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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

Pastor's Report

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Trinity Presbyterian Women (Agape Circle)

Pastor's Annual Report – 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

2021, I think, is best characterized as “and the beat goes on...” Just when I thought the life was returning to some sense of normalcy, another wave of COVID would come at us, knocking us back again. Instead of saying “surely by such and such a time, things will feel normal again,” we learned to live in the present moment. And in May, it meant we finally returned to in person worship! I will not soon forget the joy I felt that first Sunday when instead of only looking at a camera, I got to see your faces again! And yes, we were all masked and distanced and it was a little bit awkward, but we soon got used to that new routine and it was a blessing! While we were not yet singing, we were gathering in person *and* still including those unable to physically come to worship and that felt good! After awhile, we were even free of the masks and I could see not only your eyes, but your smiles and nods and all the rest! Things were looking up...for a while. Then new variants cropped up, cases rose again, and back came the masks. For now this is the “new normal,” understanding that we will take those steps forward when we can, but that sometimes we may have to step back as well. It’s beginning to feel sort of like a dance! And this congregation has been willing to join in! Who knew Presbyterians had such great rhythm? 😊 As we continue to navigate through this pandemic, we remain hopeful that things will slowly and surely regain some sense of normalcy, but still “the beat goes on.” The patience and flexibility that so many of you have shown, so that we can return to some of our ways of being together has been a tremendous support and encouragement.

The pandemic was not all that 2021 was about! As we came back in person, we looked together at the 7 Marks of Vital Congregations, and your feedback about those led the session to develop a *Fall Emphasis*, which they presented at a lively outdoor “Picnic Sunday,” encouraging people to engage in worship, small groups, and service. The monthly Supper Club began gathering again, a new monthly Bible Study was formed, we held a Community Carol Sing, our newly formed Handbell Choir provided special music during Advent. In addition, we returned to our tradition of a Hanging of the Greens service; filling Salvation Army stockings and Christmas Food Boxes; and throughout the year, we continued to support families in need through Family Promise and by bringing canned/dry goods for Harvest Hope. The highlight of 2021, however, had to be Christmas Eve, as we gathered, though masked and distanced, to hear that timeless story of the birth of our Savior, to sing the beloved carols of the season, and to share in the sacrament of communion, for the first time in person in over a year and a half! While the pandemic continues to curtail some of our gatherings and practices, we continued to be the church in engaging and meaningful ways, and for that I am grateful!

While you, the congregation, have had a large hand in all of that, I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank the session for their dedication and commitment to this church; our Music Director, Robbie Braciszewski, for the gifts and talents he brings to us and shares – with us so generously, and our Office Assistant, Louise Barker, whose kind and giving spirit and desire to serve bless us in countless ways.

Indeed, as Paul writes, “now you are the body of Christ, and individually, members of it” (1st Corinthians 12:27). In all that we do together, with all our varied and different gifts, we have faithfully been, here in 2021, the body of Christ, and I know you will continue to be so in this next and new year!

With gratitude,
Rev. Robyn Garrison

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION 2021

The Church had 117 members at the end of 2020.

The session met with Robbie Braciszewski and received him into the membership of the church.

Cayden Burbank was baptized on March 21, 2021.

Jerry McGhee transferred his membership to Blythewood Presbyterian Church on December 5, 2021.

The following members died during 2021: Gloria Humphries, membership #1252, died on February 5, 2021; Arthur Montgomery, membership #463, died on March 31, 2021; A. J. Shuping, membership #247, died on April 3, 2021; Ray Spinks, membership #1225, died on May 30, 2021; Irene Burrows, membership #1266, died on November 21, 2021.

The church had 112 members at the end of 2021.

Submitted by:

Virginia L. Godshall, Clerk of Session

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Administration Committee: This committee, with assistance of other committees and the pastor, is responsible for the proper administration of church business, as it applies to organizational development, financial management and church 'staff' over site.

Committee Members: Carlton Crisp, Jo Ann Van Seters, Suzanne Cribb, Marion Chandler, Reverend Robyn Garrison (ex-officio), and Ray Sweat, Chairman

- Water Conservation Program has remained active and in place. Trinity 'water bill' continues to reflect a 30% discount because of this program.
- Live streamed services continued for 2021, plus back to in person service beginning in May. The pandemic continues to impact services and we are back to wearing masks for church services.
- The church has been able to meet its obligation for 2021. For 2022, the session will meet to determine forward action meeting our expenses and obligations.
- Session continued to pay staff during the pandemic.
- Administration Committee formed a nominating committee for candidates for elder for the Class of 2024. The nominating committee consists of Ray Sweat, Virginia Godshall (representing session), Stephanie Creek, Chris Dearing (representing the congregation-at-large) and Benjamin McMullen (representing youth). A slate of names will be presented at the annual congregational meeting.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Christian Education: To provide leadership in providing educational material and programs needed to help all members of Trinity to become disciples of Jesus Christ.

Committee Members: Kristen Burbank, Jenny Dearing, and Debbie Wood

January:

February: Souper Bowl of Caring. Canned food drive. Donations given to Harvest Hope Food Bank.

March: Lenten Study of the Gospel of Mark was held via Zoom and led by Pastor Robyn

April:

May:

June:

July:

August: Blessing of the Backpack. We also invited the teachers to join us that Sunday. Had activities for the kids during service.

September:

October: We discussed starting a bible study group during the week, once a month.

November: Monthly Bible Study started with a kickoff led by Craig Baker and Gerry Shiver, the group played a round of Bible Jeopardy and discussed what kind of study they were interested in.

December: Weekly Advent devotional and candle lighting was held via Zoom to include those who have not been attending in person worship. This was led by Pastor Robyn. Monthly Bible Study on the Christmas Story in each of the 4 Gospels was held.

We have yet to return to offering Christian Education classes on Sunday mornings but hope to bring that back in 2022.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE/FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2021

Congregational Care/Fellowship Committee: to provide leadership in caring for the spiritual, emotional, physical needs of church members and developing fellowship opportunities in church for all members and their families.

Moderator: Pam Roberts

At our Session Meeting held on January 21, 2021, it was decided there will be no in person Church service until further notice. Worship will continue through Zoom until numbers of Covid 19 cases reduce.

INFORMATION:

January 1 – May 22, 2021 – Worship by Zoom

May 23, 2021 – First in person Church service

Everyone to sit 6' apart from each other with face masks

January to December 2021 – Calls & Cards

May 23 to December 31, 2021 – in person Church service

January 1 to December 31, 2021 – No Groups met during Covid 19 to include AGAPE, VOE and Supper Club

Submitted by:

Pamela Roberts, Congregation Care/Fellowship Committee

Prepared by Pamela Roberts, January 15, 2022

MISSIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

Missions Committee: to provide leadership to enable the people of Trinity, through service to others, to make the love of Jesus Christ known to the people of our community, the nation, and the world.

The Missions committee has had a successful year and we thank our congregation for their generous support and willingness to answer each and every call for help. We thank Pastor Robyn Garrison for her help and ideas for the committee. Through all these efforts and with God's help, we have had tremendous successes on behalf of our community Missions and Outreach.

The following accomplishments have been hampered by the Covid-19 pandemic. We did not collect water for Oliver Gospel Mission, or receive donations for Bible Sticks.

Mission Activities in 2021

Souper Bowl of Giving was held in a new way with drive-by giving of goods for Harvest Hope in February 2021.

Offerings were received for One Great Hour of Sharing and Joy Gift.

Food boxes were distributed at Christmas.

Gift cards for food were given to Family Promise as churches are not housing guests. Our future participation will be with another participating church.

Salvation Army stockings were filled for Christmas by Trinity members.

Our long time missionary, Anne Dayanandan, has retired. We currently do not have a missionary worker to support.

School supplies were collected and delivered to Church of the Cross to be used to fill backpacks for students for the 2021 fall school session.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue O'Cain
Missions Committee Chair

OUTREACH COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

Debbie Wood-Chair

Outreach: to provide leadership in reaching outside the walls of the church to share the good news of the gospel with those not affiliated with Trinity, those who have affiliated with Trinity through special programs, and in the community immediately surrounding Trinity. Our intention is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to all those of our community and share in his ministry with them.

- A Community Outdoor Carol Sing was held Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 4:00 pm on the front steps of the church. Robbie played Christmas carols and we served hot chocolate and candy canes, along with an invite to our Christmas Eve service. Approximately 25 people attended.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

Property: to provide leadership in planning for, caring for, and maintaining the church building, grounds and equipment.

Moderator: Craig Baker

Committee members:

Items accomplished during 2021

1. Held Workday at Church in October (10/23/21)
 - a. Items/areas addressed include:
 - i. Cleaning all exterior doors
 - ii. Purging, organizing and cleaning fellowship hall
 - iii. Wiping down sanctuary pews
 - iv. Purging, organizing, cleaning and repurposing rooms along the office hall
 - v. Purging, organizing and cleaning Robyn's office
 - vi. Cleaned up trash around exterior church grounds
2. Minor maintenance items around the church building, to include:
 - a. Securing ceiling tiles in Louise's and Robyn's office
 - b. Replacing blinds in Louise's office
 - c. Replacing doorstop on doorway to sanctuary
 - d. Replacing light bulbs in several rooms
3. Replaced the compressor on the Sanctuary HVAC unit
 - a. Session approved allocating \$11,790 on 8/26/21
 - b. Compressor ordered on 8/27/21
 - c. Compressor arrived and was installed in October
 - d. Compressor was determined to be defective and replacement was ordered
 - e. Replacement compressor was installed in November
 - f. Continued to have issues through December and early January
 - g. Pardee brought in consultant from compressor sales company and HVAC seemed to be working properly at worship service on January 23rd.
4. Repaired Gas Leak in September
5. Office HVAC was repaired (small leak) in September
6. Backflow prevention inspection was completed in August and no issues were reported
7. Continued grounds maintenance through Potts Landscaping
8. Continued Pest control services through Dodson Pest Control

Goals for 2022:

- Address Chapel and Choir Room HVAC issues

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Baker

Property Committee Chair

STEWARDSHIP ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

Stewardship Committee: to provide leadership to enable the people of Trinity to use their time, talents and money to please and glorify God.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Gerry Shiver, Moderator, Penny Chandler, Suzanne Cribb, Jewell Sams, Cindy Moorer, Pastor Robyn Garrison

During 2021, the Stewardship Committee was involved with planning and implementing the Stewardship programs of the Church.

Conducted the Stewardship Campaign for 2022 and recommended a budget to the Session for approval.

Time and Talent Surveys were distributed to the congregation. Surveys were returned, tabulated and distributed to Session members.

Weekly offering was counted immediately after Church and deposited in the bank.

All bills were paid by the Assistant Treasurer on a timely basis and checks were issued by the assistant Treasurer upon presentation of a signed voucher by the Session Committee Moderator (except for payroll checks which were issued on a weekly or bi-weekly basis).

Monthly financial reports were prepared by the Assistant Treasurer and presented at Session meetings. These reports included current income and expenses, as well as current activities in investment and reserve funds.

Early in the year the Pastor, Stewardship Chairman and the Church Treasurer met with Louise Carter from the Presbytery about developing good financial practices for the Church and preparing for a Financial Review.

The Session engaged Harry Langley to conduct a review of our finances.

In December, Cindy Moorer tendered her resignation as our Bookkeeper effective December 31, 2021.

Submitted by,
Gerry Shiver, Chair

2021 Worship Committee Annual Report

Chair of Committee: Bob Dunn (January through May)

Chair of Committee: Jenny Dearing (June through December)

Worship: to provide leadership in planning and conducting worship for the inspiration of all members of Trinity.

Highlights from 2021 include:

- Return to in-person worship services with a Facebook live stream option
- The offering of Communion and singing on Christmas Eve

In 2021, as with 2020, Trinity experienced many changes to the ways in which we worshipped as we continued to navigate the Covid pandemic. The year began with the continuing of Zoom worship and a return to in-person worship on April 29th with a Facebook live stream option.

Covid guidelines were approved by Session and included the wearing of masks, social distancing, limited access to the building and using one side door for the entry and exiting of the building through the narthex. In addition, pews in the sanctuary were sectioned off to assist members in seating the appropriate distance from one another. The requirement for masks was lifted and reinstated by the Session multiple times pursuant to the guidelines issued by the CDC, the guidelines and mandates issued by the City of Columbia, as well as any guidelines issued by the SC DHEC. Session also monitored the number of cases and the daily percent positive rate as factors in determining appropriate courses of action to keep everyone in our congregation healthy and safe from the virus.

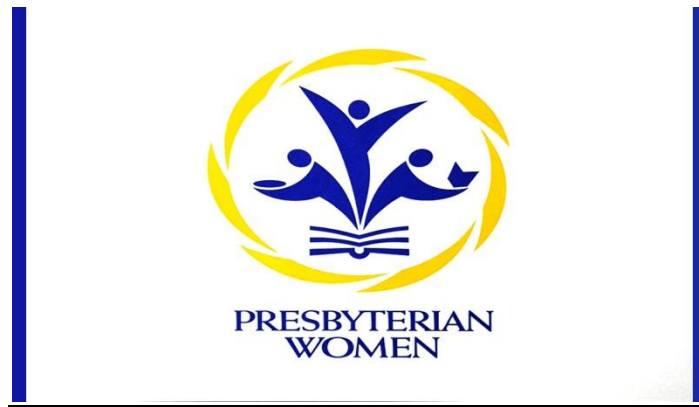
2021 also brought other changes to worship such as not having the friendship pads in the pews and using a sign-in process with sanitized pens. In addition, offering plates and a basket for Harvest Hope donations were placed in the narthex and were not passed during the service. Other than during the Christmas Eve service, Communion was not served, and the singing of hymns was replaced with Special Music played by our Choir Director, Robbie Braciszewski. Session also approved moving the worship time permanently to 10:00am.

While a voice choir was not a possibility during 2021, our Choir Director established a handbell choir with hand bells donated to Trinity by Christ the King Lutheran Church. The handbell choir played the Special Music during worship on December 19th.

Also in December, the Hanging of the Greens service returned on December 5th, an outdoor Carol Sing was offered on the afternoon of December 12th, and the traditional Christmas Eve service was held with the offering of Communion and singing with masks.

Thank you to everyone who served to make in-person worship possible and successful in 2021 including the Rev. Robyn Garrison, Robbie Braciszewski, the Session, Bob Dunn, Ray Sweat, Katharine Baiden, Chris Dearing, Suzanne Cribb, Pat Crisp, all who participated in the Hanging of the Greens Service, anyone who came to my rescue when I was in a pinch and last, but definitely not least, all of our liturgists and ushers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenny Dearing
Worship Committee Chair



ANNUAL REPORT FOR TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (AGAPE CIRCLE) FOR 2021

Although this past year was not the norm for Trinity Presbyterian Women, we found ways to keep connected and to implement some projects. Trinity Presbyterian Women (Agape Circle) did not meet for their normal monthly meetings during 2021.

In an effort to stay connected, Agape Circle participated in the following actions/activities:

1. We provided meals and food items to members who were sick or bereaved.
2. We provided a rosebud for the baptism of a member's baby.
3. In May, we gathered and enjoyed a Birthday Luncheon at a local restaurant.
4. For several weeks, we collected and donated art supplies for the Art Therapy sessions at Toby's Place, an Oliver Gospel Mission outreach program.
5. Presented a gift to our graduate, Jackson Creek.
6. We sent cards and made calls to shut-ins and the sick to offer encouragement and hope.