

# TRINITY CHURCH MONTHLY NEWS

115 CHARLOTTE ST. SAINT JOHN NB E2L 2J2

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May 2017  
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## Reverends' Message

It is now well into my 6<sup>th</sup> month with you at Trinity. How fast times passes when we are having fun.

It also is a vivid reminder to me I have little more than a week prior to my travels to London England and then on to Spain to walk about half of the 790 kms of the Camino (St. James pilgrimage)

I have been active in some preparations, walks when time permits of up to 20 km at a time and obtaining as much key information as I can from experienced pilgrims, such as our own parishioners as well as others in our city who have journeyed over these lands in recent years. They have been quite helpful in my preparation and what to take and not take on the journey – with the key messaging being, don't pack too much - you are to be a pilgrim – to which I am reminded when Jesus sent out his Disciples and told them to take nothing with them – all will be provided. Well I have faith – but - I am taking a back pack just the same.

I leave Saint John on May 15<sup>th</sup> returning on June 16<sup>th</sup> and will have walked from Leon, May 21<sup>st</sup> to Santiago de Compostela arriving Jun 7<sup>th</sup>

I ask you to keep myself, my Son David and his father-in-law David in your prayers – that we stay heathy, that we have a spiritual journey (keeping with Richard Peace's instructions – we should be able to be in the quiet to hear God and that we do not – do not get lost.

I look forward to this time, a time of peace and reflection and will look optimistically for my return when we will be together at Trinity on June 18<sup>th</sup> for the service of Confirmation.

I thank all those who have graciously agreed to cover my absence over the next month for services and other clerical duties.

Blessings all,  
Rev. Steven G. Scribner

## Corporation News

### **Vestry – Highlights from April 18<sup>th</sup> Vestry meeting**

#### Financial- Year to Date 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

- Revenue – short fall of \$2700
- Expenses – over budget by \$4500 (a portion attributed to budget timing)
- Net Income - \$7200 under budget

#### Building

- Winter Worship space utilization – during the winter 2017, Jan 1 through April 9 Worship services were held in the Bennett Room in order to minimize the heating load on the overall building. The Church proper was held at 10 deg C throughout this time. The fuel consumption for the Church proper, 4 furnaces, was tallied and the savings are in the order of \$2,500 in lesser fuel consumed based upon previous years consumption used as the basis.
- The exterior wooden doors are scheduled to be repainted once the weather permits.
- Fire Marshal report – on going updates to the deficiencies are being completed.
- Church Roof – The south face of the church roof replacement commenced May 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be completed over the next couple of weeks weather depending. The roofing itself is covered

under an insurance claim, however the subdeck was not in compliance and required a complete sub surface, ½” plywood layer to be installed prior to the roofing at Trinity’s cost at an approximate value of \$20,000.

- South Stone perimeter wall – the dismantling and reconstruction of the south section at the Charlotte St entrance is being rebuilt.

### **Trinity Building / Structural** –

Trinity has engaged with a local Structural Engineering firm to complete a visual inspection of the tower and the east wall (Chancel Wall). This work will utilize a high-lift and will be completed once the roof work has finished.

### **Organ Replacement** – Phoenix

The organ was removed from Trinity on Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> on its way to Peterborough Ontario to have the existing cabinet fitted with the new Digital Phoenix organ with an anticipated return date of mid – late June. In its’ absence the services will be utilizing the Grand Piano.

### **Annual General Meeting – 230<sup>th</sup> Outcomes** –

- 1) We continue to focus on the financial health of Trinity and our internal / external financial commitments
- 2) Trinity Financial review from previous year to be completed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2017

## **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** – During Lent the Diocese recommended the read and discussion of Richard Peace’s work titled Noticing God. We enjoyed a weekly trek through this work with the overall theme being – we need to be able to notice God in our ordinary times. In order to achieve this – it well may be necessary that we have to learn to slow down – declutter our lives and find ways to be in the quiet with God – so we can actually hear him and see the wonders he has and will do for us.

We explored our present Christian lives, what works and what does not work for us and the Church within our Faith Community. It wetted our appetite to what may be possible and that is work for another day – not that distant in our future.

In conclusion we were given a couple of take a ways;

- 1) One thing is to Notice God
- 2) The other is to act upon it – respond to what God is telling us

God is revealed to us through;

- Encounters
- Texture of our daily lives
- Small voices we hear
- In community with others
- Within the Word
- In nature
- And in our Faith Community – Trinity

We walk by faith not by sight and CS Lewis states, “You can’t walk around in heaven until your feet are solid enough not to get cut by the grass.”

In closing, if you did not pick up this book I would highly recommend it for your reading of for gifting to a friend.

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

May 7 – The History of Baseball in Saint John with Terre Hunter

## Mark the Dates

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.

May 12 & 13<sup>th</sup> – Trinity Spring Book and Bake Sale

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

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 at our 10:30am service – please mark this service as one to invite your Trinity friends and others.

July 6<sup>th</sup> – Diocesan Choir School mid week service will be held at Trinity

## Spiritual Reflection

### Discipleship / Apostles

During our Confirmation Studies this winter many good questions / thoughts were raised by our youth among us. What is so refreshing is through the eyes and words of our children / youth we learn as they will ask the questions that we as adults have but rarely ask. I have included some of these here with my comments of explanations;

#### **1) What is the difference between a Disciple and an Apostle**

An Apostle is one sent on a mission. The New Testament speaks of the group of Apostles who were sent out to preach the Gospel. They were special ones called by God aligned to Jesus sent to be messengers and missionaries of His Word. An Apostle is one who is sent out with a message and a mission.

A Disciple was a personal follower of Jesus during His life and the New Testament refers to the first twelve Apostles as His chosen Disciples. They were those who accepted and chosen to assist in the spreading of the God's doctrines (teachings).

#### **2) Why did God do such terrible things – ie Flood the world**

The question was raised – why did God cause the flood to happen to cleanse the world? The response at the study session was that God was unhappy with what the people were doing. They having strayed away from God's teachings – wars, being bad to one another, engaging in acts of sin, worshiping other gods. To which the response, correctly stated, 'Does not that same behaviour still happen today?' Great observation – with our social media – we cannot avoid the fact that God's children today – in various part of the world, less so there in North America but still is happening here as well – where we are hurtful to one another.

## Special Events

### An Evening with Brent Bambury

Trinity Anglican Church presented – 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. The evening was a sold out event where 108 guests enjoyed Reception followed by a lovely Dinner. Brent Bambury captivated the room with his humor as he shared his family connection with Trinity Church and touched on his calling in media as a host of Day 6 and his journalistic travels over the years. Following his address, he graciously participated in a rousing session of Q&A covering topics provincially, nationally and internationally. Bishop David Edwards thanked Brent for his message and David Goss presented Brent with two of his books on our great city, Saint John, Brent’s home town.

### 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. You will be thrilled to be part of an exciting, youthful musical family from PEI as they share with us their ministry in music. 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 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 is the choice location for this choir’s Saint John performance and tickets will be available soon at a price of \$15.00 ea.

## Thoughts to live by

### To my Grown Up Child

My hands were busy through the day  
I didn’t have much time to play  
The little games you asked me to,  
I didn’t have much time for you.

I’d wash your clothes, I’d sew and cook,  
But when you’d bring your picture book  
And ask me please to share a while  
I’d say: ‘A little later child.’

I’d tuck you in all safe at night  
And hear your prayers, turn out the light’  
Then tiptoe softly to the door ...  
I wish I’d stayed a minute more.

For life is short, the years rush past ...  
A little child grows up so fast,  
No longer are they at your side  
Their precious secrets to confide.

The picture books are put away,  
There are no longer games to play  
No goodnight kiss, no prayers to hear ...  
That all belong to yesteryear.

My hands, once busy, now are still,  
 The days are long and hard to fill.  
 I wish I could go back and do  
 The little things you asked me to.  
 (Author unknown)

## 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.*

### The Aisle, The Altar, The Hymn

Through the ages, men have been trying to unlock the mystery: Why do their wives, who accept them just as they are before they get married, begin the quest to change their behavior and life-style once their vows are exchanged?

Finally, the riddle is solved.

A social-scientist has arrived at this simple and logical explanation. When the bride, accompanied by her father, starts to walk slowly down the long aisle, she sees the altar at the end and hears the choir singing a hymn. Walking down the aisle, the conditioning process starts where the brain absorbs these three stimuli: Aisle, Altar and Hymn.

She becomes mesmerized as she continually reinforces these perceptions: Aisle, Altar,  
 Hymn --- Aisle, Altar, Hymn ---- Aisle, Altar, Hymn

And finally, as she stops beside the groom, the conditioning process is complete. She looks up at him smiling sweetly and keeps saying to herself:

I'll alter him!

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