

2024 Stewardship Campaign

The 2024 stewardship campaign for the 2025 Ministry Funds Plan will officially kick-off at the September 28 & 29 worship services. A small number of congregation individuals and families were asked to consider increasing their pledges for 2025 and to make early "pacesetter" pledges to the campaign. Their responses have been gratifying, humbling, and a statement of commitment to the TLC ministry mission of service. The pacesetter increased pledge total will be announced at the kick-offs.

Everyone on the church mailing list will receive a campaign letter, pledge card and return envelope the week of September 30. As indicated in the September Tidings, this will be a short campaign, with an emphasis on having pledges for calendar year 2025 submitted by <u>mid-October</u>. Campaign progress reports will be given at worship services on **October 5, 6, 12, and 13**.

2024 Stewardship Campaign Team (Stephen Zink, Renee Mize, Pastor Rick, and Steve Backsen)

Nominations Are OPEN!

The Nominating Committee continues to seek candidates for a variety of positions to be elected for terms beginning in January 2025. Most are two-year commitments; some are for three years or as little as one. The committee certainly does not know the interests and skills of all members of our congregation, so if you would consider a leadership role at Trinity, please contact a member of the committee: Nyla Anderson, Nadine Hunt, Don Heyse, and Erik Elliott (their contact info is in Church Directory). We will be glad to talk with you about where you might best serve.



Save the Dates

October 5: Oktoberfest to benefit Habitat at Trinity

October 26: FOCOLU Habitat Build day **November 17:** Congregational Meeting **November 23:** FOCOLU Habitat Build day

December 1-15: FFH at Trinity

December 4, 11, & 18: Advent Soup Supper & Holden Service

December 8: Alternative Giving Fair

Zoom Changes

Zoom links have changed – as we consolidate and simplify accounts. If you need a link for a Trinity meeting, please contact Deana office@trinitylutheranfc.org.

WORSHIP & ADULT FORUM—HYBRID NEW LINK!!

Saturday Worship (5 pm), Adult Forum (Sunday 9 am) Sunday Worship (10:30 am)

To join any of these opportunities click **HERE!!** Meeting ID: 894 3735 9149 | Passcode: Lutheran

SMALL GROUPS OR OTHER MEETINGS NEW LINK!!

For example, Bible Study, Book Group, Immigration, etc. To join any of these opportunities click HERE!! Meeting ID: 811 5510 7728 || Passcode: Lutheran

Donation Corner

Prayer Cards Small Group needs:

 2oz bottles of hand sanitizer by November 16! They are working on a project for the Alternative Giving Fair. Any extras will be donated to another non-profit in need.

Quilting Small Group needs:

• We will still (and always!) collect donated fabric, Fabric, FABRIC.

Thrivent Action Teams: Are you an eligible Thrivent member and have choice dollars available to direct? There are a number of groups that count on the Thrivent Action Teams. Talk to Deacon Katie.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



www.trinitylutheranfc.org

Phone: (970) 482-1226 **After Hours Emergency:** (970)-400-7252

OFFICE HOURS MON-THURS 9AM-3PM

WORSHIP TIMES SAT: 5 PM | SUN: 10:30 AM

Senior Pastor: Rick Reiten pastorrick@trinitylutheranfc.org

Education & Family Minister Deacon Katie Kline katie@trinitylutheranfc.org

Office Admin: Deana Andrist office@trinitylutheranfc.org

Financial Manager: Brenda Moore bmoore@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Communications & Volunteer Coordinator Amanda Backsen amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org

Church Musician: Carrie Hansen carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Choir: Tessa Espinosa choir@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Handbell: Jill Hunt bells@trinitylutheranfc.org

Saturday Worship Leader Clinton Ellerbe saturdayworship@trinitylutheranfc.org

A/V Techician: Claire Pickerel claire@trinitylutheranfc.org

Sunday School: Jennifer Reeve childrensminister@stpauls-fc.org

Nursery Coordinator Tiffany Klijewski tiffany@trinitylutheranfc.org

TLC Preschool Director Brenda Harju brenda@trinitylutheranfc.org



Pastor's Ponderings: Sabbatical Summary

Where did you go? Nowhere.

Many folks have asked about a summary or update from sabbatical, and the newsletter -provides a wonderful opportunity. I was able to share already in adult forum and will take the next few months to summarize summer sabbatical (as best as possible!)

You may remember the sabbatical is broken into three parts, and one of those parts is "Rest". My goal to hike ten 14ers, unfortunately came up short. However, I was able to summit five – Princeton, Yale, Huron, Elbert, and Blue Sky (formerly known as Evans). Hiking 18,500 feet elevation gain, thirty-eight miles this summer may not seem like 'rest', it allowed me to unplug as pastor and be Rick on the trail.

While disappointed (at first) that I was *only* able to reach five summits, they turned out to be some of my most important hikes. Important not because of the distance numbers, the 22 total summits since coming to Colorado, or the spectacular vista views; but because of my mindset before and after this summer. I wasn't sure I could accomplish any; and resigned myself to appreciating that whatever I was able to do was success enough.

Finishing one mountain hike, let alone five, is success enough. Living with Huntington's diagnosis and symptoms may be limiting, and there it is still living. Trusting I do not need to meet anyone's expectations (including my own!) or impress anyone, is liberating. Being in God's creation repeatedly, day after day, finding value and meaning on the trail – is rest.

As is falling asleep in a hammock, or on the couch with a book or crossword puzzle. Rest is essential for all our lives. And it looks different for all of us. Answering the question of 'where did you go?' with 'nowhere' seems countercultural. But if we find rest in the nowhere places of life – everyday, every week sabbath, we find that nowhere turns into 'now here.' God is here now with us giving rest.

In the changing leaves, on the golf course, in cool weather, weekend football, and bugling elk – or whatever season we find ourselves in, find time to rest.

Thanks be to God. Pastor Rick

Adult Forum

October 6: Colorado State Representative and former ELCA Pastor, Andrew Boesenecker, will lead a discussion based on the ELCA's 1991 Social Statement, "Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective" which proposes that the ELCA should act as a "community of moral deliberation." In our highly polarized and deeply divided world, which looks much different than in 1991, can meaningful reflection and respectful discourse still happen? What is the church's role?

October 13: Peter Severson from the Rocky Mountain Synod, will lead us through a discussion of their voter guide on Colorado issues on this year's ballot.

October 20: Staff from ISAAC (Interfaith Solidarity & Accompaniment Coalition) will update us on their work with immigrants here in northern Colorado at this shared 301 Faith Partners Adult Forum.

October 27: We will continue our discussions around healthy political engagement as we prepare for the 2024 elections.

Small Groups

Quilting meets Fridays from 10 am-12 pm. If you'd like to join us, please come; NO experience needed, NO need to have been coming last year, NO worries. Hope to see the old familiar as well as new faces.

Trinity Readers will meet on Monday, October 7 at 9:30 am to discuss the novel Sisters under the Rising Sun by Heather Morris which is centered around an Australian nurse and an English musician who end up together in a Japanese POW camp. Looking ahead to November, we will read The Measure by Nikki Erlick based on the theme of how you would live your life if you knew the length of it in advance. Questions? Contact Nadine Hunt at 970-825-3730. Questions? Contact Nadine Hunt at 970-825-3730. Join us in person or via Zoom.

TGIF Enjoy an evening of fun, conversation, and connecting at the home of . . . WE NEED A HOST FOR Friday, October 11 at 6:30 pm!! Can you host?? Please contact Liz Johnson or 402-320-3699.

JOY delights in welcoming all older adults and those young at heart to join for their next luncheon on Monday, October 14 at 12 pm at Trinity. Our theme for the JOY luncheon presentation following an Italian themed lunch from Nick's Italian restaurant, will be "God's Miracles". Our speaker, Emily Jones of Loveland, CO is the host of the podcast series "The Miracle Files". Emily and her sister started the podcast series to find and share uplifting miracle stories. Their goal is to add light in the midst of the darkness found in the daily news and much of modern entertainment. Emily will present one of the true miracle stores that they have researched. If you are inspired to share, there will be time to share your own short miracle story after Emily presentation. Our speaker and a portion of the meal cost will be funded by a Thrivent Action Team grant, making the meal cost only \$8. To adequately prepare, RSVPs are needed no later than WEDNESDAY, October 9, RSVP HERE or by emailing Amanda. You can pay online HERE or day of via check/cash. Your Action Team volunteers are Jennifer Anderson, Donna Dauner, and Emily Jones.

Saints & Sinners Golf next playday is Friday morning, October 18. We play 9 holes and then gather for snacks and conversation. Further details will be sent to the group members. We will pause for the winter and resume play in June 2025. If you would like to join the group send an email to Donna.

Grace Tables Small Group Begins **Sunday, October 20**. Grace tables small groups have been going on since 2017, but we refresh every year as new folks join. We get together about once a month to share fellowship, a DVD study, and prayer. Currently, we meet in the church library on Sunday nights from 6:30-8 pm. This season, we'll start with Laura Story's intriguing study called "When God Doesn't Fix It". If we have time, we'll then dive into a DVD study with Max Lucado as he tours the Holy Land. Links to both are below, but only buy the book if you want to. You don't need to be a Bible scholar – just have a heart for God and a desire to connect with others. Interested? Call or text 970-310-3482 or email Ron & Bonnie. Thanks - Ron & Bonnie Bend

Pub Theology 2.0 begins on Thursday, October 24 at 6 pm at Prost Bier Garten. Open Invitation. Having done a deep dive into God-talk for the past year, this new year begins with reflections on the practical theology of Bishop Desmond Tutu whose efforts on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South African brought a badly polarized nation back again. His book, No Future Without Forgiveness will be a timely read during the month before we conclude a contentious political campaign in our own country. Email James Gearhart for questions.

Small Groups Continued...

301 FP Fellowship Get-Togethers take place the **2nd Thursday of the month at 3:30 pm**, the location is picked closer to the date, so check the e-News. All gatherings are informal and no RSVP needed.

301 FP Prayer Group The Prayer Group is hoping at least one Trinity member will join the St Paul's and Mary of Magdala members who gather on the **last Monday of the month at 10:30 am** in the Fireside Room to pray for the 301 Partnership. If you have questions or comments please contact Pat Wiedower pathw27@gmail.com or 619-994-2641.

ISAAC Newcomer Winter Coat Drive has begun

ISAAC is outfitting around 100 Middle and High School Newcomers in our local schools. The students will be provided a new coat, hat, and gloves, plus a large hygiene bag for each student. There will also be a fun distribution event that is a field trip for students to the mall. They "shop" at the PSD Future Ready Center and practice their English by ordering a drink at Lima Coffee at the Mall. Some of the teachers organize a movie to show for their class at Cinemark. **ISAAC provides for all of this, so all your contributions (large or small) make a difference!**



The Immigration Task Force of 301 Faith Partners Joint Social & Eco Justice is collecting NEW winter clothing and hygiene items on the table under the windows on the South end of the Fellowship Hall. **DEADLINE** for winter gear donations at 301 E. Stuart is **Sunday**, **October 6**. We will deliver the winter gear to First Presbyterian on Monday, October 7. Winter gear can be delivered directly to First Presbyterian or Fort Collins Friends from **October 7-11**.

<u>DEADLINE</u> for Hygiene items is **Sunday**, **October 20**, and YOU are invited to help assemble the Hygiene Kits/Bags in the Fellowship Hall after the Joint Worship that day.

You can also contribute through ISAAC's website https://isaacnoco.org/donate so that their team can shop to fill in the missing gaps. \$35 buys a hygiene bag and \$65 buys a coat, hat, and gloves. Monetary donations also help offset the cost of the field trips.

Oktoberfest

On **Saturday, October 5 from 6:30-8:30 pm** the 301 Faith Partners will be hosting an Oktoberfest themed fundraiser for Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity to help them reach their goal of \$200,000 to support this year's Common Ground Faith Build. Our goal towards this is \$5,000. The 301 Faith Partners are looking forward to inviting our friends from Spirit Of Joy, Our Saviour's Lutheran, and Shepherd of the Hills to join us in this fun event! Our celebration will include beer, brats, potato salad, and all the best of Oktoberfest. The two families that are building their homes alongside the Faith Builders this year will also be present at the celebration. Don't forget to bring your favorite Stein to drink from, and just in case, bring your growlers to fill up if there is any beer leftover. Together we can share faith, fellowship, help our neighbors, and have fun! EIN PROST!

To adequately prepare and because of room capacity, RSVP's are requested by **September 28**. To RSVP click HERE.

You guessed it, to help make this event a success we need volunteers for food and time, click <u>HERE</u> to sign up to help or donate.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
		1 7:30 am Men's Breakfast
		5:30 pm Soc/Eco Justice 6:15 pm 301 FP SEJ
9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship	9:30am Trinity Readers	8
Stewardship Campaign 11:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am Worship&Music	12 pm Sermon Discussion 6 pm Property	
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9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship Stewardship Campaign 11:30 am Fellowship	12 pm JOY Luncheon 12 pm Sermon Discussion	9:30 am Volunteer @ Irish Elem
		6:30 pm Executive
9 am Education for All 10:30 am Shared Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	12 pm Sermon Discussion	9:30 am Volunteer @ Irish Elem
6:30 pm Grace Tables		6:30 pm Council
27	28	29
9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	10:30 am 301 FP Prayer Group 12 pm Sermon	9:30 am Volunteer @ Irish Elem
	Discussion	5:30 pm FP Eco Justice

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3	4	5
9:30 am Bible Study	10 am Quilting Grp	
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		5 pm Saturday Praise
		Stewardship Campaign 5:45 pm Fellowship
		6:30 pm Oktoberfest
10	11	12
11 am FP Clergy Mtg	and the same of th	
		12 pm Sweet Treats
		5 pm Saturday Praise
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	·	5:45 pm Fellowship
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		5:45 pm Fellowship
		6 pm Supper Symposium
24	25	26
9:30 am Bible Study	10 am Quilting Grp	
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PULL ME OUT! HANG ME UP!! PUT ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!

Assisting In Worship

October 5/6 Vicki Volbrecht / Jack Lipscomb October 12/13 / Kathy Lipscomb / Jennifer Anderson October 19/20

October 26/27 / Jim Rose

301 FP Joint Ecological Team (JET) ECO Tip of the Month

Are Paper Towels Recyclable? Paper towels are **NOT** recyclable and should not be put in your recycling bin! **Why?**

- The fibers in paper towels are too short to be made into new paper
- Due to Soiled paper towels can contaminate recycling process
- The manufacturing process changes the with use of chemicals
- Paper towels end up in landfills
- In the US around 13 billion pounds of paper towels are used per year which is half of the global production and averages 80 rolls per person each year.
- Paper towels have a massive environmental impact contributing to deforestation as they are made from virgin paper pulp. It takes 17 trees and 20,000 gallons of water to make one ton (2000 rolls) of paper towels.
- Decomposing paper towels increases global warming through the release of methane

Can paper towels be composted? When composted they do not generate methane and can create useful garden mulch. However, only unbleached and not too soiled paper towels can be composted. What did people use before paper towels? Cloth towels - remember the rollers of cloth in public restrooms! Why to consider eco-friendly alternatives to paper towels? If every US household reduced use by just 1 roll per year it would save about 554,000 trees and a lot of landfill waste! Incorporating reusable items can reduce single use waste. Some alternatives to paper towels are Microfiber cloths, Swedish dishcloths made of cellulose and cotton, bamboo paper towels, homemade cloth towels made of cotton or linen in the size of paper towels and wrapped on a towel roll, reusable cloth rags made out of old t-shirts, or allow your hands to dry naturally! Fun Fact: Paper towels were an accidental invention. The Scott paper factory made too many tissue paper rolls that were too thick to be used for toilet paper. They decided that instead of wasting everything they sold them as paper towels intended for sanitary purposes to prevent the spread of germs.

The Joint Ecological Team meets as needed to plan educational events, bike to work day, volunteer opportunities, and advocacy. If you have any suggestions for future Eco-Tips, please email them to the Trinity church office. (amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org). Our next meeting is **Tuesday**, **October 29 at 5:30 pm**. Be sure to check out the JET table and bulletin board in the NW corner of the Fellowship Hall. Please email any suggestions for future Eco-Tips to the Trinity church office.

		Dirthadys			
Douglas Prebel	10/2	Luann Schilling	10/6	Erin Sprain 10/24	
Chris Mize	10/2	Deana Andrist	10/13	Anne Jackson	10/28
Paul Schairer	10/3	Richard Deering	10/14	Wendy Gebhardt	10/28
Donna Palmer	10/4	Ed Fadness	10/19	Cherlyn Gorsky	10/30
James Gearhart	10/4	Judy Titus 10/23			
Caley Faulkner	10/6	Gloria Weiderspon 10	0/23		



Jane & Mark Remmers 10/1 Ginger & Len Russ 10/4
Judy & Keith Titus 10/2 Tim & Susan Snyder 10/7
Duane & Marianne Weinmeister- Georgia Lee & Jim Laird 10/16
Ehrlich 10/2 Vicki Volbrecht & James Prater 10/30



The heart, hands & feet of God

Thank someone who has lived out their faith by sharing their gifts and made a difference in the church OR community, please email Amanda, amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org.



Thank **you** so much for being a great neighbor! Your support (\$198) directly helps your neighbors escape homelessness and gain much-needed housing stability. We believe in a home for every family and your support shows that you share that same belief. Because of your generosity, local families are able to move from just surviving to thriving! Thank you for making such an incredible impact. ~ Neighbor

Trinity, Thank you for the wonderful gift to the Food Bank. You have provided 1,058 meals to those in need-wow! The impact Trinity Lutheran makes in our community. is amazing and we are truly grateful for you. ~ Food Bank for Larimer County

Organ Update

Hi everyone, As many of you know, the electronics of our beloved pipe organ broke on Christmas Eve last year, which was unfortunate timing! Even though we have an acoustic pipe organ, there are electronic components inside the console that are used to communicate what stops and settings we are using. We were able to have one of our organ tuners put a "bandaid" on the organ so it basically worked, but we still had many problems. After much consideration it was determined that we should replace the entire electronic component with a new and updated system. Our organ tuner Jerry had to rewire over 1000 wires which was a mess since many were previously mislabeled. He spent many hours back behind the pipes! The project is mostly done now. The tutti button is the "pull out all the stops" button which had never worked before with the previous system, but now is working and is quite loud! Several years ago we added midi sounds to our organ which are electronic sounds, which added to the limited stops on our pipe organ. When you hear trumpet, strings, or oboe that is the midi- not the pipe organ. We can combine the midi sounds with the pipe sounds for a full and beautiful sound. Another notable difference in our new system is that now our midi sounds are touch sensitive, like a piano. On a piano you can control the volume by how strong or gentle you strike the key, which allows you to get louder or softer. On an organ all the keys are the same so you can't get louder or softer- you adjust the number and quality of stops to change the dynamics. So, in the past we were not able to get softer at the end of a song but now we can get louder or softer when we are using the midi sounds.

Occasionally our organ gets a stuck note which stays on, due to a sticky key, or a mechanically stuck part, which is a cipher. Jerry has improved one of the parts which sometimes gets stuck, but other portions of the mechanical equipment may still intermittently do this. The sticky note issue is not related to the new upgraded electronics. Thank you to all who helped make this much needed update happen!

Carrie Hansen, Church Musician & Organist

Highlights from Co-Op Committee Meeting

The Co-Op Committee composed of clergy and lay leaders of each faith community discuss the functioning of the faith partnership, coordination of collaborative projects, and other items affecting the faith communities. At the 27 June 24 meeting the following items were discussed:

<u>Fall joint worship service</u>: Three social/eco justice members, one from each faith community, will be meeting with clergy from the three faith communities to discuss and plan the immigration theme service.

St. Paul's Stewardship: St. Paul's will place a tree in the narthex during their stewardship drive, 29 Sept through 11 Nov. Each week leaves are added to note the number of pledges that have been received.

<u>Pride flag on Electronic Sign</u>: Mary of Magdala asked if the pride flag could be displayed on the electronic sign. A mock-up of the proposed message, including the flag, will be presented to Co-Op.

FFH: Dates for the next FFH are 1-15 December 2024. Trinity will tentatively host FFH in July and December 2025, contingent if enough volunteers and additional coordinators are available. FFH also would like the fellowship hall to be free from other activities after 5 p.m. in December. Discussion involved what to do with midweek Advent soup suppers.

<u>Organ Update</u>: Update was given on the repair of the organ, starting 25 August. Still thinking about a fundraiser for the organ, perhaps after Christmas and before Lent. One suggestion is an organ recital instead of a talent show.

<u>Meeting Time</u>: One of the members is not able to meet on the fourth Thursday of the month. The alternative is to meet the second Thursday of the month. The change is still pending, awaiting response from a member unable to attend the August meeting.

<u>Discussion</u>: Co-Op members started a discussion of the similarities and differences among our faith communities. This discussion will continue at the next meeting. It was proposed when our discussion on this topic ends that the list of similarities and differences be shared with members of the faith communities.

If you would like to receive a copy of the minutes of the Coop Meetings, please email your request to Deana at office@trinitylutheranfc.org. Respectfully submitted, Vicki Volbrecht, VP Trinity Council

Your Gifts In Action ~ ISAAC of Northern Colorado

The Interfaith Solidarity and Accompaniment Coalition (ISAAC), was begun in 2017 as a collaboration of faith communities and immigrant leaders. The coalition is committed to equity, empowerment and immigration justice. Please join us at the **Sunday, October 29 Adult Forum at 9 am** in room 2 to hear ISAAC staff share more information about their programs and immigration concerns in northern Colorado.

In 2023 ISAAC held quarterly community-wide workshops, with training and resources from 30 organizations, to 1) serve over 1000 residents, 2) provide summer fellowships at sites throughout the county for 20 immigrant youth, and 3) work with 60 leaders to form LLC's, start projects, renew work authorization and train in conflict resolution.

ISAAC has an **Immigration Legal Fund** providing scholarships for over 120 complex local legal cases for asylum seekers, refugees with young children, unaccompanied youth and victims of violence. Also provided is **Family Crisis Support** for hundreds of immigrant families in crisis.

When you give to Trinity, you give to Interfaith Solidarity and Accompaniment Coalition (ISAAC)

TLC Preschool Christmas Wreath Fundraiser

Celebrate the season of giving by supporting TLC Preschool's fundraiser. Our goal is to raise \$2,000 to enhance our educational programs and increase enrollment and awareness of our early childhood learning program. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...with an aromatic combination of Noble Fir, berried juniper, incense cedar and touches of color with red, faux, holly berries and a red velvet water repellent bow, you cannot go wrong with one or BOTH wreaths!! They come in two sizes, 22" for \$25 or 28" for \$40 and are available for direct delivery and start arriving the week of Thanksgiving with guaranteed arrival no later than 2 weeks after Thanksgiving. Order at sherwoodfundraiser.com/tlcpreschoolfortcollins, once you select your wreath(s) and follow the page prompts you will get a thank you email with links to pay. There are three ways to pay for the wreaths: Venmo HERE ("Trinity-LutheranFC"), through the Preschool's Vanco website (chose "other" with picture of the wreath), or cash/check in person. Sales end Sunday, November 3! Support TLC Preschool and buy a festive Christmas wreath today!





TLC 2024 Ministry Fund Plan Actuals					
			Year-To-		
	August 2024		Date		
Receipts:					
Offerings	\$	20,291	\$	241,422	
SPE and MoM Building Use Donations		4,580		37,242	
Building Use		456		8,102	
Benevity Funds Released		1,400		10,154	
Total Receipts:		26,727		296,920	
Expenditures:					
Operating and Support	\$	23,070	\$	196,216	
Ministries		9,720		76,519	
Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc)		-		11,243	
Total Expenditures:		32,790		283,978	
Receipts less Expenditures:	\$	(6,063)	\$	12,942	
Total Checking/Savings as of 8/31/2024			\$ 1	60,944.22	
Total Checking/Savings as of 12/31/2023			\$ 166,656.00		
Difference			\$	(5,711.78)	

