

# TRINITY CHURCH MONTHLY NEWS

115 CHARLOTTE ST. SAINT JOHN NB E2L 2J2

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March 2017  
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## Reverends' Message

I write this note as we enter into the Holy season of Lent commencing with Ash Wednesday Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes. As we journey through Lent, I would urge us all to try and find fifteen minutes or a half hour for prayer daily, and ask Jesus to help us to become still during this time. We are asked to continue to seek a deeper relationship with our Father and it is my hope we all will be experience this during this time.

February has been an active month as we, the Trinity family, continue to discern our ministry here in the uptown community by reflecting on our spiritual history and dreams for our future with the support of the Worship Committee. Much reflection has been also focused upon our physical presence and the practical requirements of being good stewards of this magnificent 19<sup>th</sup> Century property our ancestors have entrusted to us to maintain and preserve for the future generations.

Trinity has been blessed by a rich history and a very active and committed congregation which is ever so evident as the parish prepared for its 230<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM)..

It is my pleasure to be part of the Trinity family and I thoroughly look forward to further conversations with the parishioners and welcome new members in our midst.

Blessings all,  
Rev. Steven G. Scribner

## Corporation News

**Vestry** – The final vestry of the 2016 mandate was held on February 21<sup>st</sup> .The major focus of this vestry was to review the financial health of Trinity through the posted 2016 Income Statements and associated Balance Sheet and the recommendation of the 2017 Operating Budget for acceptance by the parish at the AGM. The property committee is active in preparation for building maintenance – having received positive information from the insurance for replacement for the south church roof (all levels).

**Trinity Structural** – As we are all aware, Trinity has placed on hold the initiated Structural Survey by Heritage Standing Inc. for the near term, however Mr. Tom Morrison arranged a meeting with Trinity property members on Feb 15<sup>th</sup> to express areas of near concerns with the building stone masonry. Your Wardens and Vestry (property committee members) are reviewing

areas of concern, short and longer term, which will be shared with the parish as developments become known.

**Organ Replacement** – Phoenix have ordered the components from Phoenix UK for the Trinity new church organ. The plans as coordinated by Spencer Belyea, will have the existing organ remaining at Trinity until Easter, then the console will be removed – shipped to Peterborough ON to have the new organ fitted into the existing console and returned to Trinity for mid June.

**Annual General Meeting – 230<sup>th</sup> Outcomes** – On February 26<sup>th</sup> following the Sunday service the 230<sup>th</sup> AGM addressed the following items of business

- Financials – 2016 Income Statement and Balance Sheet were reviewed and clarifications provided pertaining to the end of year balances.
- Financials – 2017 Operating Budget was presented – following a comprehensive discussion the presented budget was unanimously accepted.
- Financials – The Warden’s, Vestry and Priest in Charge were approved to proceed to secure a professional review of the 2016 financial books.
- Committee reports were highlighted by the authors and all accepted as circulated
- The Parish Governance is under the guidance of the 2017 Corporation. Noted that a motion was presented and accepted to permit a vestry of the maximum size of twelve members.
  - o Wardens – Derek Oland & Christopher Waldschutz
  - o Vestry – Cindy Belyea, Louise Dodge-Hall, Terry Hutchinson, Lynda Lomax, Margaret Ouellette, Linda Webb, Ruth Ross, Stephen Mott, John Logan, Suzanne Irving, Judi Harvey-Isaac and Jim Brittain
  - o Synod delegates – Jim McKenna, Margaret Ouellette and Margaret McCully with alternates – Louise Dodge-Hall and Judy Harvey-Isaac
- Current state - future possibilities – the Reverend shared comments on the need to understand the historic data of the parish in order that future endeavours can be implemented and monitored. Trinity holds a rich history and it is the desire to continue to embrace this history while discerning God’s call to this community going forward. This will involve both a spiritual and physical review. A plan to catch up on building maintenance both external and internal surfaces will be developed over the year. General observations indicate a very committed parish congregation which show great levels of optimism on Trinity’s future realizing that there are areas of growth which will involve change. The assurance was given by the Reverend that all areas of change will be well discussed for input. All were asked to keep their hearts open to God’s call as Trinity works towards enhanced presence in the uptown city core. This is Trinity’s year to reflect, dream and act for Trinity’s future and we will do it together as we exercise a generous capacity to gracious to all efforts to the Glory of God as we journey forward.
- Motion of thanks – There are so many of our faithful who have given so much for the betterment of us all who deserve the appreciation of Trinity and the following were formally thanked on Trinity’s behalf.
  - o Appreciation was given to Debbie Hughes, Trinity Treasure, for her over whelming support over the past years and her support in assisting the new staff. A card and token of appreciation along with a bouquet of roses were presented to her at home following the meeting.
  - o Margaret McCully and Jim McKenna both served Trinity for many terms were thanked and presented with a token of appreciation for their service as they elected to retire from Vestry.

- Trinity's organist and choirmaster – Spencer Belyea and the choir were formally thanked by the Parish for their continued support in musical ministry.
- Cheryl MacDaid, Parish Administrator, was thanked for her support having joined the staff of Trinity in Advent 2016.
- The Priest in Charge thanked Derek Oland and Christopher Waldschutz for agreeing to support Trinity and himself filling the Warden Vacancies on the 2016 Corporation and to Cyrus Blanchett for accepting the role on vestry for the remainder of the term.
- The Priest in Charge offered thanks on behalf of the Parish to Rev. Dr. John Paul Westin for his leadership and support over his term with Trinity.

## Ministries Corner

**Chateau de Champlain** – Trinity holds a monthly Holy Communion service with residents and friends of the Chateau on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 11am. I would like to extend an invitation to members of Trinity to join me which would enrich the service. In my past I have been encouraged by active parish members joining in on these services which provides a wonderful atmosphere for those who may not get out to church due to their current life styles. I have wonderful conversations with those who attend, anxious to share with me their connection with Trinity or the wider Anglican community in this city. Your presence would certainly be welcomed by all.

**Lenten Series – Noticing God** – Noticing God in mystical encounters, in the ordinary, in the still small voice, in community, in creation and more.” The books have arrived, please see Cheryl or myself so you can pick up your copy.

Coffee and snacks will be ready for our time together (not for the Reverend during Lent)

Tuesdays – 1:30 – 3:00pm – Trinity – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

March 7<sup>th</sup> Mystical Encounter & God in the ordinary

March 14<sup>th</sup> The Still Small Voice and the Power in Community\

March 21<sup>st</sup> The Written Word & Creation, Culture & Creativity

March 28<sup>th</sup> Church & How do we know it is God

**Trinity Church Sesquicentennial Series** – Talks, musical presentations & community exploration walks (program offered alternate Sunday's Jan 15 through Dec 31<sup>st</sup>)

Mar 12<sup>th</sup> – UKES4U with an Irish Sing-A-Long (2pm)

Mar 26<sup>th</sup> – Educator Speaks out – Glenn Hall (2pm)

Apr 9<sup>th</sup> – Anglican Churches of Saint John with Peter Little (2pm)

Apr 23<sup>rd</sup> – Welcoming our Immigrant Community with Harold McInnis

## Mark the Dates

Mar 12<sup>th</sup> – Saint Columba Presbyterian Church – 6pm Musical presentation with Mr. David Goss providing a unique narrative

Mar 26<sup>th</sup> – Mothering Sunday

May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Trinity Anglican Church Presents – An Evening with Brent Bambury

May 7<sup>th</sup> – Steve Bell (Wpg MB Christian song writer / artist – an evening not to be missed – 7pm – Stone Church – more info will be available shortly.

June 24<sup>th</sup> – Sky Family Celtic Revival – Saturday evening Christian Concert – free will offering  
July 11<sup>th</sup> – Victoria Children’s Choir – 32 voice choir from Victoria BC –

## Special Services

Apr 9<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday

Apr 13<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday – 5:30pm Parish pot-luck dinner, 7pm service in the church

Apr 14<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday – 12 noon thru 3 pm

Apr 16<sup>th</sup> – The Resurrection of our Lord / Easter Sunday

May 14<sup>th</sup> – The United Empire Loyalist – annual church service – the UEL will be joining Trinity at the 10:30am Sunday Worship and following the service all will be welcomed at the Loyalist House for a luncheon

May 28<sup>th</sup> – Saint John High School Baccalaureate Service – 3pm

June 18<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation – Bishop David Edwards will be confirming our confirmands and celebrating the Eucharist – please mark this service as one to invite your Trinity friends and others.

## Spiritual Reflection

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). The forty days is significant, as it is modeled after the forty days of hardship endured by a number of important biblical figures before experiencing God’s deliverance. Jesus Himself fasted in the desert for forty days before beginning His ministry. (Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13).

Until the seventh or eighth century western European Christians began Lent on Quadragesima Sunday, the Sixth Sunday before Easter. Some Christian thinkers argued that Sundays could not be included in the Lenten fast, since all Sundays celebrate the resurrection of Christ. This argument eventually prevailed so that western Europe added four more days to Lent making the number of days forty-six. When one subtracts the six Sundays the season of Lent is exactly forty. Therefore, instead of starting Lent on Quadragesima Sunday, Lent began on the previous Wednesday, a day which came to be known as Ash Wednesday.

The practice of Ash Wednesday is center to a number of faiths, Roman Catholics, Anglicans and Episcopalians along with many Lutherans. It has been also embraced by some Methodists and Presbyterians in the later years.

Ash Wednesday derives its’ name from the practice of blessing Ashes made from palm branches blessed on the previous year’s Palm Sunday, and placing them on the heads of those attending with the accompaniment of the words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” These words recall the warning God gave to Adam and Eve before banishing them from the Garden of Eden, “By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust.” (Gen 3:19)

The imposition of ashes is symbolic of the ashes of the Bible where ashes accompany or represent grief, destruction, mortality and repentance. We have Job where he questions God’s judgement, “I....repent in dust and ashes.” (Job 42:6) The symbolism of the Imposition of Ashes is to remind us of our own mortality and therefore the need to improve our relationship with God

and our relationship with each other through the introduction of the theme of repentance where we need to think of this as a change of heart and mind that inspires us to return to God.

As we go through this Holy season of Lent, let us each take stock in our own personal relationship with God seeking ways where we may improve our lives living more to what we believe and hear God calling us to be.

## Special Events

### **An Evening with Brent Bambury**

Trinity Anglican Church presents – An Evening with Brent Bambury, Host of the Popular CBC National Radio Show, “Day Six” on May 2,2017 at the Union Club, 125 Germain Street commencing with Reception at 6:00pm and Dinner at 7:00pm. Individual tickets, \$100.00 can be reserved by contacting 506-642-6424. Evening sponsorships are available for \$500.00 with one complimentary ticket being provided.

### **Sky Family Celtic Revival**

Trinity Anglican Church is hosting the Sky Family Celtic Revival on June 24,2017 for an evening concert of Christian music – from an exciting, youthful musical family who reside on PEI. The evening is open to all with a love offering being accepted in support of the Sky Family ministries.

### **Victoria Children’s Choir**

Trinity Anglican Church presents the Victoria Children’s Choir, internationally acclaimed thirty-two voice choir on July 11<sup>th</sup> for an evening presentation. This choir originates from Victoria BC and will be performing fourteen concerts throughout the Maritimes commencing in Charlottetown PEI on Canada Day in celebration of 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada. Trinity will be this choir’s Saint John performance and tickets will be available soon.

# Humor

*Give me a sense of humor, Lord, Give me the grace to see a joke, To get some humor out of life, And pass it on to other folks.*

From the Reader's Digest:

- The topic for my ninth-grade class was palindromes; words or sentences that are the same read forward or backward. I asked, "What's the first thing Adam said to Eve?" I was expecting the classic answer, "Madam, I'm Adam." But one student had a better reply: "WOW!"

From my files:

Three women and three men are travelling by train to the football match.

At the station, the three men each buy a ticket and watch as the three women buy just one ticket.

"How are the three of you going to travel on only one ticket?" asks one of the men.

"Watch and learn." Answers one of the women.

They all board the train. The three men take their respective seats but all three cram into a toilet together and close the door.

Shortly after the train has departed, the conductor comes around collecting the tickets.

He knocks on the toilet door and says, "Tickets please." The door opens just a crack, and a single arm emerges with a ticket in hand. The conductor takes it and moves on. The men see this happening and agree it was quite a clever idea; so after the game, they decide to do the same thing on the return trip and save some money.

When they get to the station they buy a single ticket for the return trip but they see to their astonishment, that the three women don't buy any ticket at all!!!!

"How are you going to travel without a ticket?" says one perplexed man. "Watch and learn," answered the women.

When they board the train, the three men cram themselves into a toilet, and the three women cram into another toilet just down the way.

Shortly after the train is on its way, one of the women leaves her toilet and walks over to the toilet in which the men are hiding.

The woman knocks on their door and says, "Ticket please."

**I'm still trying to figure out why men ever think they are smarter than women!**