DATE

December 2023

SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPES - Income

Acct. 418

Initial Offering	271.00	
Ash Wednesday	240.00	
Lent	1,032.00	\
Holy Thursday		1,834.00
Good Friday		/
Easter	802.00	/
Harvest Home	135.00	
Thanksgiving	104.00	
Christmas	2,935.00	
Totals	<u>5,519.00</u>	

MISCELLANEOUS - Income & Expense

Miscellaneous	Income	Expense	Net
Bulletins	987.00		987.00
Donation use of facilities	150.00		150.00
Vanco Fees (Simply Giving)	-	192.65	(192.65)
Matching Gift program	615.00		615.00
Pay Pal	96.62		96.62
L.Sheetz Luncheon	524.00	901.00	(377.00)
Kitchen Supplies	300.00	180.56	119.44
Truist (credit card service charge)		21.00	(21.00)
Cake		107.97	(107.97)
Bank checks		215.92	(215.92)
Shoe Boxes		91.00	(91.00)
C.Yoder		75.00	(75.00)
Luminaries	134.00		134.00
M,Wyda		60.00	(60.00)
E.Heffner		21.19	(21.19)
W.Shafer		15.70	(15.70)
Christmas Tree		125.00	(125.00)
Miscellaneous	104.78	298.29	(193.51)
Totals	<u>2,911.40</u>	<u>2,305.28</u>	<u>606.12</u>
	Acct. 460	Acct. 590	

<i>Memo:</i>	<i>Flowers</i>	<u>4,295.50</u>	<u>4,548.95</u>	<u>(253.45)</u>
		Acct. 435	Acct. 560	

SUMMARY OF YOUTH GROUP FUNDS-2023
CHECKING ACCOUNT
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
(200 1390001608041)
ENDING BALANCE 12-31-2022 \$1789.59

<u>DATE.</u>	<u>CHECK#</u>	<u>DESC OF TRANS.</u>	<u>AMOUNT.</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
12-31-2022.		END OF YEAR BAL.		\$1789.59
01-31-2023.		JANUARY BALANCE.		\$1789.59
02-28-2023.		DEPOSIT-REDNERS.	\$304.87.	\$2094.46
02-28-2023.		FEBRUARY BALANCE.		\$2094.46
03-31-2023.		MARCH BALANCE.		\$2094.46
04-28-2023.		APRIL BALANCE.		\$2094.46
05-31-2023.		MAY BALANCE.		\$2094.46
06-09-2023.		DEPOSIT-REDNERS.	\$294.00.	\$2388.46
06-30-2023.		JUNE BALANCE.		\$2388.46
07-31-2023.		JULY BALANCE.		\$2388.46
08-31-2023.		AUGUST BALANCE.		\$2388.46
09-29-2023.		SEPTEMBER BALANCE.		\$2388.46
10-17-2023.	#138.	PASTOR ZAISER-PUMPKIN	\$93.95.	\$2295.11
10-31-2023.		OCTOBER BALANCE.		\$2295.11
11-05-2023.	#139.	FEST OF TREES.	\$150.00.	\$2145.11
11-30-2023.		NOVEMBER BALANCE.		\$2145.11
12-29-2023.		DECEMBER BALANCE.		\$2145.11

ENDING BALANCE 12-31-2023. \$2145.11

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY KATHY FARRINGTON

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT 2023

The Finance Committee met on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 6:30PM. The meeting's purpose was solely to design the 2024 yearly budget. Members attending were Linda Brunner, Bill Eddinger, Sharon & Terry Kemp, Dan & Kathy Kuser, Diane McElwee, Sharon Renninger, Dan Ritter, Oscar Smith and Ruth Weiser.

Dan Kuser began the budgeting process by handing out the 2024 budget process worksheet, which listed all 2023 actual expenses incurred through 2023, projected final 2023 expenses, 2023 budgeted expenses, as well as the actual and budget number for 2022 and 2021. Based on this information, the committee then prepared the projected 2024 budget.

Specific expenses to note:

Pastor's salary was increased to denote his Master's Degree obtained in 2023, Pension & Health Benefits were decreased due to the Pastor's son being removed from his required health insurance.

All salaries were given cost of living increases.

The budget was then approved unanimously by all of the 11 attending members.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
William Eddinger

2023 GIVING REPORT

Donation	2022	TOTAL	2023
Benevolence	\$3,926.00		\$3,988.00
Flowers/Bulletins	\$3,000.50		\$3,357.50
General Fund	\$186,277.07		\$181,014.62
World Hunger	\$3,923.00		\$4009.00
Memorial Fund	\$715.00		\$1,823.49
Other	\$3,737.90		\$3,344.00
Property Maintenance	\$10,434.00		\$9,503.00



**Please use your envelope number or Simply Giving number on ALL donations.
If your number is unknown contact the Financial Secretary.**

This report shows the total of Trinity member envelope and Simply Giving programs for 2023. We thank all members, and new and upcoming members, for the support you all have given Trinity so that we can share God's love. We look forward for your continued support in 2024.

God Bless You All

2023 Financial Secretary, *Ruth R. Weiser*

Simply Giving Report 2023

The Simply Giving program continues to be available to members of the congregation who wish to electronically debit some or all of their contributions to the church from a checking or savings account on a regular basis.

Trinity currently has 18 individuals, couples, and/or families participating.

The totals for 2023 were:

General fund = \$ 33295.00

Building fund = \$ 1760.00

World Hunger = \$ 470.00

Benevolence = \$ 2730.00

Organ Maint = \$ 180.00

GRAND TOTAL= \$38435.00

Please contact Kurt Yescavage or the Church Office if you would like to join this program, make any changes, or if you have any questions or need more information.

Kurt Yescavage

Director of Music Report 2023

Our Music Program for 2023 was very busy as usual.

Adult Hand Bell Choir

This choir has grown in the past years to 14 members and we have three college student members who help us when they are available. The special news of this choir is the purchase of Octave Hand Bells for the Base Clef. Hopefully, our new bells will arrive very soon.

Ladies Choir

This is our group of ladies who sing on Father's Day.

Men's Choir

These gentlemen sing every year on Mother's Day and July 4th.

Senior Choir

This is our most active choir and provides music for many hours of worship services throughout the year. We had lost Kitty Isett in 2023 and she was a very active and dedicated member of this group and our Cantata Choir. We miss her very much.

Cantata Choir

This year we had 36 members and we thank them for all of their special hours of dedication. Thanks also to Nadine Lydic and Ginny Moser for being pianists, whenever we needed them. Thank you also to Howard Shafer and Dennis Schaeffer for their clever chair arrangements and all of the assistance they provided during the very special presentations.

Our Special Groups

Nancy & Greg Mest, The Flute Ensemble, under the direction of Nancy Mest, The Brass Ensemble, Maisy Funk, Betsy Chapman and all other musicians who shared their talents during the summer months and special times during the year.

A special thank you to folks who helped with the Talent Show and Maddy Wyda for her organization.

A special thank you to folks who helped with our Mother/Daughter Banquet, which is always a success.

Lastly, a special thank you to everyone who helped with our Basket Party, especially the ladies who provided baskets.

These special programs are what supports our "Special Music Fund" which helps us during the year. Thank you also for all donations given to this fund. It helps us grow tremendously!

We appreciate all of your support to our Music Program.

Musically,
LaRue C. Sheetz
Director of Music

Contemporary Worship Report 2023

Contemporary worship services were again held the first and third Sunday of each month at 8:00 am, with a break during the summer schedule. Communion was held at the first Sunday's service each month.

The worship team led worship at Worship in the Park which was held in July. Bradley Yescavage joined us again on the drums.

Thank you so much to all the members of the worship team. Pastor Gene is doing an awesome job learning all of the worship songs on guitar and Kurt has been amazing as always on trumpet. Sharon has kept the beat on the tambourine and Angie continues to lead on guitar. A special thank you to Mardell, Janice, and Sharon for all they do to set up and clean up for every service. January 15, 2023 marked our 19 year anniversary! It has been such a blessing for me and a great time to worship and draw closer to God. I hope it is for others as well.

God bless,

Angie Renninger, director of contemporary worship

Worship and Music Annual Report 2023

It has been a busy, active year for Worship and Music. We would like to thank all our committee members for their dedication and service to Trinity this past year: Linda Bewley, Fred Isett, Diane McElwee, Kay McGowan, Pastor Gene Zaiser, LaRue Sheetz, and our co-chairpersons Angie Renninger and Jenn MacDonald. During this past year, we bid goodbye to one of our members, Kathryn Isett, affectionately known as Kitty, who passed from this life to the next on August 26, 2023. Kitty was always active and willing to help wherever possible and her presence is missed.

This year we celebrated LaRue Sheetz's 20 years of service to Trinity on February 5, 2023. We thank you, LaRue, for your service and the growth of our music ministry. Your leadership of the senior choir, bell choir, cantata choir, and soloists and instrumentalists fill our church and community with music and God smiles.

Congratulations to our Contemporary Worship Team who celebrated 19 years of service to Trinity in January 2023. Thank you to Angie Renninger for your leadership and guitar playing, as well as to Kurt Yescavage on trumpet, Pastor Gene on guitar and vocals and leading worship when Angie was away. It is always nice when Bradley Yescavage can participate on the drums when he is home from college. Thank you also to Janice Sheetz, Mardell Blanford, and Sharon Renninger, who share their vocal gifts with us. Contemporary Worship is at 8:00 a.m. on the first and third Sundays of the month September through May. The team leads worship at the annual worship in the park; this year it was held on July 30, 2023. Thank you for making a joyful noise unto the Lord with your music.

This year was a milestone for the Zaiser family and for all of us as Pastor Gene completed his Doctorate in Ministry this year. We are so blessed by your faithful 24 years of service to Trinity this year where you have not only been our pastor but our dear friend. The Biblical Story Team under your leadership has been active this year sharing the Passion according to St. Matthew on Palm Sunday- April 2, 2023, helping with Vacation Bible School in July, and the Christmas Story according to St. Matthew on Sunday, December 10, 2023. We have enjoyed the Gospel presentations by heart as you keep us engaged with your thought-provoking messages. Thank you also for sharing your musical gifts with us- your voice, your guitar and now your banjo playing that you debuted on December 31, 2023 as a sermon in song. We wish God's continued blessings on you and your family for all that you do for Trinity, its members, and the community.

Jenn MacDonald had filled in for both LaRue Sheetz and Pastor Gene Zaiser when they were on vacation. We are thankful to Jenn for sharing her talents in these important roles.

Worship and Music Highlights for 2023:

- Scout Sunday was celebrated on 02/05/2023
- Ash Wednesday Communion Service was at 7:00 pm 02/22/2023 with Fastnacht social at 6:15
- Holden Evening Prayer service was used on the Wednesday night Lenten services. Non-perishable items were collected for Multi-Service during Lent.
- Palm Sunday Worship with biblical story telling team presenting the Passion according to St. Matthew 04/02/2023
- Maundy Thursday service 04/06/2023 at 7:00 pm
- Good Friday Tenebrae service 04/07/2023 at 7:00 pm
- Easter Vigil Service 04/08/2023 at 7:00 pm

- Easter Sunday Communion services were 04/09/2023 at 7:00 am and 10:30 am
- Pentecost Sunday was celebrated 05/28/2023
- Graduate Recognition Sunday was 06/04/2023
- Music Sunday was celebrated during worship on 06/11/2023
- Worship in the Park led by Contemporary Worship Team 07/30/2023
- Harvest Home 09/17/2023- we collected non-perishable items for Multi Service
- Community-wide Thanksgiving Eve service 11/22/2023 at Christ Niantic at 7:00 pm. Our choir participated in worship and Pastor Gene preached.
- The annual Christmas Cantata was presented on 12/17/2023 at 10:30 am. This year was "*O Holy Light*"
- Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion services were 12/24/2023 at 3:00 pm and 8:00 pm. Special thank you to the soloists, instrumentalists, bell choirs, and senior choir for adding the beauty of music to the season of hope and love.
- On New Year's Eve Day at the 10:30 am worship service, Pastor Gene presented a sermon in song with the banjo.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support. The sponsorship of flowers for Easter and the poinsettias and luminaries at Christmas help adorn our church and are a beautiful way to celebrate the seasons.

There are many ways to serve in worship, and a few examples are: ushers, communion servers, acolytes, crucifers, banner bearers, and assistant ministers. We invite anyone who is interested in serving, to please let Kay McGowan, Pastor Gene Zaiser, or Jenn MacDonald know. Other ways to serve in worship are as lectors and altar guild.

The year of 2023 was a busy one and we look forward to a fruitful 2024.

Respectfully submitted by your sisters in Christ,

Jennifer MacDonald and Angie Renninger, co-chairpersons

Christian Education Report – 2023

Thank you to Trinity's dedicated Sunday School teachers for another year of service to our congregation. They are Janice Sheetz, Pastor Zaiser, Sheila Eddinger, Angie Renninger, and me. Sunday School classes include elementary and middle school/confirmation classes held in the basement classrooms, and the adult class in the parlor from 9:15-10:15 Sunday mornings. Thank you to Pastor Gene for the opening music every week for our downstairs classes!

The elementary class attendance ranges from 2-6 students. We are using a curriculum from Concordia called Enduring Faith. This past fall there were no students in the confirmation class. The adult discussion class continues to have good attendance.

First Communion classes were held on Wednesday evenings during Lent. On April 6, Maundy Thursday, Abigail Mann and Emma Sell received their first communion.

One student, Kassie Dulin, was confirmed this past year.

Graduate recognition was held June 4.

Rainforest Explorers Vacation Bible School was held the evenings of July 24-28, 6:30-8:00. It was a great success. There were eleven students and seven staff members plus three additional Biblical storytellers. Donations of school supplies were received for Boyertown Area Multi-Service as our mission project. Our nightly offerings and a free-will offering went to Lutheran Disaster Response. A video of the week's activities was shared at the worship service on August 6 and posted on Facebook. We thank everyone who participated in any way or donated to our mission project!

On September 30, we held a bake sale at the Bechtelsville Community Fall Fest and raised \$300 for the community towards their new playground equipment.

On October 31, we handed out 60 bags of cookies and cups of hot chocolate to trick-or-treaters in the community.

In December, our elementary class colored and signed Christmas cards for our home-bound members.

Trinity and Thrivent shared the Christmas spirit with forty children in the community by donating storybooks of Jesus' birth for their Santa event on December 2 at the community park.

Sunday School classes are held weekly from September through May. We continue to support Save the Children with a monthly donation and are currently sponsoring a seven-year-old boy in Bolivia.

On behalf of the Christian Education Committee, I would like to thank everyone for their support during this past year.

Sharon Renninger
Committee Chairperson

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE 2023

The Discipleship Committee met twice as a committee in 2023.

- The Birthday Call Program continued in 2023. The Committee would like to thank the following people for participating as Birthday Callers: Dorothy Romig, Marcia Auge, Kay McGowan, Linda Bewley, Ruth Reinhard and Betty Moore. Kay organizes the group and if you would like to be a part of this group, please contact Kay.
- A Fall Craft Show was held on October 21, 2023, a BIG THANK YOU to Cathy Yoder for organizing the Craft Show in 2023.
- A Pet Blessing was held at the Community Day, which was scheduled on Saturday, June 17, 2023.
- A newsletter entitled "*Stewardship*" continues to be purchased and distributed via Trinity's monthly newsletter on a quarterly basis. The publication introduces very short and to the point articles on matters of stewardship (i.e. giving).
- We continue to have an inventory of shawls and the Stitchers will continue to keep a supply of shawls on hand. The Discipleship Committee and the Pastor will be deciding who will receive a Prayer Shawl. If anyone has a suggestion or wishes to have someone receive a shawl, please contact the Pastor or a Discipleship Committee Member.

Thank you to the members of the Discipleship Committee who have committed their time and talents to the Committee during the year. The Committee Members were: Cathy Yoder, Oscar & Angie Smith, Jennifer MacDonald, Anna Spencer, Linda Bewley and Pastor Gene.

As we look forward to 2024 with a renewed vision, we hope for new things to come.

Thank you to Trinity members for the support you have given to us in Trinity's discipleship efforts.

As always, three last thoughts from the Committee:

- 1. WE ARE ALL EVANGELISTS AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SPREADING THE WORD OF GOD AND SHARING OUR FAITH WITH OTHERS.**
- 2. LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.**
- 3. GIVING IS LIVING!**

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Bewley,
Chairperson

PRAYER CIRCLE REPORT FOR 2023

The Prayer Circle met as a group when possible in 2023 to review and keep Trinity's Prayer list as up to date as possible. When unable to meet as a group, monthly meetings were held with Pastor Zaisor. A Reorganization meeting of Trinity's Prayer Circle was held on Sunday, April 23, following the Worship Service.

Trinity's Prayer List is posted in the Sunday Bulletin and can also be found in the Church Chronicle at trinitybech.com. **Please keep our Prayer List current by calling the church office with any changes.** Prayer names will remain in the bulletin for one month. If still in need of prayers, names will be placed on the ongoing listing in the Chronicle. Names will be kept on this list up to one year. Please contact the church office if a name still needs to remain on this list.

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a Prayer Request Card located in church pews for your convenience. You can also contact Pastor Zaiser, the church office, or any Prayer Circle member listed in the monthly newsletter. As soon as a request is received, Prayers and the Prayer Chain can begin. **Please have the permission of the person or family for whom prayer is requested.**

A sincere thank you to the following Prayer Circle members for their commitment and service in 2023: Kathy Kuser, Cathy Leiby, Kay McGowan, Sharon Renninger, Donna Repko, Linda Ritter, Virginia Rowland, Lorna Shaner, Mary Snyder, and Pastor Zaiser. We welcome New Member Jerry Bryce to the Committee.

Beginning in 2024 Linda Ritter will step down as Committee Chairperson. We welcome Jerry Bryce as our New Chairperson.

One of the most important and caring things we can do for a person in time of need is to pray. God's healing power comes to us through prayer.

Linda Ritter
Chairperson

Property Committee Annual Report

As you know we contracted K-Wood to replace the air conditioning system for the sanctuary. Early in the year they did this. They replaced the compressors outside and the air handlers in the attic.

In July during our annual fire alarm system inspection, it was discovered the system main panel was not communicating with the call out panel. Therefore, we had to replace and upgrade the whole system. We called for bids. We recommended Kriebel Security to council and to the congregation. They both approved our recommendation. We contracted with Kriebel Security to do this work. They also monitor the system.

This Fall we had our water system inspection by the PA DEP. We passed, but there were a few things he wanted us to do. Some was just paperwork. The others we will work on this spring.

Randy Kehl talked to us about the potholes in the driveway and parking lot. He asked the congregation for not more than \$15,000 to repair them. We called for bids and decided on Crable Paving. We contracted with Crable Paving to do the work.

Replaced the sweep on the door at the kitchen.

We have painted the ceiling tile in 3 of the Sunday School rooms. This is much less expensive than replacing the tile.

We took pictures of all the blueprints of the church so when we need to look at something they are more easily available.

We checked and replaced the batteries as needed in all of our emergency lights.

We put sliders under the altar, pulpit, flower vase holders, baptismal font, and candle holder. This makes it much easier to move these things when we need to.

In November we had a work day to do some items around the church that get done yearly. To those of you that came out on a Saturday to help us, we thank you.

Things planned for next year.

- Paint other bulletin board in the parish hall.
- Repair as needed the basement door outside the office.
- Repair the cracks in the narthex at the corners of openings.
- Replace the thresholds in the Parish Hall.
- Replace door sweeps in the basement as needed.
- Paint the ceiling tiles in the other Sunday school rooms.
- Continue installing LED lights where needed.
- Paint the lines on the parking lot and driveway.
- Mark 2 more handicapped parking spaces.
- Fix cracks in sidewalk around porch.
- Check hardware for doors.

As always, we thank you for your support of our efforts to take care of this congregation's church.

Dennis L. Schaeffer
Property Committee Chairman

Technology Annual Report

This year we added a few new items to our equipment. These are pieces of equipment that have not just improved our livestream, but also events we have at church.

One thing we added is a 3rd camera. This camera is different from our other 2 cameras. Our first 2 cameras we bought were camcorders. These we can pan (move left and right) and tilt (move up and down) remotely. We cannot zoom in and out remotely. The new camera we can pan, tilt, and zoom remotely. This gives us much more flexibility.

Another item we bought is a dedicated video mixer. This is used to pick which camera we use. This gives us better flexibility when choosing which camera. We were using a program on the computer to do this. Along with this mixer we now have a computer monitor. This was donated by a member of the congregation. Having a monitor, we can see all 3 cameras at once letting us change the camera views ahead of time.

Another piece of equipment we added was a set of cordless microphones you wear on your head. This is a set of 4 mics. This was bought with some donations in memory of a member of the congregation. She loved listening to the livestream when she could no longer come to church. The big advantage of these is that the person using them doesn't have to hold them. Put them on and just talk. This works really well when Pastor Gene is giving the gospel by heart and when the storytellers perform. With this set of mics, we also bought another cordless handheld mic. As you know. The cordless mic we already have did not work great in the Parish Hall. This new cordless mic works much better.

The last piece we bought was a mic pointed just at the choir. This picks up their voices better.

Submitted by
Dennis L. Schaeffer

Gift Card Program

Trinity's Gift Card Program continued in 2023 and through our collective participation, we provided \$4310 to Trinity's General Fund. We extend a big THANK YOU for your ongoing support.

If you are new to Trinity or need a reminder, here is a quick summary of our current program offerings:

- Gift card orders will be taken the first Sunday of each month. Payment to Trinity is due with your order. Your gift cards will be available at church the second Sunday of the month. **Updates to the process will be noted in the church bulletin and newsletter as needed.**
- Grocery Store Gift Cards for Redner's Warehouse and Giant Foods are available in varying amounts; Trinity receives immediate proceeds of 5%. Contact Kurt Yescavage (610-493-2100) for additional information regarding Redner's cards or Kathy Kuser (610-754-6293) regarding Giant Cards.
 - RaiseRight gift cards, formerly GL SCRIP: Over the past year, GL Scrip has transitioned to Raise Right. The process and availability remains consistent, and you can continue to purchase gift cards for many of your favorite stores and restaurants. Trinity receives immediate proceeds of 2%-13%. Contact Sharon Kemp (610-763-2292) for additional information regarding RaiseRight gift cards. For a full list of retailers who participate in RaiseRight go to www.trinitybech.com or contact Sharon Kemp.
 - **Weis Markets** -- \$25 and \$100 cards are available with proceeds to Trinity @ 5%.
 - If you shop at Amazon, Boscov's, or Staples, or Home Depot, CVS or Walmart, you can purchase Amazon, Boscov's, Staples, Home Depot, CVS or Walmart gift cards through this program. Many other stores and vendors participate, too!
 - If you eat out or do takeout at Red Lobster, or Olive Garden, or Chipotle, or Arby's, or Burger King, or many other chain restaurants, you can buy gift cards or certificates through this program.
 - You can also purchase gift cards to use when you travel, such as gas cards or hotel chains such as Best Western, Marriott and others.

Plan in advance and Trinity can benefit from the money you spend for groceries, dining out, travel and entertainment, gasoline, electronics, household items, clothes, and gifts. **We look forward to your continued support in 2024!**

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Kemp on behalf of the Gift Card Program Team

Social Ministry Report

It has been a busy year for Social Ministry. Here is what Trinity supported in 2023.

In Ian's Boots—Throughout the year we collect gently used shoes and some sporting equipment for distribution locally and around the world. Also, we have Wawa hoagie tickets available for your purchase and the proceeds from that along with a free will offering raised \$300.

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation—\$350 was raised to help fight childhood cancer. This included proceeds from the sale of Sock Sundaes (not edible) and Hot Chocolate Mugs.

PJ Project—We collected more than 100 pair of pajamas for children and adults which are distributed to local shelters and other organizations.

ELF Bags—We collected family board games, playing cards, popcorn and hot chocolate for distribution locally by Boyertown Multi-Service during Christmas holidays. There was also a check for \$150 from a freewill offering for the cause.

Angel Tree—Members provided Christmas gifts for distribution by Boyertown Multi-Service for needy folks in the local area.

Boyertown Area Multi-Service—Several times this year were food drives for the Multi-Service Food Pantry along with freewill offerings.

Samaritan's Purse—This organization, under the direction of Franklin Graham (son of Billy Graham) distributes shoe box gifts along with evangelical Good News around the world. We contributed about 50 boxes again this year.

BINGO—The residents of Chestnut Knoll enjoyed a Bingo thanks to the gifts provided by our congregation. Members of Trinity also helped run the event.

Christmas Sharing—(new project for us this year) The Lutheran Home at Topton received our donations of new clothing and other items to help make the residents there a bit more happy at the home.

Let us know if you have any questions or ideas for new outreach—they are always welcome.

THANK YOU for all the support you provided making all this possible.

Kathy Kuser—Social Ministry Chairperson



Card Ministry

During 2023 over 100 cards were sent to members, get well, sympathy, thinking of you, birthday, etc. Sympathy and thinking of you cards are always needed. Donations of postage stamps were received, as well as donations of cards. Thank you for your ongoing support and for all the Christmas cards for shutins and members.

“Safely through another year God has brought us on our way.”

Rebecca Yescavage

Fellowship Committee

In 2023, the Fellowship Committee was busy at Trinity Lutheran Church. The Committee was active in helping with Pot Luck Luncheons, and Fellowship Hours. The Fellowship Committee organized the following funerals: Doris Grebe, Sister Millicent Drake, Thelma Stauffer, Kitty Isett, and Ken Pachella, Jr.

The Fellowship Committee is responsible for maintaining the kitchen, which includes Fellowship Hour, organizing funeral luncheons, pot luck luncheons, and church events. We maintain supplies in the kitchen with coffee, tea, lemonade, sugars, and paper products.

We always need help from the congregation to volunteer to host Fellowship Hour and help with funeral luncheons. Fellowship Hour will be held on non-communion Sundays.

We thank the congregation for all the donations of coffee, napkins, plates, tea, and lemonade that was received during the past year.

We pray that 2024 will see our church attendance and activities return to normal.

Our commitment as the Fellowship Committee is to bring members of the congregation and the community together for memorable events.

Respectfully submitted,

Waynette Shafer
Cathy Yoder
Co-Chairpersons

CRAFT SHOW 2023

18 Tables x \$20.00	\$360.00
Lunch & Books-Puzzle Sale	<u>310.45</u>
	\$670.45

The Annual Craft Show was held on Saturday, October 21, 2023. Proceeds from the Craft Show was \$670.45, which was divided between 20% to the General Fund and Special Music Fund.

I wish to thank all of my volunteers for their help in setting up and taking down, donations of books, arranging books for sale and serving lunch. Their help was greatly appreciated.

Catherine Yoder,
Craft Show Chairperson

Youth Happenings 2023

The annual pizza and pumpkins was held on Sunday, October 8, 2023 from 4:00-7:00 pm. There was a costume contest, singing including “Monster Mash,” Halloween goodies, pizza, and of course pumpkins. Six young friends and their families came out for the evening. Each person did a pumpkin and no two were alike. As darkness set in, the lights went out and the pumpkins were all aglow.

Christmas cookie baking was held on Saturday, December 9, 2023. Thank you to everyone who ordered the cookies, enjoyed eating the cookies, and helped making them. It was a lot of fun and we hope to do it again next year.

We are hoping to do more events come 2024.

Respectfully submitted by your sister in Christ,

Jennifer MacDonald, co-chairperson

CRADLE ROLL 2023

"Splash Greeting Cards" are sent to each family when a child is baptized. The child is then placed on the CRADLE ROLL until age 3 and receives a card on the anniversary of Baptism and each birthday.

The day of Baptism is an important day in each of our lives as we are "reborn Children of God" and inheritors of eternal life. By the water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church which is the Body of Christ. (Lutheran Book of Worship).

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BORN</u>	<u>BAPTIZED</u>
GRACE JEAN HETTLER	07-31-21	11-28-21
ISLA JEAN FOUNDS	02-20-22	06-26-22
ADALYNN CHARLOTTE HORAN	04-30-22	10-01-22
MARCELLA ROSE JUSITS	06-22-22	01-29-23
WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON	03-24-21	11-18-23
NELL EILEEN HARRISON	08-24-23	11-18-23

Respectfully submitted by Marcia Auge

TLC STITCHERS

The Stitchers meet Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm and during lent we meet Thursdays till after Easter. We are a small group and always welcome newcomers to the group.

What we do is make projects and donate them to outside groups, such as Bayada Hospice where we have donated red, white and blue lap blankets and regular blankets for veterans. We also send knitted or crocheted items to Knit for Kids. These items consist of hats, blankets, sweaters, and scarves. We also continue to support the prayer shawl program sponsored by the Discipleship committee. We have one member of our group, Carol Kulp, who is a non-Trinity member and a former teacher, who helps keep the cats and dogs warm with pet blankets which are taken to pet stores and the SPCA. We also do make projects we would like for ourselves and our families.

Last year we decided to help a teacher by giving a Walmart gift card to a teacher for supplies they may need for their students and the classroom. Last years' recipient was Angie Renninger. This year's recipient was Jennifer Smith, daughter of our church secretary. Jenn teaches 2nd grade at St. Ann's Catholic School, Emmaus, PA.

For questions or ideas about and for the group you can contact Ruth Weiser. This includes any supplies you may have that would be useful for us.

Ruth Weiser



Cemetery Board Meeting

Sunday night December 3 The Bechtelsville Union Cemetery Board held its yearend meeting to discuss the past years' events, plan for the year ahead and receive its financial report and status. Attending were members, Dennis Schaeffer, Cody Moyer, Alexis Moyer,(representing Matt Moyer) Richard Deskie, Scott Reitnauer, Robert Eshbach, and Randy Kehl

The matter discussed concerning 2023 was the inadvertent moving of the tombstones by careless mowing. Usually occurring when the mowers' operator is going too fast for the situation. Opinions were shared and it is the boards hope that the striking of the tombstones ceases or at least reported to the board.

There were three funerals to this point of 2023; As of this writing the Cemetery still expects to receive payment for the 12/1 funeral of \$1500.00 dollars and a bill from Pottstown Burial for \$1100.00 dollars to close out the year.

The Cemetery's income: \$1600.00 dollars yearly from Trinity Lutheran Church for the mowing of property adjacent to the parking lot, \$500.00 yearly from Elizabeth Anderson for the mowing of her strip of property between the cemetery and the church property. Additional income from our cost of burial services is added into our treasury. Out the \$400.00 difference noted from above, cost of digging and pouring the foundation of tombstone is deducted. The contribution from the Bechtelsville Borough is still Zero dollars

We have scheduled a property cleanup day set for January 15, 2024 MLK day to remove outdated grave decorations. Note: the flags will remain on our veteran's resting places. Additionally, when the weather warms, we will make efforts to set the crooked tombstones straight.

Cody Moyer's bid to mow the cemetery for 2024 remains the same. His charge is \$200.00 dollars to mow and string trim the property and \$135.00 to just mow the property. The expectations remain that Cody have the surrounding properties mowed and cleaned up when a funeral is scheduled. Randy Kehl or Bob Eshbach will provide Cody with notification. The board was also notified of another bid to mow and trim the properties will be forthcoming.

Motion to adjourn by Scott Reitnauer, second by Alexis Moyer

Respectfully submitted:

Randy Kehl

Annual Report for Troop 511 Boys and Girls

January

Klondike Derby at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation
Wreaths Across America Cleanup at Fort Indiantown Gap

February

Scout Sunday
Lanternfly egg removal along Rail trail through Bechtelsville

March

Winter Camp at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation
10-mile hike on Neversink Mountain

April

20-mile hike on the Perkiomen Trail
Dover Air Force Base Museum
Lehigh Valley Observatory

May

Bus Trip to the Smithsonian Institute
Did part of the Gettysburg Historical Trail

June

at the World War 2 weekend at the Mid Atlantic Air Museum in Reading
camp at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation

July

Finished the Gettysburg Historical Trail
Bechtelsville Park cleanup

August

Camped for a weekend at Cape Hanlopen
2 boys completed National Youth Leader Training
Hike and cleanup on the Ironton Trail

September

Beach Jam
2 boys took their Ordeal to become members of the Order of the Arrow
We held a Court of Honor
Spatz Museum Cleanup

November

Primitive Camping at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation
For Scouting For Food, we collected over 900 pounds of food which was given to Boyertown Area

Multi-Service

Brotherhood Day

December

Christmas Party

The troops have decided to go to Seabase in the Florida Keys. They will be spending a week on a sailboat learning about sailing. They will also have the opportunity to go swimming and other activities. They will do this during the Summer of 2025. You must reserve a spot 1 ½ years ahead.

This year Laura Adams completed all the requirements and her Eagle Rank Project. In December she passed her Board of Revue becoming Troop 511's first female Eagle Scout! If you see Laura, congratulate her for this achievement.

Submitted by
Dennis L. Schaeffer
Charter Organization Representative

Annual Report for Pack 511

The cub pack had another good year. We got 2 new cubs and might have more joining. We have lots of new things planned for the coming year. We participated in the Bally parade this year. The cubs had a lot of fun. Hoping to do it again this coming year. We are trying out new fundraisers and I will be making sure to include the church. We had 4 cubs cross over in April. I have plans to do a lot more this coming year. The cub scouts are doing more day trips. We have plans to go to the Crayola Factory and Crystal Cave. We are setting up to do a weekend camping trip at Knoebles.

Thank you
Cub Master Jess Lorah

Address & Phone No. Changes

Marcia Auge
1314 E. Philadelphia Ave.
#2
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Mildred Merkel
2461 E. High Street
Apt. I-102
Pottstown, PA 19464
484-624-5444

Daniel & Linda Ritter
Frederick Living
2849 Big Road
Apt. 5010
Zieglerville, PA 19492
(Corrected Address)

Dorothy Romig
Walnut Woods
35 N. Walnut Street
Apt. 105
Boyertown, PA 19512

Roy Romig
Manor Care
724 N. Charlotte Street
Pottstown, PA 19464

Barbara Stewart
112 Buehrle Center
Topton, PA 19562

Dawn Wagner
406 Leland Way
Wyomissing, PA 19610
610-761-2396

Alice Weller
Chestnut Knoll
120 W. 5th Street
Boyertown, PA 19512
484-415-9993

Eugene Zaiser
1393 Grosser Road
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Committee List 2023

Church Council

Randy Kehl-President
Wil Carpenter—Vice President
Dan & Kathy Kuser – Treasurers
Rich Deskie—Secretary
Linda Bewley
Kathy Farrington
Susan Logan
Kay McGowan
Sharon Renninger
Howard & Waynette Shafer
Oscar Smith
Kurt Yescavage
Pastor Zaiser

Christian Education

Sharon Renninger – Chairperson
Mardell Blanford
Vanessa Deskie
Kathy Farrington
Eileen Heffner
Janice Sheetz
Maddy Wyda

Discipleship

Linda Bewley – Co-chairperson
Cathy Yoder - Co-Chairperson
Jennifer MacDonald
Oscar & Angie Smith
Anna Spencer
Pastor Zaiser

Fellowship

Waynette Shafer - Co-Chairperson
Cathy Yoder - Co-Chairperson
Randy Kehl
Kay McGowan
Linda Ritter
Carol Rothermel
Darlene Smith
Shirl Stone
Maddy Wyda

Finance

Bill Eddinger - Chairperson
Linda Brunner
Willard Carpenter
Terry Kemp
Dan & Kathy Kuser
Diane McElwee
Sharon Renninger
Dan Ritter
Oscar Smith
Ruth Weiser

Prayer Circle

Linda Ritter - Chairperson
Gerard Bryce
Kathy Kuser
Cathy Leiby
Kay McGowan
Sharon Renninger
Donna Repko
Virginia Rowland
Mary Snyder

Property

Dennis Schaeffer — Chairperson
Richard Deskie
Bill Eddinger
Keith Endy
Bobby Eshbach
Fred Isett
Terry Kemp
Pete Schmoyer
Howard Shafer

Social Ministry

Kathy Kuser – Chairperson
Vicky Conrad
Suzanne Kerchner
Ruth Reinhard
Waynette Shafer

TLC Stitches

Vanessa Deskie
Eileen Heffner
Brenda Huggins
Ruth Weiser
Maddy Wyda
Cathy Yoder

Worship & Music

Angie Renninger – Co-Chairperson
Jennifer MacDonald—Co-Chairperson
Linda Bewley
Fred Isett
Diane McElwee
Kay McGowan
La Rue Sheetz – Director of Music

Youth Ministry Advisors

Fred Isett — Co-Chairperson
Jennifer MacDonald — Co-Chairperson
Pastor Zaiser