

Trinity Episcopal Church Apalachicola, Florida



Annual Report - 2024

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Trinity Episcopal Church

Established in 1837

*The Reverend Stephen Pecot, Rector
Jean Bush, Parish Administrator*

A parish of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast and part of the worldwide Anglican Communion

SERVICES

Sunday: 10:30 am (Holy Eucharist)

Wednesday: 8:15 am (Morning Prayer), 8:00 pm (Compline, via Facebook)

CONTACT

Church Address: 79 6th Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320
Office Address: 76 5th Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320
Mailing Address: PO Box 667, Apalachicola, FL 32329-0667
Church Office: (850) 653-9550
Your Rector: (850) 653-7978
E-mail: info@trinityapalachicola.org
Website: www.trinityapalachicola.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityapalachicola
YouTube: www.youtube.com/@trinityapalachicola

YOUR VESTRY AND OFFICERS – 2024

		Term Ends	Committee Liaison
Senior Warden:	Rennie Edwards	2024	Altar Guild
Junior Warden:	Karen Brown	2024	Tour of Homes
Members:	Barry Lawson	2024	Stewardship & Finance
	Ralph Wagoner	2024	Communications
	Jason Carter	2026	Outreach
	Kerry Petty	2026	Pastoral Care, Penny's Worth
	Dee Crusoe	2026	Parish Life, Flower Guild
Treasurer:	Bill Zester		
Clerk:	Susan Farmer		

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

In preparing this annual report, I've had the opportunity to reflect upon all that has transpired in 2024. What a year! The parish had many high points, and I am blessed to be a witness to the grace of God in your lives. The buildings and grounds are looking better than ever thanks to the dedicated work of our Junior Warden, the commitment of your vestry, and the many volunteers who give of their time, talents, and treasure. Tour of Homes had its most successful year ever. Penny's Worth had its most successful year ever. Our worship attendance is up nearly 20% from last year, and our finances remain solid through your support.

We reached out to the community through events like Blessing of the Animals, Blessing of the Golf Carts, Trinity Bake Sale, Third Thursday Bingo, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Easter Sunrise Service and Egg Hunt, Hurricane Evacuee Supper & Support, Season of Creation liturgies, CanoEucharist, and Tour of Homes. We supported the Bay Area Choral Society, the Ilse Newell Fund for the Performing Arts, and provided meeting space for various social and peer support groups. Your continued financial support of the Priest Discretionary Fund allowed me to assist close to 100 individuals with utility bills, rent, medicine and oxygen supplies, a safe hotel room and meal, and hurricane recovery.



We bid a tearful goodbye to loved ones moving away and celebrated and honored the lives of those who died. We also welcomed back returning parishioners and newcomers joining our church and received several persons as full members of The Episcopal Church.

As I reflect on 2024, it is difficult to find one story, one picture, or one moment that best exemplifies the Holy Spirit working in this beloved community. I am brought up short every time I think on it. I am reminded of the place of honor and responsibility I currently occupy as the 44th Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church. And I am reminded of the innumerable perfect moments found throughout the year. One such perfect moment for me was celebrating my first baptism as a priest in early 2024: that of my granddaughter Lucy.

I haven't done everything perfectly, and some needs have slipped through the cracks for which I ask your forgiveness. Please continue to pray for me as I do for you. Please let me know how I can be a better servant to you.

Thank you for your patience as our pastoral care ministries rebound. Thank you for your support as we catch up on deferred maintenance around Trinity's campus. Thank you for being faithful as we continue to celebrate as one body on Sundays. Thank you for making a friend, being a friend, and bringing a friend to Christ.

My commitment to you and this church remains the same as the first day I stood at the pulpit on Trinity Sunday, 2023: to perpetually celebrate the unity of us as a church and as a beloved community; to struggle together, rejoice together, and strive together; but most of all, to love as this house of God, together.

Love Big and Be Well,

The Reverend Stephen Pecot
Rector, Trinity Episcopal Church

VESTRY

THE VESTRY IS A SEVEN-MEMBER BODY ANNUALLY ELECTED BY THE CONGREGATION. TWO IMPORTANT NON-VOTING POSITIONS, THE TREASURER AND CLERK, ARE APPOINTED BY THE RECTOR AND APPROVED BY THE VESTRY. THE VESTRY OVERSEES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RECTOR, THE TEMPORAL DUTIES AND WORKINGS OF THE CHURCH. EACH MEMBER SERVES A THREE-YEAR TERM.

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

We are about to close the book on 2024, and what a wonderful year it has been for Trinity! I want to begin by thanking Stephen for his leadership and the joy, enthusiasm, and compassion that he brings to his ministry. I also want to thank the Vestry who has worked tirelessly and thoughtfully to manage the business of the church and to be good stewards of your generosity. And I want to thank each of you for the faith, patience, and support shown me during my tenure as your Sr. Warden.



As I look back over the months, I am pleased with all that we have accomplished. Thanks to a hugely successful Tour of Homes and a generous grant from the Doss Foundation, we were able to undertake some long-needed repairs to our historic buildings. The foundation of Penny's Worth has been stabilized, the church shutters straightened and rehung, the bell mount has been reinforced, and rotten wood on the belltower has been replaced. We also have a landscape plan in place to beautify our campus.

Parish life has flourished over the past year. From coffee hours and potluck lunches to bingo nights and Foyer groups, there have been fellowship opportunities for everyone. Our various ministries continue to serve not only Trinity's congregation but the broader community.

Most importantly, the pews of Trinity Church are full every Sunday morning. We continue to welcome new members and lots of visitors as well as those faithful members that have been the foundation of our parish for many years. God has blessed us. Trinity is in a good place, and I believe its future is bright.

- Rennie Edwards, Senior Warden

JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

The Junior Warden is responsible for overseeing the maintenance of all church properties. In 2024, we made great progress in addressing maintenance and repairs to the buildings. Through funds raised by the Tour of Homes and awarded by the James M. Doss Sr. Charitable Foundation, several large projects have been completed. Funds made available through this grant made it possible to stabilize the foundation of the Penny's Worth building. Also, we were able to remove, repair, paint, and reinstall the shutters on the historic church. This was a major project. Much work has been done on the bell tower, and the portico chandelier is being cleaned and fixed and should be reinstalled before Christmas.



Touch-up painting and repairs to the exterior of the church and Benedict Hall were completed this year. The window treatments in Benedict Hall were replaced in order to match the new blinds in the main hall. The live oak tree was pruned to increase sunlight going to the Memorial Garden. Pine straw and fencing was added to Penny's Worth grounds to create safe walkways from the parking area to the main building. The City of Apalachicola installed lime base on their right-of-way to cover exposed roots and to enhance the parking around Penny's Worth. Terminix discovered issues with animals accessing the parish office crawlspace via a broken access panel. They installed a new access panel as well as a vapor barrier to correct humidity issues.



The five HVAC systems servicing Benedict Hall and the historic church were replaced this year. The lawn service contractor has all the grounds in beautiful condition. Beds are refreshed twice a year with new pine straw and fertilizer applied to all plants. These projects were funded by your pledges and regular giving; thank you.

A local landscape designer donated a plan for replacement of dead and dying plants and trees last year. The plan has been broken down into phases to be completed as donated funds become available. Phase One was completed this year.

Planned projects for 2025 include: acoustic panels to fix the noise and echo issues in Benedict Hall; a sound/video system upgrade for the church; interior/exterior work at Penny's Worth; and replacement of two windows in St. Benedict's room. Some of these are dependent upon external grant funding while others will occur thanks to your financial support of Trinity. It has been an honor to serve on the Vestry and to be selected as your Jr. Warden. The Jr. Warden shoes had big shoes to fill as I followed Rick Watson and Charlie Galloway.

- Karen Brown, Junior Warden

FINANCE

The finances of the church are managed by the Vestry under advisement by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee's mission is to assist the Vestry and match resources with projected expenditures to meet priorities set by the Vestry.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Finance Committee for 2024 was: Bill Zester (Treasurer), Kirk Hadaway (previous Treasurer), Rick Watson, Barry Lawson (Stewardship), and Tom Edwards (Endowment & Gift Committee). The Reverend Stephen Pecot is always invited to attend. For 2024, Operating Revenue was projected at \$256,900. Revenues for 2024 are expected to be around \$257,000. Major capital projects were funded by proceeds from the 2024 Tour of Homes, the Doss Grant and Reserve Funds. Five HVAC units were replaced in the sanctuary and Benedict Hall. The exterior shutters on the church were painted and repairs on the bell tower were completed. The foundation of Penny's Worth was raised in anticipation of painting and replacement of rotten wood in 2025.

The 2025 Budget anticipates Revenues of \$292,950 and Expenditures of \$292,910. Utilities have been increased to \$22,400. Cleaning expenses increased to \$13,000 since the cleaner had to be replaced. Insurance was increased to \$44,000. Telephone increased to \$7,360. The Priest's Discretion Fund (PDF) has been budgeted for \$4,800. The PDF historically was funded by the plate offering one Sunday a month. Priest's compensation was increased 10% and the parish receptionist and an additional 2 hours a week. It is anticipated that \$9,250 be withdrawn from the Diocesan accounts. Trinity has not withdrawn any funds from the Young Fund in a couple of years. Historically \$24,000 a year was withdrawn.

- Rick Watson

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

With Barry Lawson's leadership, the Vestry took a more organized approach to the stewardship campaign in 2024. A theme was adopted ("Walk in Love"), and Vestry members talked during Sunday service each week of the campaign about the importance of knowing the amount of money that would be donated to plan activities for the year. Banners were placed around the church to remind everyone about the campaign. Several ministries set up tables during coffee hour to answer questions and encourage people to volunteer. The results were positive, with 55 pledges received to date and several new people volunteering to work on the Tour of Homes Auction. Trinity is fortunate to have a congregation very willing to give time, talent and treasure for the benefit of the church and the community.



- Barry Lawson

ENDOWMENT & GIFTS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Endowment & Gifts Committee oversees the various church funds that are in accounts invested through our diocese. These accounts include the Trinity Endowment Fund, the Restoration and Preservation Trust Fund, the Young Bequest Fund, the Herbert and Pearl Marshall Fund, and the Genevieve Marshall Altar Fund. We receive quarterly, cumulative-to-date reports that are shared with the Vestry.

This has been a good year so far, with all funds showing gains. The latest report we have is through the 3rd quarter of 2024. The cumulative value of the funds to date is approximately \$931,000. Final year-end values will be available in Mid-January 2025 and will be reported to the Vestry once known.

- Tom Edwards

COMMUNICATIONS

The goal of our communications at Trinity is to strengthen the commitment and involvement of our congregation, connect new members to ministries, and increase community involvement to sustain future viability and growth.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT



During 2024 the *Bay View*, Trinity's e-newsletter, continued its bi-weekly publication schedule, keeping members and friends informed of Trinity's activities. It goes out via email, along with some mail distribution, to 275 Trinity parishioners and friends. Content includes church activities, community service and entertainment opportunities, and photos of members' travel adventures and family visits. This year, we introduced a new feature – Trinity Ten – designed to introduce parishioners to each other via a series of serious and whimsical questions.

The various *Special News* formats allow for on-demand distribution when we have time-sensitive information to communicate, including death announcements, parishioner needs, upcoming events, and special worship services. This year, in addition to the 26 regularly scheduled Bay View emails, we distributed twelve *Special News*, six *From the Rector*, one *News from Penny's Worth*, and six *Tour of Homes* special issues.

In addition to the 275 Bay View subscribers, we have built a distribution list of 685 individuals who have purchased Tour of Homes tickets, donated to the Pillars program, and/or volunteered as greeters over the past 5 years. This marketing tool enables us to create targeted electronic messages to those who are especially interested in our annual home tour and auction.

This year, 95% of readers accessed the Bay View on their desktop computers, while 5% read it on their mobile devices/tablets. We enjoy a 71% 'open rate' (people who open the email), which is twice the current industry average of 35%, indicating that our readers find the e-newsletter relevant to their interests. Our website, www.trinityapalachicola.org, serves as a basis for our external communications, and features Trinity's rich history, as well as information on worship and spiritual growth; parish and community life; and news/special events. An average of 53 visitors/week were recorded this year, with 85% representing new visitors.

On The Tour of Homes website, www.apalachicolahometour.org, ticket sales and Pillars donations were again available via the web-based store in 2024. Online ticket sales (207) remained high this year, and 23 Pillar donations were made online. During 2023, this website drew an average of 58 visitors/week with 79% representing new visitors. Viewership peaked on May 3, 2024, one day prior to the tour, with 292 views.

Our Facebook page, @trinityapalachicola, provides a community-wide presence where we promote traditional events, as well as special worship services on the liturgical calendar. We have 531 Facebook followers, including members, friends, and local residents. On our Tour of Homes page (@ApalachicolaHomeTour), we have 1,900 followers, which reflects the widespread geographic popularity of this annual event. Also, the Tour of Homes Instagram account ([apalachicolahometour](https://www.instagram.com/apalachicolahometour)) has 804 followers. The Penny's Worth (@pennysworthapalach) Facebook page, established in 2021, now has 157 followers.

In an effort to broaden Trinity's reach beyond its own walls, the Rev. Stephen Pecot continues record Sunday services and publish them via our YouTube channel (@trinityapalachicola). Following the service, a video version of the sermon, is also available on YouTube, as well as Trinity's Facebook page, and website. Stephen also offers Wednesday evening Compline via Facebook live.

Our new Digital Giving Service, through Anedot, integrates well with our other communication efforts and allows convenient secure Online Giving opportunities. We began this service in April of this year with a choice of 3 funds to choose from. We now have 5 funds available to specify how your donation can be spent. So far this year we have collected just over \$5,000 through this service. We have multiple donors who make automatic recurring monthly donations.



Finally, Trinity's online Church Directory, which features photographs and contact information, enables members to quickly obtain phone numbers, addresses, and emails that streamline one-on-one communication. Parishioners are finding that the mobile app and a direct computer link to the directory make the directory even more accessible, allowing users to call, text, or email directly from the member listings.

A last big thank-you to Jean Bush, our Parish Administrator, who has done a marvelous job of ensuring all the announcements, online giving services, church directory, and social media events receive the care and attention they need. Thank you, Jean!

- Kay Carson

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Spiritual growth is an important part of the Christian life. At Trinity we are constantly refining the opportunities to learn about the Bible, The Episcopal Church, and the modalities that abound which challenge and support our lives together.

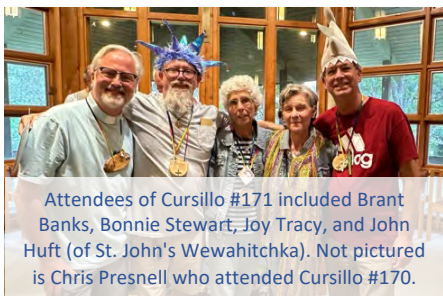
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

Being a Christian is as much about what we do inside our sanctuary as what we do outside the church walls. While Christian Formation classes help us further our faith, so too are the myriad opportunities to experience God's love everywhere. This includes when we welcome newcomers to the faith through Holy Baptism, Reception, or Confirmation. But it also includes liturgies that are not part of the typical "Sunday experience". This includes community and diocesan events that help broaden our walk with Christ.



New members of The Episcopal Church were received by The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick on Trinity Sunday 2024. Between Rev. Pecot and Bishop Kendrick are PJ Erwin, Thomas Becknell, Brant Banks, Bonnie Stewart, Ellen Loyd, and Randy Loyd.

Formal catechism classes were offered in Spring 2024 to six catechumenes who desired to join The Episcopal Church as full members. They were received into The Episcopal Church when the bishop visited Trinity on May 26 (Trinity Sunday). A Lenten series focused on a deep dive into our Baptismal Covenant was offered to the parish during Lent 2024.



Attendees of Cursillo #171 included Brant Banks, Bonnie Stewart, Joy Tracy, and John Huft (of St. John's Wewahitchka). Not pictured is Chris Presnell who attended Cursillo #170.

Cursillo is a diocesan-level experience offered to participants free of charge and held at Beckwith Camp and Conference Center in Fairhope, AL. Many Trinity members have attended these uplifting weekends, and we were happy to sponsor five pilgrims for the Cursillos #170 and #171, held in March and September 2024. Stephen and Travis Pecot served on staff of the March Cursillo weekend.

In 2024 we offered a diverse palette of classes that maintain a long-standing tradition of Christian education for anyone interested in learning. Every Sunday before our 10:30 am service a discussion group meets in the Parish Office to

discuss a chronological history of the Gospels (September – May) or themes of the current week's lectionary readings (June – August).

We are prayerfully considering which classes to offer in 2025 as well as the best day and time for them. Because the parish is growing, we are seeing a slight shift in the desire for learning opportunities outside of the traditional Monday morning slots; this includes consideration for evening classes as well as during the weekend.

Much of what can and will be taught depends upon you, though. Please get in touch with Fr. Stephen about what you would like to be learning in 2025. We are always open to leaning into our growing edges. In the meantime, classes being considered in 2025 include: living into a prayerful life; Bible study of books germane to our liturgical year (such as Luke, Jeremiah, and several of Paul's letters); catechism for those seeking to be confirmed or received into The Episcopal Church when the bishop visits on Pentecost 2025 (June 8).

- Stephen Pecot

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM) REPORT

Though Trinity once had a vibrant EfM ministry, the last several years has not been kind to this group of faithful students. This needs to change. As part of this turn to reintroduce EfM to the parish, I attended and completed the EfM Foundations Training seminar in August 2024 along with a cohort of peers around the country. With this I am certified as an EfM Mentor and can lead this multi-year class. During the next year it is my hope that an EfM class will begin once again at Trinity.

EfM is a four-year course offered through the University of the South at Sewanee and is a fulsome experience into the Christian life. Each year focuses on different segments of the church and Scripture (Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, and Theology). If you are interested and want to learn more, reach out to me. Several Trinity members have enrolled, completed, or taught these classes! But I do not feel called to lead this EfM class alone. If you have an urge to help facilitate this course with me in the Fall of 2025, I want to speak with you. We can get you certified (or recertified) to be part of something exciting!

- Stephen Pecot

WORSHIP

The Worship Committee consists of chairpersons of the different groups that assist in our services. This includes the Altar and Flower Guilds, Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs), acolytes, lay readers, and music. The committee assists the rector by coordinating the schedules of all aspects of our worship service.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT



“Here I am! Send me!” (Isaiah 6:8)

The members of the Trinity Worship Committee are committed to serving the people of our church by assuring that the services are planned in accordance with liturgical practices as well as the suggestions of our Rector. The committee meets several times a year to prepare in advance for the church seasons.

The Worship Committee consists of the chairs of the Altar Guild (Rennie Edwards), Flower Guild (Dee Crusoe), Music Program (Randy Mims), Acolytes (Patti McCartney), Ushers & Greeters (Ralph Wagoner), Lay Eucharistic Ministers (Gloria Austin), Lectors and Prayers (Candace Springer), and our Verger, Brooks Jones. Each chair of these committees is responsible for recruiting, training, and scheduling the volunteers who participate so willingly in in these ministries. With so many laity involved in worship, the Committee does an amazing job

orchestrating the participants and their schedules. The committee is also ready to advise and assist our Rector in making changes as desired.

During 2024, worship services at Trinity were not just held within the confines of our prayer-soaked walls. We marched around Gorrie Square on Palm Sunday. We celebrated Holy Saturday in the Memorial Garden. We held a Sunrise Service on Easter Morning at Lafayette Park. Every Wednesday we celebrated Morning Prayer in the church followed by the Order for Compline live via our Facebook page, the latter allowing part-time residents and visitors as well as those at home to participate in our liturgy from afar. We celebrated Morning and Evening Prayer in the church, in the Memorial Garden, and at parks around town. We even held a Eucharist on a boat in the Apalachicola River as part of September’s Season of Creation ecumenical movement.



Fr. Stephen holds up the chalice during CanoEucharist in early October 2024.

Private Communion was offered in hospitals and homes on close to 50 separate occasions by Fr. Stephen, with about 160 people receiving Holy Communion and prayers for healing. Three home blessings around Franklin County took place in 2024. In addition, about 20 animals received a blessing in Gorrie Square for October's annual Blessing of the Animals (in conjunction with the Feast of St. Francis, patron saint of animals). But we didn't relegate blessings to living beings and our homes: 36 golf carts were blessed as part of Porchfest in October and 16 during Tour of Homes in May.



While the above examples demonstrate the opportunities for evangelization across our community, the Worship Committee, in consultation with the rector, are ready to respond to events driving the need for prayer in the parish and surrounding region. As such, Trinity offered vigil services before Hurricane Milton (October) and Election Day (November). The church was open to the public the entire week of the U.S. election. For Hurricane Milton, we also offered pastoral services to evacuees arriving from the Big Bend area and locations south of there.

We commend those who faithfully give of themselves each week so that all worship services are uplifting and exude Christian love and acceptance of all. With God's grace and the commitment and hard work of all associated with worship services, attendance in 2024 increased about 20% for primary Sunday services. Glory be to God! In essence, weekly attendance and participation has returned to levels last seen over a decade ago, with people stopping by to see all that Trinity has to offer.

- Patti McCartney and Stephen Pecot

ACOLYTE GUILD REPORT

Acolytes, also known as crucifers, are the bearer of the cross for any service with a procession and recession. It is a very humbling position to carry the cross of our Lord and is done with great reverence. The acolyte also lights and extinguishes the altar candles and assists the celebrant with setting the altar for Holy Eucharist. Trinity currently has 4 dedicated acolytes: Travis Pecot, Rick Watson, Susan Farmer, and Steve Watkins. We could use a 5th acolyte but for now, these 4 are serving each Sunday and on occasional week-day services as well as non-regular worship services such as celebrations of life, memorial services, funerals, and weddings.

- Patti McCartney



Susan Farmer is one of many acolytes who carry the cross each Sunday. She is also the Vestry Clerk.

ALTAR GUILD REPORT



The ministry of the Altar Guild is to care for the altar, vessels, and linens used in each of our worship services. Our members prepare the sanctuary for worship, clean up afterwards, and ensure that all linens are properly laundered and silver vessels clean and polished. It is a quiet ministry done with reverence and respect for our sacred spaces. With the help of our very capable Flower Guild, we strive to offer a place of peace and beauty as we gather to worship God.

While we have lost a few members, I am pleased to report that more volunteers have stepped up to fill those vacancies. In 2024 we welcomed Sabrina Fornes and Patti McCartney to our ranks. Kathy Leyendecker is currently learning the ins and outs from Candace Springer. She and Travis Pecot will be joining us in the new year. We also are pleased to welcome back former member Lydia Countryman who has recently returned to the area. Other members include Joy Tracy and Susan Galloway. I wish to thank Jane Harris, Susie Wagoner, and Gloria Austin for their faithful service as they retire from the Guild. This is a joyful and meaningful ministry, and it is open to all who wish to serve. Please contact any of our members if you are interested.

AN ALTAR GUILD PRAYER

**ALMIGHTY GOD, GRANT WE BESEECH THEE,
THAT WE MAY HANDLE HOLY THINGS WITH REVERENCE,
AND PERFORM OUR WORK WITH SUCH FAITHFULNESS AND
DEVOTION
THAT IT MAY RISE WITH ACCEPTANCE BEFORE THEE
AND OBTAIN THY BLESSING,
THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.**

- Rennie Edwards



MUSIC DIRECTOR REPORT

The Trinity Church Choir varies the music with the seasons of the church year. Hymns for weekly services are chosen by Father Stephen, Ina Margaret Meyer, and Randy Mims. Selection is open to suggestions from the congregation of favorite hymns. Choir Practice is at 9:30 am on Sundays.

Your current choir members are Randy Mims (Chair), Gloria Austin, Rennie Edwards, Susan Galloway, Faye Jones, Ina Margaret Meyer, Shirley Taylor, Joy Tracy, Sonia Fonseca, Brooks Jones, Rick Watson, and David Wolfson. We are always happy to add to our choir including those who join us part-time or during the winter like Sylvia Sullivan. There are a lot of nice anthems which we would love to sing but are prevented by our lack of a bass. We have worked hard this last year to make the musical offerings more varied and uplifting. We appreciate the kind praises and comments we have received.

- Randy Mims



FLOWER GUILD REPORT

The Flower Guild creates altar arrangements for each Sunday of the year, excluding Lenten Sundays. The Guild also provides arrangements for church receptions and other special events. We have four teams (one of which has only one member). Each team takes responsibility for one Sunday a month, and we alternate responsibility for any fifth Sundays. We need more members and would love to include anyone who is interested. No talent, skill, or previous training is needed. We would welcome the opportunity to teach anyone who wishes to join the group or is interested in participating in any way. If you would like to learn, simply observe Flower Guild members as they work, or join the group, please speak with any of our members.

Your current Flower Guild members are Dee Crusoe (Chair), Tara Carter, Aglaia Dolan, Sabrina Fornes, Martha Harris, Alice Leavins, and Penny Marler.

- Dee H. Crusoe



LECTORS REPORT



The ministry of lay readers in the Episcopal Church solicits those with a willingness to communicate the Lessons from the annual cycle of selected readings for the weekly and special services of the church. Volunteers at Trinity demonstrate both dedication to this task and flexibility in their scheduling. Your current lectors include Kristin Anderson, March Ard, Thomas Becknell, Jo Branch, Karen Brown, Dee Crusoe, Rennie Edwards, Tom Edwards, Susan Galloway, Faye Jones, Penny Marler, Patti McCartney, Randy Mims, Candace Springer, Ralph Wagoner, Steve Watkins, and Rick Watson.

Prayers of the People Readers not only communicate the form selected by the priest for the day, but also voice the names of loved ones, as well as supplications and thanksgivings, compiled on our parish prayer list. Your current readers include Kristin Anderson, Dee Crusoe, Rennie Edwards, Tom Edwards, Susan Galloway, Faye Jones, Penny Marler, Patti McCartney, Ina Margaret Meyer, Ralph Wagoner, and Rick Watson.

Lectors and Prayers of the People Readers are scheduled biannually. Schedules run from January – June and June – December. Those wishing to become a reader should contact Candace Springer (850-653-8072). You will then be included in the forthcoming schedule and apprised of the protocol involved.

In order that readers can best be prepared to carry out their responsibility, the church administrator emails them the selections for the upcoming Sunday several days in advance. This allows time to practice difficult pronunciations of biblical names and places, as well as time to become familiar with the content and cadence of the passage.

It is a pleasure and privilege to serve as a Lector and/or a Prayers of the People Reader. This is faithfully witnessed at Trinity Episcopal Church by those that have continued in this ministry for years, as well as those who have joined the ministry more recently.

With gratitude for the commitment of all of those involved in this ministry,

- Candace Springer

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (LEM) REPORT

Lay Eucharistic Ministers assist the priest in conducting Eucharist by following the priest and serving the wine from the chalice. We also hold the Gospel book for the priest to read. We all enjoy serving in this beautiful spiritual ministry. We have recently added a second Eucharistic minister per service due to our expanding congregation. We rotate service weekly according to a flexible schedule. Anyone interested in this ministry please contact Gloria Austin.

Your current LEMs are Gloria Austin, Dee Crusoe, Kirk Hadaway, Brooks Jones, Penny Marler, and Candace Springer.

- Gloria Austin

USHERS & GREETERS REPORT



It is my privilege to “lift up” the greeters/ushers with this report for 2024. Trinity is blessed to have twelve (12) individuals committed to greeting and ushering during the regular services as well as special services occurring thought the year.

Ushers, both full and part-time, are Mike Barber, Tom Edwards, Alan Embert, Bonnie Lewis, Chris Presnell, Bonnie Stewart, Karen Brown, Charlie Galloway, Mandi Singer, Jes Brisben, Steve Watkins and Ralph Wagoner.

In closing, friend, I would like to take this opportunity to voice awareness to the value of the role of Greeter and Usher. To welcome, to greet, to assist, to collect, to assist with communions and to do whatever is necessary to support the Pastor and the Congregation in participating in a meaningful Christ-Centered experience.

- Ralph Wagoner



"The Bonnies", as they are lovingly referred to at Trinity, are a most friendly greeter and usher duo.

VERGER REPORT



A verger is a layperson who serves the church in a ministry of organization, service, and welcome. Our current Verger is Brooks Jones. Vergers work under the direction of their Rector, Vicar, or Priest-in-charge. Every church is unique and so is the role of the verger in each church. No two ministries are alike from one church to another.

Often a church has individuals performing many of the functions of a verger. Raising up lay leadership in a congregation through the ministry of vergers can be a blessing to a congregation and to the clergy they serve. In each parish, the verger serves at the pleasure of the rector. It is an appointed position that typically assists with the logistical details prior to a service, freeing the clergy to be available to greet parishioners, welcome visitors, and respond to pastoral concerns. The visible ministry of the verger, that of escorting processions and individuals during worship is but a small portion of the ministry. The verger's duties are about 90% behind the scenes and 10% in the service.

Last year the Verger escorted processions during Christmas, Palm Sunday, Easter, Evening Prayer, and during the bishop's visit. He extended his assistants to the priest by completing the diocese courses of Lay Leader and Lay Preaching. While he presently checks the bulletin against the hymn board, readings, and psalms, he intends to extend his service to the missal. This is intended to free up the priest from his many duties prior to the service. This will require additional guidance from the priest. He did not attend the annual Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church (VGEC) convention this year due to personal commitments.

Anyone interested in becoming a verger or joining the VGEC, please contact Brooks Jones at brooksjones213@gmail.com or go to vergers.org for additional information.

- Brooks Jones

The mission of Parish Life is to provide hospitality for all. The Parish Life Committee initiates the scheduling, planning, and coordination of special events such as Lenten dinner, foyer groups, potluck dinners, and the Annual Meeting. As is characteristic of Trinity, there are many people who participate and contribute to the various events, so the work is shared among many.

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Parish Life committee members are Dee Crusoe, Rennie Edwards, Dot Hill, Karen Kessel, Bonnie Lewis, Patti McCartney, Kerry Petty, Bella Rudo, and Mandi Singer.

The mission of Parish Life is to provide hospitality for all who participate in our lives together. The year of 2024 was a busy one for Trinity's Parish Life.

In 2024 there has been an increase in church attendance which is a wonderful thing! Hospitality Hour (AKA Coffee Hour) attendance has increased, too. Each week a committee or church group is assigned to be the host for this after-service opportunity where friendships are made and fellowship enjoyed. We thank these groups for being hosts throughout 2024: Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Choir, Vestry, Tour of Homes, ROMEOS, Penny's Worth, Outreach, and Parish Life. Thank you also to everyone who has participated in making visitors and members feel welcomed following the church service. It makes a difference!

Sometimes, the Parish Life Committee is asked to expand Hospitality Hour in order to accommodate special events such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Lenten pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday, and other events central to parish life. These continue to be highly successful events which bring in people from all over the community and parish footprint.



Parish Life participating in the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in February



Parish Life hosting the reception and Easter Egg Hunt in Gorrie Square after services



Youngest Trinity member Lucy Newman makes room in her basket for more eggs



Community members enjoying the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in Benedict Hall

Fr. Stephen leading prayer for Hurricane Milton evacuees, October 2024



In October we partnered with the Outreach Committee to welcome about two dozen evacuees of Hurricane Milton, serving them a full comfort meal of pizza, lasagna, gumbo, and salad along with a special BINGO night with prizes geared towards hurricane cleanup. We also provided hurricane relief buckets full of items necessary for the first days upon return after evacuation orders were lifted. We continued to raise money for hurricane and disaster relief with the Trinity Bake Sale during the Florida Seafood Festival in November.

Hurricane cleanup supplies were distributed to evacuees



Evacuees hailed from Cedar Key to Fort Myers, FL



Parish Life continued to raise money for disaster relief at the November Trinity Bake Sale. Thank you Rennie, Patti, Dee, and Ina Margaret!



Parish Life sponsors and invites speakers who provide topical information for the parish. In July we welcomed the Franklin County paramedics and EMTs who showed us the basics of cardiac compression, defibrillator use, and fire extinguisher safety. They checked our defibrillator located in the back of the church to ensure it was up to standard.



Parish Life also includes activities extending beyond our borders. This included a horseback riding excursion at Cape San Blas as part of the Season of Creation in September. We had eight riders take part, and everyone enjoyed the fellowship at Indian Pass Raw Bar afterwards.



Upon the rector's request, BINGO is now a monthly activity hosted by Parish Life, occurring every third Thursday at 6:30 pm in Benedict Hall. Attendance varies with as many as 40. Prizes are purchased through the Parish Life budget along with some donations. As always, the first card is free with additional cards \$2 each (or three for \$5). If you haven't attended, consider coming for an evening of laughter, excitement and fellowship!



Finally, Foyer Groups gathered in 2024 in homes or restaurants to get to know one another better over a meal. Throughout the year various potluck meals follow Sunday morning worship. Parish Life appreciates the people who so lovingly share their family favorites. Traditionally there are lunches on Trinity Sunday, the week of Thanksgiving, and for the Annual Meeting.

- Karen Kessel (KK)



OUTREACH

The Outreach Ministry of Trinity assists in meeting the needs of vulnerable people in our local community, primarily defined by the geographical footprint of our parish membership. Historically, outreach at Trinity has also been a conduit for diocesan and national church disaster, relief, and refugee giving. Committee members serve on a three-year rotation; nominated Trinity members (6-8) are representative of the diversity of the congregation. All members and attendees are invited to participate (and lead) as volunteers in outreach projects of interest. In addition to quarterly meetings, Outreach holds an annual Open Meeting.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Members: Penny Marler (Chair), Jo Branch, Jason Carter (Treasurer and Vestry Liaison), Kathy Chesser (Secretary), Chris Presnell, Steve Watkins, and community-at-large members Harolyn Walker and Myrtis Wynn.

The committee established 3 areas of work when it was reconstituted in January of 2021 under the leadership of Martha Harris: food insecurity and material assistance, education, and environmental stewardship. A total of \$21,737 was distributed by December 8, 2024 to multiple efforts through the work of the Outreach Committee and the generous donations of money, time, and energy, and in-kind contributions of the parish's members and regular attendees.

The Trinity budget allocated \$700/month to outreach in 2024 (\$8,400/year). In addition to individual monetary donations and a 2024 tithe from the proceeds of Tour of Homes, we also received contributions from the tai chi class held weekly in Benedict Hall. Accomplishments throughout 2024 by each area of work are listed below.



Food Insecurity and Material Assistance

- Continued monthly \$500 donation to the Food Pantry of Franklin's Promise based on organizational need and stewardship of funds. Trinity is a founding organization of the Food Pantry, and with these funds in 2024, we provided the supplementary food needs for 2,000 people.
- Continued monthly \$300 to the Elder Care Community Council (ECCC) for daily meals for senior adults based on organizational need and stewardship of funds.
- Continued a much-needed Emergency Fund for seniors through the ECCC, increased from \$2,000 to \$2,500 based on an established pattern of need (a generous tithe from the 2024 Tour of Homes made this possible). Additional funds to the ECCC in 2024 included \$1,000 for nutritionally necessary fruit cups, and \$435 for coolers to keep delivered meals warm.
- Continued a cookie ministry for senior meals; 120 cookies weekly delivered by 16 bakers. Connie Finneran continues as the coordinator. 5 Trinity volunteers deliver weekly meals and help with Holy Family Center senior meals and other activities.
- Provided fresh blooms from the altar (in coordination with the Flower Guild) to accompany delivered meals, grace tables at the Center for daily meals, and serve as Bingo prizes (at least 3 x this year).
- Raised and provided cleaning supplies and volunteers for distribution directly to the ECCC for needy seniors.
- Raised and distributed donations of 400 bottled nutritional supplements in conjunction with Big Bend Hospice.
- Received and donated over 500 pounds of food and hygiene products to Franklin Promise's Food Pantry to date via our food wagon under the coordination of Travis Pecot (and with a digital scale provided by Outreach).

- Continued commitment of \$1,000 for a Patient Assistance Fund to address prescription and other medical supply needs of vulnerable persons in our county at Buy Rite Pharmacy in coordination with Karen Brown, Vestry member and local pharmacist. To date this year, a little over \$150 has been distributed.
- Distributed 30 Giving (formerly Angel) Tree ornaments in coordination with FCS to provide Christmas gifts including clothes, books, and games to needy school-aged children. The project is ably coordinated by Bob and Susan Pruitt. This is a material assistance and education project.



Education

- Organized a backpack drive for entering students at Franklin County School (FCS) in August 2024 (collected 80 backpacks for all ages, distributed by FCS staff). This is a material assistance and education project.
- Continued a Volunteer Reader Program initiated by Danielle Rosson, principal of FCS, that recruited 17 Trinity readers in second, fourth, and fifth grade classrooms for the 2023-2024 school year. For 2024-2025, 13 Trinity readers were retained or recruited to serve in all 4 second grade classes. A collection of 4 math-related picture books (one for each student) was purchased to rotate across the second grade the second half of the school year with each student taking home a book at the end of the year (\$650). Also to boost reading at FCS, outreach contributed \$200 to the Accelerated Reader Program at FCS that provides small prizes for student reading achievement.
- Contributed \$200 to the Homeless Student Program at FCS. This is a material assistance and education project.
- An extant credit for clothes from Penny's Worth continues to be held (and used) for Franklin County School's Clothes Closet. This is a material assistance and education project.
- Worked with High School Guidance Counselor, Melanie Copeland, to distribute applications for the Trinity Outreach Award for 2024 and fund a pizza supper (\$110) for a student and parent workshop on FAFSA at the school.
- Reviewed applications and awarded 1 new computer and a gift card for computer accessories (about \$750) to an FCS college-bound honor graduate. The Trinity Outreach Award computer was presented at the annual Awards Night in May 2024 for seniors at Franklin High School in honor of Susan Galloway, former Franklin County educator and longtime Trinity member, by Jo Branch.
- Coordinated with FCS's carpentry and culinary vocational programs and the Apalachicola Community Garden to secure donated materials and build a raised bed at the school for the primary use of the culinary program's farm to table initiative.
- Worked with the Ed Corps (vocational program of Franklin's Promise focused on environmental conservation) to provide computer and other instructional technology assistance. This year, Ed Corps requested and was granted funds for a classroom monitor (\$380) and boots for conservation field work (\$269).
- Continued to work with Bring Me a Book Franklin for resources and instruction for Volunteer Reading.
- Continued silver sponsorship (\$500) for the HCOLA African American Heritage Festival.
- Contributed funds for academic enrichment (\$1,000) requested by Taylor County High School Assistant Principal to address declining retention (and graduation) of students impacted by the pandemic and three



major hurricanes in the past 2 years, the most recent, Helene in September 2024. In addition, outreach contributed \$1,000 for academic enrichment at FCS to provide transportation and meals for juniors and seniors to visit colleges and vocational programs for post-secondary education. FCS Principal Danielle Rosson requested these funds to boost education beyond high school, an area of special need at FCS among students who do not have parents who can or will provide such experiences and who are not involved in Take Stock or other selective programs for highly motivated students. These funds will be targeted FCS students who fall “in between.” These are primarily educational but also material assistance efforts.

Environmental Stewardship

- Reserved funds for a Community Clean-Up Initiative in Apalachicola (\$500).
- Contributed \$500 for our priest’s efforts to restart an Apalachicola Clergy Group to pursue joint projects such as community clean-up and emergency assistance/disaster relief. This is an Outreach extension of a Creation Care Grant developed by Stephen Pecot and Penny Marler earlier this year, which was unfortunately not funded, but which generated actionable ideas and new community partners.
- Contributed \$3,696 for 3 one-year scholarships to senior Ed Corps students engaged in hand’s-on conservation learning.
- Contributed \$450 for a new banner on Environmental Stewardship and \$450 for a replacement Lenten banner due to damage. Both banners are public witnesses of Trinity Episcopal Church’s values and commitments.

- Penny Marler

PENNY’S WORTH

Penny’s Worth is a thrift shop operated by Trinity since 1994. We offer the community affordable, slightly used clothing and household items. Proceeds go to Trinity’s outreach programs and a variety of local charities.

PENNY’S WORTH COMMITTEE REPORT



Penny's Worth continues in its popularity and services to the community and surrounding areas, as well as may tourists. It is important to remember that if anyone loses their home to fire, Penny's Worth will work with them to fill their needs.

Our October 2024 income was one of the best in the history of Penny's Worth. Many thanks to our shoppers, donors, and volunteer staff. We are always in need of more volunteers. While it is work, it is also fellowship and getting to know each other better.

Our Board presently consists of Dot Hill as Chairman and assisted by Mary Ann Siprell, Charlie Galloway, Jane Harris, Bella Rudo, Marlene Seaborn, Kirk Hadaway, and Shirley Taylor.

- Dot Hill



TOUR OF HOMES

The Historic Apalachicola Home and Garden Tour, a key community project of Trinity, is held annually on the first Saturday in May. Gardens, historic houses, and newly built homes that capture Apalachicola's rich and vibrant past are featured. Proceeds benefit the preservation and maintenance of Trinity's historic structures: the Church (1836), the Rectory (1900), and Benedict Hall (1932). In 2024, TOH also tithed a portion of its proceeds back to the community through Trinity's Outreach Ministry.

TOUR OF HOMES COMMITTEE REPORT



The Tour of Homes celebrated 30 years with an outstanding year! The 30th Historic Apalachicola Home and Garden Tour, held May 4, 2024, featured seven homes plus the Apalachicola Community Garden. An Evensong service and reception on Friday evening kicked off the festivities. Our open-to-the-public auction, Jumble Sale, and raffle featuring a custom-made charcuterie table got things rolling on tour day.

LaRaela Lee-Coxwell and Glen Coxwell, owners of Construct Group SE, sponsored the Appreciation Party. One of the shotgun houses the couple renovated and currently lease on Eighth Street

was a popular stop on the tour.

Positive remarks were made about the variety of homes offered and the food served at the hospitality events, particularly the Appreciation Party.



Trinity member Alan Pierce welcomes visitors during Tour of Homes 2024.

Members of the Tour of Homes Steering Committee. From left to right: Ginger Lawson, Karen 'KK' Kessel, Toni McIntosh, Bella Rudo, Kathy Rushmore, Karen Brown (as Vestry Liaison), Donna Knutson, Kay Carson, Sabrina Fornes, Tara Carter, and Kerry Petty. Not pictured: Jo Branch, Carrie Kienzle, Chris Presnell, Mandi Singer, and Joy Tracy.



An appreciation party was made possible through a gift by Construct Group SE and honored the volunteers and homeowners.



The TOH auction was a great success, raising nearly \$20,000!



Net proceeds from the Tour of Homes were distributed to Trinity Episcopal Church for maintenance of the historic buildings on the campus as well as a tithe of 10% given to Trinity's Outreach Committee. A small percentage of final proceeds are retained for the Tour of Homes to begin its work early in the new year.

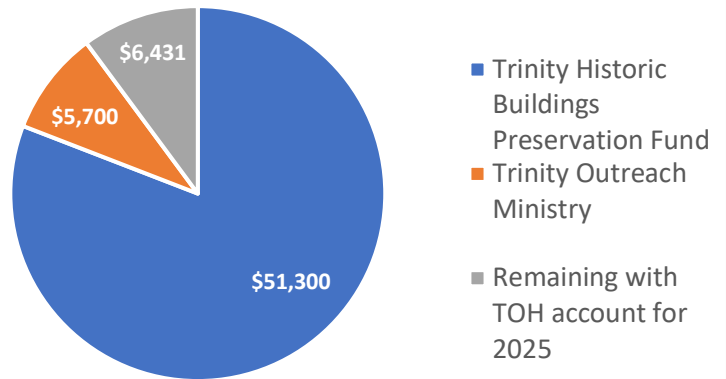


TOH 2024 Financial Summary	
Ticket Sales	\$20,927
<i>Advance Sales – 422 tickets</i>	
<i>Tour Day – 240 tickets</i>	
<i>Total tickets sold – 662 tickets</i>	
Auction Proceeds	\$19,679
Pillar Program Contributions	\$22,825
TOTAL INCOME	\$63,431

Finally, the Tour of Homes could not exist without its volunteers. Many subcommittees need help now and on tour day (always the first Saturday in May). We ask that you please consider becoming part of this fun and vital ministry coming May 3, 2025!

- Sabrina Fornes and Tara Carter

Allocation of TOH 2024 Funds



MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Trinity Memorial Garden remain a place of simplicity, beauty, and tranquility. Faithful volunteers keep the fountain sparkling and the plants watered and looking fresh. Other volunteers are needed for maintenance and repair.

MEMORIAL GARDEN REPORT

Early in the spring of 2024, we were informed that Trinity would no longer be able to have our existing garden granite tops—nor the bricks in the garden pathway—engraved due to the closing of the local monument company. It was obvious we would need to replace all engraved and non- engraved stones and locate a different method of identifying the cremains in the niches. Because of the size of the choice of bronze plaques now being used, families may choose to have a third identification plaque attached to the niche. The bricks are presently being engraved at another location and are available for purchase as a permanent reminder of the saints whom we have known and loved.



Gratefully, due to the generosity of a Trinity member, we were able to replace the granite with minimum expense to the Memorial Garden fund. The plaques for those niches with previously engraved granite were purchased through our Memorials Fund, again with no expense for those owners. Thankfully, the new plaques should not cost any more than that seen in the past. The bronze plaques will not fade and may be easily seen from any point within the niche area.

With all of these replacements behind us, we must turn our attention to the next, second phase of the Memorial Garden. Phase Two will soon be underway with the guidance of a newly formed committee of parishioners who are willing to proceed with creating a new space for those parishioners who wish to have their remains within the Trinity property. A form is available in the office for anyone interested in interment of ashes in this future part of the Memorial Garden.

Memorial gifts are always needed to provide funds for the garden. If anyone wishes to honor someone for a special event, a donation to Memorial Garden fund will be helpful and an acknowledgement card sent to the recipient and/or the family of those honored.

The Trinity Memorial Garden remains a serene place to sit peacefully and enjoy the beauty of our unique handmade fountain. Volunteers are always needed to help keep the fountain clean, watered daily, and maintained.

- Patti McCartney

OTHER MINISTRIES AROUND TRINITY

APALACHICOLA'S COMMUNITY CHURCH

Trinity has always been Apalachicola's "Community Church". As such, we take pride in ensuring there is adequate space and resources available for those who want to share in fellowship and grow together.

Numerous groups and organizations utilize Trinity facilities throughout the year. Some of these are closely associated with Trinity members while others are primarily groups who use the meeting and performance spaces. Some of these groups in 2024 included:

- Bay Area Choral Society
- Ilse Newell Concert Series
- Various Peer Support Groups (AA, AL-ANON, etc.)
- Bridge Group
- Tai Chi
- The Dancing Witches
- Dream/Natural Spirituality Group
- ROMEO Group
- GFWC PHILACO Women's Club

In 2024 we convened a Facilities Use Committee whose charge was to review all written policies regarding use of our buildings. Through this work we have official usage guidelines for Trinity members and the broader community regarding weddings and receptions, funerals and celebrations of life, meetings and banquets, etc. These policies are on file at the parish office. We are pleased to continue offering the buildings and facilities to groups. Please contact the parish office for more details.



PASTORAL CARE & THE HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

The mission of the Helping Hands ministry is to work closely with the rector and the Pastoral Care Committee to ensure that we are meeting the needs of Trinity members and the larger community with presence, respect, and support.

Trinity Church is blessed with many members who give of their own resources to people in need. We have always been quick to create a “meal train” when someone has been sick or in mourning. But from time to time, everyone may need some additional, temporary help along with others in the community. The need may be small, such as bringing in the mail or taking out the trash once a week. People may need meals cooked as they recover from illness, have their lawns mowed, or their medicines picked up at the pharmacy. They may need a ride to and from a doctor’s appointment. They might even just need to see another human and speak face to face.

This is why the Helping Hands ministry has become active. This ministry, made of members of the Pastoral Care Committee, assists the rector with various requests that lie beyond our rector’s physical capacity to respond. While our rector has been known to mow lawns, pick up medicine, and to assist with other household duties of Trinity members and others around the community, the rector should be able to focus primarily on spiritual and liturgical needs. To that end, the Pastoral Care Committee will begin work in 2025 that will have a three-part focus:

Peer Support	Lay Eucharistic Visitation	Helping Hands
Facilitated anonymous support groups for those dealing with cancer, bereavement, and long-term caregivers	Offering Home Communion and prayers through licensed Lay Eucharistic Visitors for the sick and homebound	Temporary assistance related to household (mowing lawns, taking out trash, running local errands, transportation to medical appointments)

As always, private pastoral concerns should be addressed to Father Stephen. His contact information can be found in the front of this report.

In addition to contacting the priest or the parish office, we have two email addresses you may use for assistance requests above and beyond pastoral care offered by the priest:

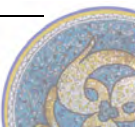
- helpinghands@trinityapalachicola.org: used for meal train, requests for household assistance (mowing lawns, taking out trash, running local errands, rides to medical appointments). Emails sent to this address are automatically routed to key members of the Pastoral Care Committee who assign tasks to volunteers.
- prayers@trinityapalachicola.org: used for prayer requests for the church, similar to a prayer chain. This email is only accessed by the priest; the sender is confidential. Those named in the request may be shared with the prayer chain, but the source is not provided.

The Pastoral Care Committee is always looking for people offering to cook meals and perform small tasks that help the community greatly. If interested, please contact the parish office. The committee consists of Fr. Stephen Pecot, Dee Crusoe, Patti McCartney, Kerry Petty, Annie Pitts, and Ralph Wagoner.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2025

REVENUE			
		<i>Revenue, continued</i>	
4104 Pledge Revenue	\$195,000	4350 Interest Earned	\$1,200
4113 Regular Giving	\$20,000	4360 Other Operations Revenue	\$1,000
4115 Plate Offerings	\$10,000	4482 From Marshall Funds	\$750
4312 Contribution from TOH	\$13,000	4484 From Marshall Funds	\$800
4315 Contribution from PW	\$36,000	4488 From Young Funds	\$7,700
4320 Parish Event Income	\$2,000		
4340 Facilities Usage	\$5,500	TOTAL REVENUE	\$292,950

EXPENDITURES			
5000 OPERATING EXPENSES			
5100 BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS		(5300 PROGRAMMING, CONTINUED)	
5110 Utility Expense		5360 Fellowship Program	
5111 Electricity	\$17,000	5362 Parish Life Hospitality	\$2,000
5112 City Water	\$4,000	5369 Fellowship Supplies	\$500
5114 Water Treatment Service	\$700	Total 5360 Fellowship Program	\$2,500
5116 Propane	\$700	5400 Outreach Program	
Total 5110 Utility Expense	\$22,400	5410 Priest Discretionary Fund	\$4,800
5121 General Maintenance	\$8,000	5415 Local Outreach Committee	\$9,600
5124 Equipment Repairs	\$5,000	Total 5400 Outreach Program	\$14,400
5128 Pest Control	\$2,500	5450 Diocesan Programs	
5130 Grounds and Landscaping	\$10,000	5453 DCGC - Diocesan Pledge	\$22,000
5140 Cleaning Expense	\$13,000	5454 DCGC - Camp Beckwith	\$500
5180 Building Insurance	\$44,000	5457 DCGC - Wilmer Hall	\$500
TOTAL 5100 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	\$104,900	Total 5450 Diocese Programs	\$23,000
5200 ADMINISTRATION		TOTAL 5300 PROGRAMMING	\$52,850
5210 Office Expense	\$3,400	5800 OTHER EXPENSES	
5220 Contract & professional fees	\$3,000	5810 Annual Convention	\$1,600
5263 Telephone /Internet	\$5,800	5890 Other Expenses	\$500
5264 Mobile Phones	\$1,560	TOTAL 5800 OTHER EXPENSES	\$2,100
5267 Copier/Printer Leases	\$3,000	TOTAL 5000 OPERATING EXPENSES	\$183,710
5268 Printing and Reproduction	\$3,000	5500 PAYROLL EXPENSES	
5270 Postage, Delivery	\$600	5512 Supply Clergy and Travel	\$1,000
5280 Promotions	\$3,000	5514 Clergy Wages	\$60,500
5299 Other Office/Admin	\$500	5518 Clergy Travel	\$800
TOTAL 5200 ADMINISTRATION	\$23,860	5520 Clergy Education	\$1,000
5300 PROGRAMMING		5522 Clergy Pension	\$14,300
5310 Worship Program		5523 Clergy Life Insurance	\$400
5312 Altar Supplies	\$800	5524 Clergy Health Insurance	\$11,500
5314 Flower Supplies	\$1,000	5541 Administrator Wages	\$18,000
5316 Liturgical Supplies	\$1,000	5594 Employer Share Taxes	\$1,400
5318 Christian Education	\$400	5598 Workers' comp insurance	\$300
Total 5310 Worship Program	\$3,200	TOTAL 5500 PAYROLL EXPENSES	\$109,200
5340 Music Program		TOTAL EXPENDITURES (OPERATING & PAYROLL)	
5341 Musician	\$8,000	REVENUE LESS EXPENDITURES	
5343 Tuning & Repairs	\$1,000		
5348 Other Music Expense	\$750		
Total 5340 Music Program	\$9,750		



Please contact the parish office or the chair of a committee or ministry for more details about participating.

GOVERNANCE

Vestry (last year of term)

<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Candidates</i>
Jason Carter ('26)	Denise Butler ('25)
Kerry Petty ('26)	Chris Presnell ('25)
Dee Crusoe ('26)	Karen Kessel ('27)
<i>Clerk</i>	Alan Pierce ('27)
Susan Farmer	

Finance

Bill Zester, *Treasurer*
Tom Edwards
Kirk Hadaway
Rick Watson
Barry Lawson

Stewardship

Bill Zester, *Treasurer*
Barry Lawson

Endowments & Gifts

Bill Zester, *Treasurer*
Tom Edwards

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Altar Guild

Rennie Edwards, *Chair*
Gloria Austin
Susan Galloway
Jane Harris
Candace Springer
Joy Tracy
Susie Wagoner

Ushers

Mike Barber
Jes Brisben
Karen Brown
Tom Edwards
Alan Embert
Charlie Galloway
Bonnie Lewis
Chris Presnell
Mandi Singer
Bonnie Stewart
Steve Watkins
Ralph Wagoner

Flower Guild

Dee Crusoe, *Chair*
Tara Carter
Aglaia Dolan
Sabrina Fornes
Martha Harris
Alice Leavins
Penny Marler

Acolyte Guild

Patti McCartney, *Chair*
Brooks Jones
Susan Farmer
Travis Pecot
Steve Watkins
Rick Watson

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Gloria Austin, *Chair*
Dee Crusoe
Kirk Hadaway
Brooks Jones
Penny Marler
Candace Springer

Lectors & Prayers

Candace Springer, *Chair*
Lector Only:

March Ard
Jo Branch
Karen Brown
Randy Mims
Steve Watkins

Prayers Only:

Ina Margaret Meyer

Lector and/or Prayers:

Kristin Anderson
Dee Crusoe
Rennie Edwards
Tom Edwards
Susan Galloway
Faye Jones
Penny Marler
Patti McCartney
Ralph Wagoner
Rick Watson

Verger

Brooks Jones

PARISH MINISTRIES

Penny's Worth

Dot Hill, *Chair*
Kerry Petty[✓]
Charlie Galloway
Jane Harris
Bella Rudo
Marlene Seaborn
Mary Ann Siprell
Shirley Taylor

Pastoral Care

Kerry Petty, *Chair*
Dee Crusoe[✓]
Patti McCartney
Annie Pitts
Ralph Wagoner

Communications

Kay Carson
Mandi Singer
Ralph Wagoner

Tour of Homes

Co-Chairs – Sabrina Fornes, Tara Carter
Treasurer – Toni McIntosh
Homes & Gardens – Carrie Kienzle
Auction – Ginger Lawson, Kathy Rushmore
Pillar Program – Jason Carter[✓]
Hospitality – Kerry Petty
Greeters – Bella Rudo
Evensong Service – Joy Tracy
Tickets – Jo Branch
Advertising & Website – Kay Carson
Booklet & Outreach – Tara Carter
Photography – Mandi Singer
Set-up/Grounds – Chris Presnell, Donna Knutson

Outreach

Penny Marler, *Chair*
Jason Carter[✓], *Treasurer*
Kathy Chesser, *Secretary*
Jo Branch
Chris Presnell
Steve Watkins
Myrtis Wynn, *Community-At-Large Member*
Harolyn Walker, *Community-At-Large Member*

Parish Life

Karen Kessel, *Chair*
Dee Crusoe[✓]
Rennie Edwards
Dot Hill
Kerry Petty
Bonnie Lewis
Patti McCartney
Bella Rudo
Mandi Singer

Memorial Garden

Denise Butler[✓]
Rennie Edwards
Beth Embert
Patti McCartney
Travis Pecot
Gary Ulrich

Notes:

The Rector is *Ex Officio* Member of every committee and ministry

[✓] Vestry Liaison

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH CALENDAR - 2025

Please contact the parish office if you have something to add to our parish calendar.

January NEW YEARS DAY 1 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. 20 Donation Tax Letters Due	February PRESIDENTS DAY 17 Diocesan Convention 21-22	March Parochial Report Due 1 Pancake Supper 4 (Shrove Tuesday) Ash Wednesday 5 (Two Services, Noon and 6 pm) DST BEGINS 9
April Lily Dedications Due 9 Palm Sunday 13 Maundy Thursday 17 (Agape Supper) Good Friday 18 EASTER 20 (Easter Egg Hunt) Beckwith Sunday 27	May Evensong First Friday 2 Tour Of Homes 3 Blessing of the Golf Carts 3 (Gorrie Square) MOTHER'S DAY 11 MEMORIAL DAY 26	June FATHER'S DAY 15 JUNETEENTH 19
July Penny's Worth Closed July INDEPENDENCE DAY 4 Wilmer Hall Sunday 27	August	September LABOR DAY 1
October Blessing of the Animals 5 (Gorrie Square)	November All Saints Day 1 All Saints' Day (observed) 2 Florida Seafood Festival Oct 31 – Nov 1 Trinity Marketplace 1 DST ENDS 2 Prayers of Remembrance (Listed in Bulletin) 2 Trinity Pledge Cards 9 VETERANS DAY 11 THANKSGIVING 27	December Annual Report Due 1 Annual Meeting 7 (Hospitality Luncheon) Penny's Worth Closed 20, 23, 27, 30 (For holidays) Poinsettia Dedications Due 14 CHRISTMAS 25 Office Closed 26-Jan 1

A BRIEF HISTORY OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

By Shirley Taylor, Trinity Parishioner

Trinity Episcopal Church has been holding services in the original building for more than 175 years. Starting in 1835, services were first held in homes. The Church was organized in 1836 when Florida was still a United States Territory, and Andrew Jackson was serving as the Nation's seventh President. Construction of the Church began in White Plains, New York where the building was of cut-to-measure white pine. It was disassembled and shipped in sections by sailing vessel down the East Coast, around the tip of Florida, and up the Florida Gulf Coast to its destination in Apalachicola. Finally, it was reassembled with wooden pegs and hawsers. It is considered one of the first prefabricated buildings in Florida.



Completed in 1838, and now on the National Register of Historic Places, Trinity Episcopal Church is believed to be the sixth oldest building in Florida and the second oldest church with an active congregation. The Greek Revival architecture style features large Ionic columns. In the early days, an 1840 hand-pumped Erben tracker organ provided music for parishioners. This organ is still in use but has been updated. It now uses electricity for the blower that supplies wind to the bellows.

A charter to “incorporate the Episcopal Church in the City of Apalachicola” was signed into law by the Governor of the Territory, Honorable Richard Keith Call, a communicant of St. John’s Episcopal Church in Tallahassee, on February 11, 1837. Among the founders and first vestry members were Colin Mitchell, John Gorrie, and Alvan Chapman. Gorrie, a nationally recognized figure was a physician credited with the invention of the ice machine, a forerunner of modern refrigeration and air-conditioning. Chapman was known for his work as a botanist. The Church was consecrated on February 15, 1841 by Bishop Henry Otey, of Tennessee, and The Reverend A. Bloomer Hart served as its first rector.

The exterior of the building today is almost identical to its original appearance. However, in 1921 and 1922, the addition of the sanctuary significantly enlarged the building, allowing space for the choir and an altar recessed from the nave. A middle aisle was created at this time. The once flat-roofed bell tower has been modified in the years since construction. The first bell was melted to make cannon during the Civil War, along with cushions and rugs used for blankets and clothing.

In its long and colorful history, Trinity Episcopal Church has embraced changes while revering its heritage. Efforts at keeping abreast of the restoration needs of the historic church and grounds remain a constant challenge.