



**Trinity Lutheran Church**

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# ANNUAL REPORT

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## THE MISSION MOVES FORWARD

The mission of Jesus Christ was and is to “seek and save the lost.” When our Lord walked this earth, He spoke to thousands of people sharing the life-saving news that He has come to bring salvation to the believer. He once said, “I tell you the truth, whoever hears my Word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life.” (John 5:24)

Jesus was the Word made flesh. He lived among and in the human condition, except without sin. He died on the cross of sacrifice willingly so that the believer would be reconciled with the Father. On the Day of Resurrection, Jesus miraculously showed that He is the Redeemer of body and soul. Thanks be to God, Jesus fulfilled His mission of unconditional love.

Jesus completed His mission of earth for the sinner, but there are countless people of God’s creation who have not heard, or do not yet believe in the Word of truth. It is the challenge of the church and each believer to broadcast the Word of pardon and peace to their neighbor. In other words, the mission must move forward.

Possibly the most significant event at Trinity Lutheran Church during the 2010 year was the writing of and approval of a mission statement. The following needs to be imprinted on our minds:

Trinity Lutheran Church exists to regularly  
**RECEIVE** God’s gifts through worship in our church, and homes,  
**SHARE** the good news of Jesus with the community  
**GATHER** with other Christians, and to  
**EQUIP** the believers to  
**SERVE** our Lord

The mission statement is just that.....a statement which we believe accurately attempts to print what is the purpose of Trinity Lutherans’ being. What are we doing here on the corner of Union and Nassau Avenues? The above declaration clarifies, broadcasts and commits the member of Trinity for this mission.

The word “mission” says that a person, or people are being sent to perform a special task. That sounds fine, but just as the disciples long ago were uncertain of how to carry out the mission, so we need a divine vision of how to continue.

At the November congregational meeting, you the members of Trinity, agreed to a vision statement. It said the following:

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**The congregation of Trinity envisions a future rooted in the Word activated by prayer where they can vigorously proclaim Christ. Through His crucifixion and rising from the dead, the believers will have eternal life. With renewed sense of mission, the congregation will be able to adjust programs and structure to meet the needs of the people it serves and with these beliefs we offer the visions of our church.**

**The commitment to worship at Trinity Lutheran will increase each year.**

**Trinity will actively minister to the needs of the surrounding community with the Gospel message.**

**Trained teachers and parents will enable greater numbers of God's children to hear, learn, and live Biblical truth in church and home.**

**Again, this is only a statement, a general statement applying the mission of God to ourselves and the greater community. How do we fulfill the above? That is the next challenge. Each committee, board and agency of Trinity must consistently ask itself what ministries they should sustain, enhance and create so that the mission will be fulfilled.**

**There are many questions to initially ask. For instance, what is our present worship commitment? What factors hinder regular worship? What are the needs of the people in the Islip community? Who do you invite and how do you "market" the church so that others may walk through the doors? How do we equip parents, much less teachers to be effective in their instruction? I hope you are getting energized and ready to jump in and help make Trinity Lutheran a location which in a meaningful way is even more effective in expressing God's love in Christ Jesus.**

**Of course there is much more that happened in 2010. John Woods, who completed his course with great faith and mission and reached eternal rest would applaud this commitment. Many others who are now in glory with their Lord and Savior would give an approving nod. Furthermore, there are a host of people as yourselves who have given vast amounts of time and sacrifice to ensure effective ministry. Thank you for your efforts. What you have been doing and I pray will continue to implement are God's visions for His people. None of this can happen unless you allow the Lord who has gifted you to be a blessing for others.**

**Isaiah speaking as a prophet of God said, "His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?" (Isaiah 14:27b) May we believing that God stretched out His nail pierced hands for our salvation, stretch out hands of love and witness to the world.**

**In the mission of Jesus,**

**David Wackenhuth  
Pastor**

# President's Report

## President's End of Year Report

2010 was an interesting year with a great deal of progress in many areas. We had the TCN group come in and evaluate our overall operation. Some interesting things came about from this evaluation. For me the most telling thing was that Trinity looked in towards our own congregation and very little to the communities surrounding Trinity. The group from TCN felt we should have a mission statement as well as a vision. I agreed with some but did feel that Trinity had a number of outreach programs but I think we can all agree that we should have more. We have worked diligently to come up with a mission statement and a vision for our church. The mission statement cannot be just words or just a statement that satisfies a requirement. Each of us need to be guided by the mission and visions of our church.

The Church's Council worked hard and worked in harmony to achieve a great deal during the year. Under Mary Ann Boorum's leadership Social Ministry did many good things which helped Trinity to reach out beyond our walls. Worship & Music, under Vicar Mike Staneck, saw many innovations. The contemporary service became a reality, Advent services saw a growth in attendance and without question the Senior and the Youth Choir were better than ever. The Bell Choir saw substantial growth. In the area of Education, under Wendy Wendt's leadership, we have put together a new Preschool Board that has moved forward with the certification of the Preschool. There were ample opportunities for Bible Studies and the Sunday School opened with a new president and other instrumental leadership. Gospel Outreach has assembled a new committee due to Deacon Mark Langholz and has individuals who meet and greet visitors to the church. This group hands out material and follows up with the help of Pastor Wackenhuth. The Finance Committee, under the direction of Rich Westerberg, has developed a new and simpler budget to present to the congregation at its annual meeting. The Board of Spiritual Care has been monitoring the communion cards to chart attendance and has continued to bring back some of our brothers and sisters who have not attended on a regular basis. Dan Ladigoski and the Board of Stewardship has put together a Stewardship program that will be a year long process. The Board of Trustees, under Don Shaffer's leadership, has worked on many projects that have taken a great deal of time and work. The Over the Hill Gang is still functioning and has saved Trinity a great deal of money with their labor. Chris Boccalupo and the Board of Youth have put in many hours providing our young people with the Word of God.

The officers of our Church Council provided great leadership during the 2010 year. Rich Jansen has worked diligently with building utilization and has kept the entire Council aware of what is going on in this area. He has also made many good suggestions on how we can become more efficient. Our Treasurer, Kris Holvik, has done an excellent job paying the bills, balancing the check book and monitoring our expenses throughout the year. We are fortunate to have someone of her caliber as our treasurer. Sharon Ladigoski has been an excellent secretary and has kept accurate records and correspondence. She is a very creative individual who always has great ideas to make Trinity a better place.

I feel fortunate to work with such a great group of dedicated Christians who have faith in Our Lord and love Trinity and want to make it a better place to worship Our Lord.

Submitted by  
Tony Fusco

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In 1992 Trinity brought me onto the staff of the church to work with Pastor in our ministry to Youth. With this, there was an expectation for me to complete a process towards certification as a DCE (Director of Christian Education), under the guidance of the Rev Duane Mau. The DCE program did not exist at Concordia Bronxville, but Pastor Mau was confident that he would be able to put together a distance program. Unfortunately his vision was ahead of the structures in place. Since then, I have received the training I could (formal and informal) while basically doing the work of a DCE with a youth ministry emphasis here at Trinity. In the Synod I am currently known as a “non-rostered worker” (there are more of those in the Synod than rostered DCE’s believe it or not!). About five or six years ago a new program came into being allowing for non rostered workers to become rostered, primarily through distance education (like the SMP process). The curriculum focused aspiring commissioned ministers on helping to form faith across the lifespan, and being of general help in this area.

The church instructed me to complete what needed to be done to complete this process, which included completing a degree in Christian Ministry, and a graduate level certification program - complete with a residency, and a supervised internship leading toward certification. This has all been completed, except one class that was missing from my undergrad work, and an interview at Concordia, St Paul.

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod defines the public ministry as one – the Pastoral office (Minister of Religion- Ordained). But it also commissions into ministry those they call “Ministers of Religion - Commissioned.” This position is to work as an auxiliary to the pastoral office, as well as in a diaconal role – a Pastor is a Minister of “Word and Sacrament “ - we are in the ministry of “Word and Service”. DCE’s are under the “Commissioned Minister” umbrella. We are trained in our Synodical colleges (understanding ministry through the Scriptures as confessed in the Lutheran Confessions), and approved by the whole church as “teachers of the faith” dedicated to help the pastor fulfill certain functions of the office (primarily teaching- Eph 4), and diaconal servants, trained for specific service. (such as directing youth and family ministry).

In the past month alone I have been involved in leading staff meetings or teaching at Youth Night, Confirmation, College and Career Night, Crosstraining , Pre School Chapel , Sunday School messages, all of this I have been doing for some time, but there is a certain satisfaction that comes with being recognized by the denomination as a “public minister” and a recognized “teacher of the faith.” Not for prides sake, but for the sake of the Gospel, to bring glory to God.

Even though I have been doing this sort of work for almost 19 years on staff, I do not take the call of God lightly. I consider it an honor to serve the people of Trinity, and even a greater one to be considered a public minister of the LCMS who would be serving here. I was very involved in crafting our recently adopted mission and vision statements and I look forward to serving with you to accomplish God’s mission and visions here in Islip. I seek to be a better servant of the church and the Gospel for years to come, for as Saint Paul says, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" 2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV), and I will continue seek the approval of God through the congregation here at Trinity.

My education has given me a greater appreciation of ministry in the church, especially as it relates to the priesthood of all believers, equipping the saints for service in the kingdom, the importance of the family’s role in the formation of faith of children, and the importance of the public teaching office in the Church, as it serves all ages. (continued)

Also, as many of you know, I was not raised in the Lutheran Church, but God drew me to the Lutheran Church through the study of the Word, when I was in my early twenties. I marveled at the clear confession of Christ, and faithfulness to the Word that the Lutheran Church expressed. This recent process has renewed my excitement to serve in the Lutheran Church, as it is here that Christ crucified is preached and taught, and the Sacraments faithfully and rightly administered, for the forgiveness of sin. It was almost like joining the Lutheran church all over again.

A person cannot abrogate this position and authority unto one's self, but must receive a call through a congregation or a recognized service organization of the LCMS. In one sense this happened in 1992, but was reconfirmed by the congregation January 9<sup>th</sup> (to extend the Call to me through the Synod), and I am humbled by your trust in God and joy about this ministry. I would like to thank the council (with then President Janet Tuminello), who started this ball rolling again toward certification, and Pastor Wackenhuth, Tony Fusco, Al Reuter and the board of Spiritual Care who have overseen this process, the board of Youth, youth group and parents for continued support, Mike Staneck and Alice (McCulloch) Rogoski (they started this process concerning me in '92), and last but not least the financial and prayerful support of the congregation. I ask for your continued prayers for sake of the Gospel, and thank God for all of you, and thank you for the call.

My family has been very supportive of me being a full time student along in addition to my work at the church these past 3 1/2 years, and with school ending, I look forward to be more available to them (my first ministry) as well as the youth and all people of Trinity. Please accept the thanks of Christine, Rebekah, and John for your support as well. To God be the Glory.

Blessings, Chris  
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (DCE) to be.

PS: Just for reference, here are the working definitions that were stressed during though Concordia St. Paul:

***A Minister of Religion-Commissioned is a rostered diaconal leadership ministry of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod designed to offer a ministry of Word and Service supporting the mission and ministry of the Church. Ministers of Religion-Commissioned are called to recognized specialized ministries of the Church that model a servant life, and seek to equip and educate the baptized people of God to live out their vocation.***

***A Director of Christian Education is a diaconal minister of Word and Service, called, certified and consecrated as a lifespan educational leader to nurture the formation of faith and to equip the people of God for service and witness***

## Board of Gospel Outreach – 2010 Year End Report

2010 was a “rebuilding” year for Gospel Outreach. We started out with five members, but three of them left for various personal and professional reasons. Consequently, new members were recruited and we now have a strong and committed board consisting of:

- Dana Wisniewski
- Doug Revello
- Mark Langholz (chair)
- Liz Talamo
- Rob Seibert
- Donna Fahlzolgher
- Matt Staneck (when in town)

Most of the latter part of 2010 was spent discussing our gospel outreach mission, grounding the group in what we would like to accomplish and how best to do that. We reviewed a significant amount of gospel outreach material and resources available from the LCMS and also from other sources such as Lutheran Hour Ministries. As a result, we will enter 2011 with a full-year plan that is aligned with Trinity’s Mission and Vision statements. Some of the key activities will include:

- Outreach to parents of Pre-School and Sunday School students
- Purchase of outreach “business cards” for entire congregation
- Use of “door hangers” to invite local residents to our services
- “Mission U” School of Witnessing Workshop for congregation (from Lutheran Hour Ministries)
- Evangelism training for Board of Gospel Outreach members
- Enhancing our Greet Visitor program
- Booth at Islip Street Fair and table at Trinity Christmas Fair

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Sharing the Good News with others is the “great commission” of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### [Matthew 28:19](#)

“Therefore go and **make disciples** of **all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”

As we celebrate Christmas and the New Year, and prayerfully consider all that God has done for us, we should joyfully look for opportunities to invite others into the fellowship of Trinity so they, too, can experience the love, grace and mercy of Jesus and open their hearts to the workings of the Holy Spirit. Each of us needs to worship regularly, make the time for daily devotions and prayer, and attend Bible studies in order to increase our exposure to the Word and sacraments. When we are “in the Word” we will grow in faith and the fruits of that faith will be made manifest to others.

We pray that 2011 will be a year of spiritual renewal and re-commitment for everyone at Trinity, and that we - individually and collectively - will recognize opportunities to allow the Holy Spirit to work through us to accomplish God’s will.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,  
The Gospel Outreach team

Trinity Youth Ministry Annual report 2010

**Trinity Youth Night:** In 2010 our youth nights met most weeks during the year. We meet on Sunday nights September through June. Some of the nights during the year are special events, with occasional meetings that are on Friday nights with "OT" which goes a bit later. We ended that season with a BBQ in June. Youth Night is the "glue" of our ministry. It is where Christian students can grow, and bring friends.

Of course 2010 saw many events in the youth ministry including our High School Overnight, the Confirmation Lock-in, Youth Night Overtime, *Goofy Games Night*, and many more more. These events allow students to bring friends to youth night events that are fun and have a Christian message.

**Crosstraining:** Cross-training Bible Studies happen at various times during the year. These Bible studies are specialized, focused times of bible study, prayer, and/or training for specific periods of time to encourage spiritual growth, and greater understanding of the faith, in our youth of specific topics or themes in the Bible. In 2010 we had a series during holy week concerning Christ and culture, during the summer our series had to do with mission trip prep and a second series on grace, and then a series on why God became a human during the Christmas break.

**Summer Youth Nights:** These meet on Wednesday nights at the homes of students with use of the pool, BBQ, and Bible study. In 2010 we met at the Salemo, Quinn, Maretsky, Seibert, Thomas, Hidalgo and, Kueler/Marino, homes. We thank all those families for hosting us, and helping the summer to be fantastic.

In 2010 the youth ministry went on **two conferences** for our young people. In January The EXCEL conference and in April the Youth Quake for middle school students.

**Summer Mission Trip:** On July students and adults were commissioned to go to Washington DC to work with the poor and homeless and run a vacation Bible School for children in low income area's. It was a life changing experience for our crew. We ran a video report for the congregation during two of the summer worship services.

Our **College** and Career Fellowship continue to be strong and meets every week during school Break. They usually are able to have 5 or 6 meetings during the Winter break, and 15 during the summer break. Once again during the summer session the group worked through two series, one on the book "The Spirituality of the Cross, and another on "Being Fully Alive" in Christ. During the Winter Break the group started a study on the Gospel of Matthew which will be completed during the summer session 2011.

Our Youth Ministry Staff in 2010 included: Patty Albert , John Falzolgher, Ruth Kuhn, Bryan McDonald, Bonnie Moskowitz, Dina Salemo. Dan Quinn, Janet Quinn, Matt Staneck, Meghan Quinn, Ross Burns ,

and Michelle Hidalgo. Thanks to Dina Salemo and Janette Corlito, for their help with administrative matters each week. Also thanks to Rachael Maretsky, Deanna Getty, Sabrina Seibert, Arianna Wendt, Gabbi Marino, Karen Baillie, and Rob Seibert for their work in confirmation. .

All of our staff come to youth night week or confirmation after week Sunday or Thursday nights to be there and support the running of Youth Night and classes. Weather leading small group discussions, speaking with teens, running the youth café, helping to administrate, or working together with students in Gospel ministry, they are a constant Christian example and encouragement for our young people.

Fundraisers: As usual the youth were raising money to lower costs for the youth conferences they went on. Fundraisers in 2010 included, car washes, The Pancake Breakfast, Super Bowl Hero Sales, Candy Sales, Soda Machine, and Bake Sales. We thank the congregation and all for your continuing support of these events. Please do not underestimate how much these things help!

Students in service to the congregation: KIC; accolyting, Setting up the sanctuary for special services; teaching Sunday school; making up 65 percent of our VBS staff; leading music and running the computers at Sunday School worship; setting up coffee hour; helping set-up and breakdown of the Christmas fair, running games at the church picnic, snow shoveling and helping the ladies aid; serving on the student leadership team and more.

Keep Islip Clean: In 2010 The Trinity Youth Ministry continued keep watch over a portion of Nassau Avenue to help keep it clean. Liz Talamo and Dina Salemo run this service project designed to connect our students with the community in the name of our church, and Christ. Have you seen the sign in front of the church recognizing this?

Our **High** School Student leadership team for 2010 included: Amanda Denzler, Alexa Getty, Deanna Getty, Laura Humphrey. Leslie Little, Joe Salemo, Erik Purchacki, Bridget Quinn, Timothy Quinn, and Colleen Walsh.

As for me, In 2010 I continued to be involved with most educational avenues of the church in one way or another, had the privilege of being directly involved with crafting the church mission and vision statements, and continued in my ministry studies. Thanks to Pastor Wakenhuth, Christine Lambert, Tony Fusco, the board of Spiritual Care, the Church Council, and Frank Muller for his continued fundraising support, all of the parent of our youth, and the congregation for their continued support, and most importantly my family Christine, Rebekah and John.

It's been another year of God's blessing here in all areas of Trinity and I am grateful.

Your servant for the sake of the Gospel,

Chris

Stewardship At Trinity  
**YEAR END**  
December 31, 2010

The Stewardship Ministry at Trinity started the year with a challenge! How could we find a way to turn the discouragement of the deepening recession into a new hope – and the answer was wonderfully simple – Trust God to lead us to a better result! We started the year with some presentations to the congregation and some practical/physical efforts – and discovered that what we needed were adaptive changes. We needed to be leaders in living discipleship/stewardship and not just performing them.

Although the suggestions of Transforming Churches Network were deemed not the best solution for Trinity, there was an overall recognition that a significant change and re-igniting of the spirit was needed to get our Trinity Family moving forward in a positive way. At stewardship we recognized and encouraged the growth in discipleship of our faith to lead the way, believing that Christian stewardship would grow out of that faith.

With the enthusiastic help from several new members in our stewardship ministry we explored several new programs to get our church family encouraged for new and joyful efforts to praise Him for our blessings. Through prayer and effort, the Lord has provided what we need: willing hearts, some financing and a new excitement in His house. Through many planning sessions and with help from our Trinity Board (and especially our Gospel Outreach ministry) we have developed a program we call **Graceful Living-Grateful Giving** to build a bonfire of new faith and stewardship in our Trinity Family. Starting in January and February we plan to fire up the hearts of all in our Trinity congregation to participate and support God's plan to bring us all fully alive as followers of Christ – following His desire that we should be good stewards of His blessings.

We ask that you “run the race in such a way as to get the prize” (1-Corinthians 9:24). Put aside the busyness of the world and make your first priority to serve the Lord with the first fruits of you Time, Talent and Treasure. The peace and love we all want is there for us to experience we need only to trust Him, our Father, and accept His ways.

Serving the Lord and our Trinity Family

# **Graceful Living**

# **Grateful Giving**

**God's grace through His gift of Salvation**  
**Our Father's gift of providing all we need**

**Our response as his grateful children**

**Do not ask the Lord to guide your footsteps  
if you are not willing to move your feet.**

## Ministries at Trinity

<b>Gospel Outreach</b>	Mark Langholz	968-9393	<a href="mailto:mark.a.langholz@citi.com">mark.a.langholz@citi.com</a>
<b>Social Ministry</b>	John Olsen	665-4991	<a href="mailto:jolsen136@aol.com">jolsen136@aol.com</a>
<b>Spiritual Care</b>	Al Reuter	434-8947	<a href="mailto:h4387@aol.com">h4387@aol.com</a>
<b>Stewardship</b>	Dan Ladigoski	851-0133	<a href="mailto:dladd@optonline.net">dladd@optonline.net</a>
<b>Trustees</b>	Don Schaffer	666-7587	<a href="mailto:eileenschaffer@yahoo.com">eileenschaffer@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Worship &amp; Music</b>	Frank Mueller	581-0938	<a href="mailto:Frankathy101284@hotmail.com">Frankathy101284@hotmail.com</a>
	Larry Little	516-458-8315	
<b>Choir/Handbells</b>	Grace Anderson	968-0796	
<b>Youth</b>	Chris Boccalupo	277-1555	<a href="mailto:cbm_sola@msn.com">cbm_sola@msn.com</a>
<b>Fellowship</b>	Tony Flecha	884-1948	<a href="mailto:aflecha@mimic.com">aflecha@mimic.com</a>
<b>Ladies Aid</b>	Elaine Simai	277-0677	<a href="mailto:eks518@optonline.net">eks518@optonline.net</a>
<b>LWML</b>	Jane Tyska	757-2543	<a href="mailto:jftyska@optonline.net">jftyska@optonline.net</a>

Our **Ministry Fair** will be set up on February 5-6 in the Fellowship Hall – stop by the various ministry tables and discover if this is where the Lord would have you serve.

Please consider ways you could get involved in a ministry serving God. Some efforts are brief and temporary – Others celebrate a longer commitment.

The Stewardship of His blessings is different for each Christian.

**How can you serve?: Time, Talent, Treasure**

Sunday School News

February 2011

Happy New Year! The Sunday School is busy planning for 2011. Please remember to look in your worship bulletin and the Sunday School bulletin board for weekly reminders of events .

We would like to send a HUGE thank you to Donna Falzolgher and all who helped her with the Christmas pageant in December. Thank you to Patty Alpert, Liz Talamo, Ruth Kuhn, and Denise Seibert for all their help. Without the dedication and commitment from special parents as these – there would not have been a glorious pageant. Thank you so much!!

In January, the Sunday school classes have begun to worship upstairs in church. Class schedules were handed out to each class and reminders will be placed in the church bulletin. The schedule is also posted on the Sunday School bulletin board in the fellowship hall. The sixth graders will be receiving Holy Communion in church and the fifth graders will be required to attend the complete service with their teachers in order to prepare for their coming Communion.

We will begin to collect pennies or loose change for Lovenky . She is our sponsored child through Compassion Ministries. Lovenky is a 9 year old Haitian girl whom Trinity will sponsor until she is 18 years old. Please have your child start bringing in loose change to fill our donation jar. Thank you.

Parents of children that have just turned three years old in the month of December are welcome to register them for Sunday School. We have a wonderful three year old class- please consider joining us!

Thank you for assisting with chairs every month. In February, we are asking the first grade class families to help put away chairs in the fellowship hall after service. Thank you for your continued support.

We would like to congratulate Chris Boccalupo for receiving his new title of Minister of Religion- Commissioned at Trinity. He is with us every Sunday leading the children's service in the fellowship hall. He is a gifted minister who is able to bring the word of God to the children's level so that we all gain a greater understanding of the Bible and the life of Jesus Christ. We are truly blessed to have him!

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2010 TRUSTEE'S**

We welcomed in the new year with graffiti on the south wall of fellowship hall ..As fast as we painted over the art work more would appear. We learned from neighbors that our driveway was the hang out for a few young people, with the assistance of the police, neighbors and the installation of video surveillance, this situation was corrected.

Between last winters snow storm and this years early snow arrival, leaving us snow bound, (too much snow and too little space to move it to,) we are in a repeat program this year.

Paint peeling in rooms 14-15 & 16 required stripping, sealing and painting, again!

More room was needed to store tables, requiring modifying storage room under the stage for 10 more tables, this led to repairing tables and chairs.

Summer meant fertilizing, cutting, weeding along with A/C filters in need of cleaning and replacing.

Toilets ran into trouble, faucets developed leaks, waste pumps and circulators were serviced showing a need for the boiler room wall to be sealed.

Snow thrower service, fence straightened on East end of parking lot, invalid parking area marked with blue paint, Vestry painted, molding (coping) replaced in fellowship hall.

Inside the chapel the altar lights were replaced and a screen installed and the vestry remodeled.

This should give you an idea of the size of our Church and its many demands and immediate requirements. This is the challenge our custodians, over the hill gang and trustee's have in maintaining the Lord's property. Just like every home owner we have to budget all our maintenance and utility costs. Thanks to our volunteers of many diversified skills, we are trying to control expenses, by performing most of the needed repairs in home. Our group has to be jacks of all trades and can handle 90% of the immediate needs, whether it be electrical, gardener, mechanical, plumbing or ditch digging we are able to handle it, most of the time!

Many hands make light work, all volunteers are welcome. To our willing workers, Thank you, one and all.

Yours in Christ,

Board of Trustee's

## Board of Social Ministry Annual Report

2010 was a year where many plans came to fruition. We started the year planning the spaghetti dinner. Denise Seibert started the helping hands project which is a true blessing to all who receive the meals and all who plan the meals.

All of the projects the run throughout the year food pantry, wee ministry, Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets etc. are always kept running by our wonderful volunteers. Defensive Driving class is given every year. The spaghetti dinner was again a success. The Giving Tree was for the Domestic Violence Agency again this year and was so very appreciated by the clients

The planning has begun for our First Annual Golf Outing which will be held September 19, 2011.

In 2011 the Board of Social Ministry hopes to welcome more members to go forward with more ideas for projects and event. Thank you to all for your support and help in 2010.

In His Service,

Maryann Boorum

## Trinity Church Mouse

**Now I know! Kept my eyes and ears open and my whiskers twitching. All the excitement last month was because the Master's Son was coming to live with us! I kept hearing that there were Kings and shepherds and sheep and cows and camels all there when he was born and they all came to worship Him. I think maybe there were some mice there also cause I really love being in this Christian family.**

**Well, now it is winter and I have my winter mouse-fur on and my family to leave crumbs to keep me fed and warm. I have been hearing about some people that would like to be part of our family but have no place to live and not much food to eat – and it's **cold** outside. I would share my crumbs with them and my fur coat if I could. Maybe some of my family could share. Wouldn't that be like bringing gifts to the Master's Son?**

Keeping warm and happy in the Master's house - TCM



## Worship and Music 2010 Review

The year 2010 continued as a growth year for the Worship and Music Board and for all of the activities it involves. As in past years we celebrated the addition of several new faces to all parts of worship, including choir members ushers, lectors, and altar guild members. The "contemporary style" service that began in 2009 continued to grow and become a part of our regular service schedule every third weekend on Saturday at 5 pm and Sunday at 10 am. We thank TRACE for their hard work and dedication. As I mentioned last year growth truly does come about in so many different areas and it is truly a blessing.

There were additions this past year in the physical sense as we added a screen to the sanctuary that will be used over the coming weeks and months, during worship and for bible studies. We also saw the hard work of so many people come to fruition as the Sacristy was renovated and dedicated in the name of John and Janice Woods. All thanks and honor be to God for all of this work.

We also thank our Lord for all of the people that continue to volunteer. These include those in our choir's, choral and bell our altar guild, lectors, ushers and all others that have volunteered their time continuously over the years always in the name of our Lord. This list includes many people behind the scenes that you don't even know or ever hear about, including all those that put the bulletins together each week.

While the "Live Nativity" scene did not happen during our Advent services this year we were able to put together what turned out to be a very talented and varied musical set of Wednesday services, that were also well attended. With our continued focus on God's Word and music that honors Him, I believe these services will continue to bring joy and anticipation to everyone over the coming years.

Again as I said last year while our focus always seems to be on the music at our worship services, let us never forget that the main purpose of Lutheran Worship is to receive God's Gifts. Come and worship and receive these gifts each week.

Finally I want to thank everyone for their support over the past four years as I have chaired the Worship and Music Committee and I look forward to working with Larry Little and Frank Muller our new co-chairs.

Blessings to all this New Year and beyond, Vicar Mike Staneck

Board of Worship and Music- Frank Muller, Larry Little, Debra Williams, Betty DeVito, Dawn Rice, Ruth Kuhn, Tom Graybosch, Jim Sodergren, John Falzolgher, Catherine Kivisild, Carol Jensen, Ken Sepe and Grace Anderson.

## **Board of Finance**

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As we approach the midpoint of Trinity's fiscal year it is once again time to take a look at the church's finances. It has been well documented that we have struggled in recent years. Our accumulated deficit for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 totaled in excess of \$60,000.

To balance last year's deficit we had to transfer \$15,000 from the building fund and borrow from the Special Purpose, with repayments through November, the SPF is still owed \$10,641. Looking at this year's finances, we had a deficit of \$24,927 through September, but due to your generous offerings, that number has been reduced to \$9,929. We are hopeful that through increased attendance and giving we can achieve a balanced budget for the fiscal year ending June 2011. The reality of the situation is that we no longer have surplus funds to fall back on. The goal of the Finance Committee is to operate within the framework of a balanced budget and to be good stewards of your generous offerings, but this is not always an easy task. Certain factors are out of our control, such as an increase in our medical insurance premiums of 24%.

During these difficult economic times, we ask that you prayerfully consider any increase in offerings that may fit within your budget. Even donating more consistently would be a great help. Attendance drops nearly in half during the summer months. Even though you choose not to attend services, Trinity is still working. Please consider enrolling in the Simply Giving program, which gives you the option of having your donation automatically deposited to Trinity. This program will allow you to meet your commitment to the budget even when you do not attend.

We are asking each of you to pray and remember Deuteronomy 8:18 "Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth". We thank you for your support and your consideration of this letter.

Your servants in Christ: The Finance Committee

# Treasurer

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## Trinity Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

	Budget For Year 7/1/10 to 6/30/11	Month December	Year to Date 7/1/10 to 12/31/10
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Church	\$405,742.00		\$50,668.17
Sunday School	\$7,000.00		\$412.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$412,742.00		\$51,080.17
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Church	\$405,742.00		\$28,417.66
Sunday School	\$7,000.00		\$235.97
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$412,742.00		\$28,653.63
<b>INCOME DEFICIT</b>			+ \$22,426.54
<b>CHURCH DISB.</b>			
<b>BOARDS</b>			
Education	\$900.00		0
Gospel Outreach	\$900.00		0
Finance	\$1,000.00		0
Social Ministry	\$1,000.00		\$61.45
Spiritual Care	\$1,173.00		0
Stewardship	\$1,000.00		\$182.25
Worship and Music	\$4,800.00		\$250.00
Youth	\$7,000.00		\$346.09
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$17,773.00		\$839.79
<b>OPERATIONS</b>			
Building Maintenance	\$25,800.00		\$1,093.27
Church Supplies	\$7,000.00		\$366.77
Conferences	\$300.00		0
Guest Preacher	\$1,500.00		0
Insurance	\$17,600.00		0
Miscellaneous	\$1,200.00		0
Office Supplies	\$10,000.00		\$159.90
Pastoral Conference	\$1,200.00		0
Utilities	\$33,500.00		\$4,008.41
Payroll	\$278,649.00		\$21,864.52
Chris's Education	\$3,000.00		0
Communications	\$1,020.00		\$85.00
Payment to Living Trust	\$7,200.00		0
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$387,969.00		\$27,577.87
<b>TOTAL CHURCH DISB.</b>	\$405,742.00		\$28,417.66

	<b>Budget For 7/1/10 to 6/30/11</b>	<b>Month Of December</b>	<b>Year to Date 7/1/10 to 12/31/10</b>
<b>Sunday School Disb.</b>	\$7,000.00		\$235.97
			\$4,097.73
<b>Missions</b>			
<b>Receipts:</b>			
<b>General</b>	\$22,000.00		\$945.50
<b>Other</b>			
<b>Disbursements:</b>			
<b>Dist. &amp; Synod</b>	\$18,000.00		\$756.90
<b>Concordia College</b>	\$1,000.00		\$47.27
<b>L.I. Youth Mentor- ing</b>	\$1,000.00		\$47,27
<b>Hospice Care Net- work</b>	\$1,000.00		\$47,27
<b>Atl. Dist. Mission Soc.</b>	\$1,000.00		\$47.27
<b>Other</b>			0
<b>Total Mission Disb.</b>	\$22,000.00		\$7,732.00
<b>Vacation Bible School</b>			
		December	Y.T.D.
Receipts		0	\$15,489.00
Disbursements		0	\$15,489.00
Total		0	0

December 2010

To the Saints at Trinity Lutheran Islip,

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

To be a part of this particular community of faith is no small privilege. I consider myself blessed to have just been raised in a community of faith like Trinity Islip, let alone to now be supported prayerfully and financially by it as I take the road toward ordination into the Office of the Holy Ministry. This letter is but one of a series of letters that I will be sending to express, in words far to few and small, how thankful I am for Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Islip, NY.

Someone who especially deserves by thanks is Denise Seibert. Her efforts to start the Adopt-A-Student Program at Trinity are the reason this is happening. So a very big thank-you to you, Denise! I am also thankful for the leadership of Tony Fusco, our Congregational President. Tony is “on the ball,” so to speak and ensures that these matters are taken care of. Someone needs to sign the checks, so my thanks is further extended to Kris Holvik who is also quite “on the ball” and her concern for the use of these funds is always greatly appreciated.

At the risk of this becoming an Academy Award type “speech” with its name-dropping “thank-yous” I would be re-missed to not extend gratitude to Pastor Wackenhuth and Chris Boccalupo. My formation for ministry began in my early years at Trinity Islip, and Pastor and Chris have been nothing but supportive. Their open doors of teaching, dialogue, and compassion have been of special importance to my formation for ministry, which the Seminary is now bringing to a head in specific classes/training for means of my preparation. So a big thank-you also goes out to those two faithful Ministers of the Gospel. And being a Minister of the Gospel in these days is not something to take for granted. In a world full of new challenges, and repackaged challenges, it is all too important to keep them, as well as my seminarian father Vicar Mike Staneck, in our prayers and to support them.

I am also in gratitude to those who have sent me letters/cards of encouragement while I am at school. There is nothing more uplifting than receiving a card/letter letting you know that there are people taking time out of their day to think of you and to let you know they are praying for you. I wonder if this practice could be extended to the others who care for Trinity as well! We are called to bear on another’s burdens as Christians. I feel your prayers sustaining me throughout this endeavor!

To those of you who pray without letting me know specifically, I thank you and feel your prayers as well. I don’t mean that I “feel” your prayers in some mystic way, but I feel them in knowing fellow Saints are at home praying for my preparation and protection. That is all too important to me!

Finally, to those of you not only prayerfully supporting me, but also supporting me financially, I thank you. Please know how thankful I am for your support. As I type this letter I am hardly able to hold back the emotion I want to express. As much as it is a blessing to be supported by those I do not know personally, as is the case with other sponsors of mine, it is all the more important that I have my home congregation supporting me. It is humbling privilege as I am brought to realize how undeserved this support is.

## Adopt-A-Student page 2

As a small token of my appreciation I have purchased a book for Trinity's Library. The book is called *The American Mind Meets the Mind of Christ*. The book is actually a collection of essays, so it reads rather fast, that engage American culture through the lens of faithful Christian witness, namely our Lutheran understanding of this. The professors who author each of the essays do an outstanding job communicating the timeless gospel to our time bound culture. I also thought it would be appropriate to give this book to Trinity since I have had several of the authors in class. It can give you a glimpse into the kind of training I am receiving in preparation for ordination. An additional helpful tool with this book is the Seminary has provided PDF Questions and Answers pertaining to each essay, written by each essay's author, for free download at <http://concordiatheology.org>.

It's not possible for me to express in this letter how thankful I am for all of you at Trinity Islip. I only hope that my ordination to ministry, God willing, and my life as a Minister of the Gospel will honor the upbringing and sustenance Trinity and its faithful members have provided for me. I look forward to being among your presence for the remainder of this Advent Season, as well as Christmas. And as always, thank you all again for everything you do.

Peace of god in Christ,

Matt Staneck

Advent IV, 2010