

TRINITY CHURCH MONTHLY NEWS

115 CHARLOTTE ST. SAINT JOHN NB E2L 2J2

June 2018
0016

Pastors' Home – 2018 Flood:

Steven



Heather and Steven's River Frontage Property – 39 Dunham's Wharf Rd. Kingston NB

Heather and Steven returned home from London England after our spring visit with our Son and Daughter-in-law, David and Rebecca on the evening of May 2, 2018 to the rapidly rising Saint John River. The above pictures were both taken on May 7th – two very different views of the same property all depending on the direction of the camera.

As one parishioner stated, “what I would not do for another week of vacation” as I missed being with you all at Trinity May 6th for the Battle of the Atlantic commemorative service.

It was well apparent by Saturday, May 5th the Saint John river was still not at peace, and thanks to Rev. David Dean for standing in for me at the Sunday 8am service and to Ven. Harold Hazen for hosting our guests from the Brunswicker under the guidance of Canon Gregory McMullen, chaplain and Rector of St. Mary's St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church.

The river crested on the evening of May 6th, held firm May 7th and started its' decline May 8th. Not much rest for those of us on the river bank over this weekend to mid week when the high water started to recede.

There was an article by a real estate marketer during this time stating, “This is the price we pay for the other eleven and half months living on the beautiful river's edge.

Our property has been in the family since 1963 and I remember well the flood of 1973. Knowing 1973 high water, I built my home 2.5 feet above which turned out to be sufficient from any damage to our

home, but not to let me achieve any sense of rest during the critical 5 days of the river's peak. Lots of cleanup on the property along with a few tasks that have been put off since the building of our home were spirited by the flood. Suffice to say, we will be more prepared for the next time.

We have neighbours similar to those you may have read about or seen on news casts that had significant damage and interruption to their homes or cottages. We were spared, however having properties that were in peril in 1973 allowed the Saint John river to once again hand them its' furry.

The flood is over, hard to believe it was ever that high however I have a scrapbook of news clippings, a catalogue of photos and more hours in my Chestnut cedar strip canoe thus far in 2018 than any other year. All is good.

Trinity Ambassadors

Trinity Profiles:

As mentioned I believe we have much to share and would like it for those who are willing to send in a few notes on their life journey. We are family, Trinity family and to enhance this sense of family, it is good for us to get to know each other better. It was mentioned one of the side benefits we get when we meet outside of Sunday morning, be it at Chi Rho, Faith & Film, Bible Study or working to organize a dinner we talk to each other. In this forum we could reference where we were born, where we lived, went to school, church and other social activities, hobbies, where we worked, who were our mentors and idols we looked up to and our dreams of the future.

We are all part of the Trinity family and we would like to know more about each other. How often it is we learn so many interesting aspects of ones' life only after reading the Obituary – too late. Let this not be our story. Jot down a few lines and share your rich story with your church family now – you will learn we have more in common than not.

Still looking for your story – if you are willing to share.

“The Vision of Trinity Church is to be a Warm, Attractive, Thriving Christian Community”. In simple we at Trinity are –WAT? – (not a typo) W – Warm, A = Attractive, and T = Thriving – Christian community.

Warm – speaks to being close to each other – we care for each other, ensuring everyone is valued and making sure we invite and embrace our newest members into our family.

Attractive – focuses us on the various programs / services we present, promote professionally our ministries, prioritize our time, talents and treasures so that we offer the programming suited for our church family.

Thriving – requires us to be attentive to the financial aspects of Trinity's ministry in order to support the programs, the building and the staffing in order that Trinity is here for the long term.

How are each of us doing with this identification statement of who we all are as individuals and as a parish?

Corporation News:

Welcome:

Trinity welcomes many who have come to worship with us on a regular basis over this past year and look forward to our expanded family of Trinity.

Congratulations to our Trinity Tour Guides;

We are blessed by having six (6) Trinity Tour Guides, David Craft, Hilary Foster, Nicole Soper, Madison O'Connor, Lauren Davis and Mary Louise Belyea. By having a roster of six, Trinity is able to offer guided tours seven days each week.

Thanks to Joanne McGraw and David Goss for their support in working with these Trinity Ambassadors providing them a number of projects along with sharing the Trinity story with those who arrive at our door.

I would ask each of us make an intentional visit to our church and talk with those on duty, sharing what you know and have experienced in the life of Trinity. It is by your stories that their story will be enhanced.

"Well done thy true and faithful servants."

Vestry Highlights:

The May Vestry Meeting

Finance – Debbie Hughes shared the April financials. April revenue was ahead of budget by \$7k with the expenses \$2k over plan resulting in net income operations under budget by \$5k.

Year to date Revenue is \$16k over budget, while expenses are \$10.5k over budget. Net income corrected \$5.5k under plan.

On Going Item – PA system – The Church PA system as utilized for the past month was approved to purchase for \$1,917.63

Strategic Strategy – The Parish Survey was circulated February 18th which is the first phase of a three-phase survey plan. A preliminary review of the survey, only 15 returned did not provide enough data for useful conclusions. An additional 14 have been received and will be added to the analysis.

Other Strategic action items –

Warm Hearts

PA System – Completed

Pew Cards – Revised and ordered

Service Liturgy, Service times etc. – Status Quo going forward

Attract More

Communications

Communications Officer – Louise Dodge-Hall & Stephen Mott assisting

On going updates to the Trinity Web Site through Louise and Laurelle

Thrive & Survive

Capital Campaign – needed to fund the Steeple Project. More definition to come once the project has been properly scoped out.

Rental income – option being pursued for the second floor through the Diocese

Fundraising –

Trinity's 2nd Annual Speaker / Dinner Fundraiser

Trinity hosted the 2nd annual Speaker / Dinner fundraiser on May 24th to a sold out evening. The organizing team selected the historic Union Club as the venue and their attention to detail provided an exceptional evening experience to all of Trinity's patrons.

The evening featured Lieutenant General (Ret.) Michael Day who commanded a variety of units with world wide deployments including Africa, the Balkans, the Middle East and Afghanistan retiring in 2015. His career commenced with serving and commanding the Princess Patricia's Light Infantry, moving on to Canada's Counter Terrorist Task Force Two (JTF 2). Lt. General Day has been honored with numerous awards and honors both domestic and international.

General Day captivated those attending with his personal experiences as he shared his passion for the position Canada plays on the world stage politically, economically and socially. His pride for our serving forces, Navy, Army and Airforce was evident in his recount of numerous roles and commands under his leadership. The evening ended with a question / answer segment where many spoke of national and international concerns relevant to Canada security and growth under very prevalent international pressures found in our present day media coverage. General Day equipped all present with a greater understanding of the real pressures we, Canadians, need to be apprised of. He impressed all with the tremendous dedication, technically advanced skills deployed and work ethic our Canadian Forces put forward on behalf of our Nation's quality of life. A service that we should never take for granted.

Jacquelin and her team, Janice Christopher and Derek have left those attending this, the second annual Speaker / Dinner evening, wanting more looking forward to the 3rd annual program for 2019. Thank you to our many sponsors and loyal patrons of this annual Speaker / Dinner evening providing ongoing support of Trinity's ministries assisting those in our wonderful city's uptown community. Hope to see you at the 3rd annual Speaker / Dinner evening 2019.

Trinity Building / Structural –

As many are aware, there has been a focus of the past year on the health of the stone work on Trinity, with primary attention to the Steeple Tower. This past week, June 6th, an external physical inspection was completed along with a visual internal survey revealing the direction the repair scope of work needs to take. The tower needs some remedial steel ties on all four faces at five elevations to provide increased stability of its' inner core. In addition, the stone facing requires re-grouting of varying degrees from minor to the removal of some stones and resetting to the original architectural lines of the tower. The good news is that there was nothing that caused the inspection team any immediate concern over the stability, however it is imperative that the repairs commence this year. The Trinity Steeple Committee met with Engineering Consultant on June 15th to review the inspection findings and discuss next steps.

It was agreed to prepare a tender package for bid, based upon two options, first a full complete repair and the second phasing the repair over a couple of years.

It is anticipated that the tender will be ready to be circulated to potential bidders by the end of June with expectation of bid analysis by mid to late July.

Property Items on the table for 2018;

- Resetting the Charlotte St. South Granite Stairs
- Trinity Tower / Steeple maintenance – as noted above
- Fire Marshal deficiencies – continue on completing items identified.
- Repairs to the corner post on Germain St
- Installation of a handrail barrier at the foot of the ramp adjacent to the Baptistry
- Possible roadway asphalt repairs

Note: With the extensive repairs required on the Tower, only necessary items will be taken on during the 2018 year with regards to the Building Maintenance.

New Business

Parish Nursing – plans to pursue hiring a Parish Nurse – position description to be developed along with salary funding.

Safe Church – This Diocese driven program is well underway at Trinity, with much to finalize to be in full compliance for our Insurers.

Trinity Yard Sale – was held on June 2nd

Fall Organ Concert – suggestion to raise with Spencer Belyea on the possibility to have a Trinity Organ Concert in the fall – Vestry to promote bringing in a guest organist.

Lay Reader

Have you ever wondered about God's calling on your life in the form of assisting in Worship? Do you have questions on what this calling means to you and to your faith community? Have you wondered what to do with these nagging questions on your heart?

The answer may be that you are called to Lay Ministry.

The Diocese of Fredericton has a very active Lay Ministry Educational program under the leadership of the Warden of Lay Readers, Cleo Cyr.

The Diocese of Fredericton has a Lay Reader Site on their home page and I would urge you as you work through your questions to access this site <http://anglican.nb.ca>

As a testament to the gifts that unfold through a faithful journey in a prayerful attention to God's call on ones' life, I enrolled into the Lay Readers program in the Diocese of Algoma back in 1998 under the guidance of my Rector at the time. I spent 1 ½ years in study and was licensed as a Parochial Lay Reader. This leadership role carried with me through my move to Winnipeg MB where my new Bishop of Rupert's Land licensed me there as a Parochial Lay Reader – years progressed and I found myself searching for more information, enrolled at St. John's College and years later answered my calling to Ordination in the Anglican Church of Canada. What a beautiful journey which has some of its beginnings from my days studying as a Lay Reader.

Please pray and if you find yourself interested in this calling on your life, we can explore this further over a cup of coffee.

Pastoral Care

Ven. Keith Osborne, our Archdeacon, who resides in The Deanery of Saint John has been appointed Director of Pastoral Ministry to individuals in our city nursing homes for a three-year term on a part time basis.

Ven. Keith Osborne completed his four week pastoral instruction program at St. Mary's St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church Forest Hills.

Trinity Pastoral Team have been one of the first three parish teams to step up and support this Senior Ministry. Well Done!

Spiritual Reflection:

Refugee Family – If you want to see what a refugee would look like, look in the mirror, as we are all refugees or we are blessed to be who we are based upon our refugee families who arrived on these shores before us. This past weekend the three church committee known as the Damascus Group, (Stone, Trinity and St. Mary's – St. Bartholomew's) held a yard sale as one of its' fundraisers to support the financial need of raising a sum of \$37,000 need to support the latest family due to arrive in early fall 2018. There will be many other events in the near future for our support so please stay attentive to this worthy missionary ministry we are called to.

Trinity Worship in the community 2018

Chateau de Champlain – Trinity holds a monthly Holy Communion service with residents and friends of the Chateau on the 4th 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. The next service is February 26th at 11:00am in the chapel on the third floor.

Admiral Beatty - Trinity commenced monthly Holy Communion Services at the Admiral Beatty on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm. Like the Chateau Service, all are welcome to come and join and connect with our friends and neighbours at the Beatty.

Bible Study for the past four weeks was focused on the book, Surprise the World, the five habits of Highly Missional People. (Bless, Eat, Listen, Learn and Sent)

Why is this book important? It was presented at the 136th Synod on Nov 4, 2007

Bishop David Edwards asked those present – “Does our Diocese exist or does our Diocese thrive? The book and whether we exist or thrive rests in what we do from Sunday to Sunday – not on what we do on Sunday.

What of our practices propel us outward into the world?

This is not a new program – rather a way to evaluate and enhance our existing lives and programs through five intentional focuses which the author would like is to make habits.

Do we need to think about this at all?

How easy is it for you to live out your faith in the open for others to see?

Does this align with the way we were brought up in church?

What in your life’s routine is motivated primarily by your Faith?

Of these Faith motivated aspects in your life, which would non-Christians find surprising?

Mission or Missional – Surprise – we are all called by our Baptism to live out our Baptismal ministries – the gifts God has given each of us to the betterment of His world.

Evangelist or Evangelism – Surprise again – to be able to speak of the story of Jesus and why we are in love with Christ – makes us Evangelists

Moving on:

Five habits – BELLS – Bless – Eat – Listen – Learn – Sent

Bless – What do we do when we bless someone? We add strength. Mark Twain – I could live 2 months on a good compliment. It is as easy as a phone call, note, e mail, text or heaven forbid – face to face.

Eat – Where did Jesus do most of his teachings? over a meal. Why not us? We open up more over a coffee or a meal than we do in this very church. Bible Studies – we get to know more about each other while we come together to learn of Jesus. The value of the Table is critical to our future. My friend and mentor the late Rev. Ian Peterson once told me, “do not try to talk to someone of the gifts God has when that person is deprived of the basic meal. Hard to take something in on an empty stomach.”

Listen – In order to listen we must slow down. Think of the distractions in your mind right now and if I go on much longer some of you might find that distressful. Why do we avoid one on one with God? Maybe from Fear / Laziness. Fear of the unknown – of what a conversation with God would bring up in our own minds or Laziness – we can put it off to another day, week or year.

Learn – Most of us know what the author refers to as Christ’s Greatest hits, Birth, Death, Resurrection, Parables, and Healings – but there is much more- we need to know the story. Like we

would a famous person or our spouse when dating. Read the Gospels to get more of the story. To read Matthew 2.5hrs, Mark 1.5hrs, Luke 2.5hrs and John 2 hrs. But read more, Paul's letters were written before the Gospel accounts. And read from great authors as NT Wright and CS Lewis and trusted commentaries.

Sent – What did you do this past week? On Monday or Wednesday or yesterday? The author suggests journaling – try it – write down where you were engaged with others about your Faith. The author speaks of a Movie Trailer being that opportunity we have when we talk to others and we could expand this to a visitor attending church. What excites them of our conversation or our service? He goes on to speak of key aspects raised, Reconciliation – between us and God, Justice – focus on the betterment of those unjustly treated, and Beauty – Where do we find God more present if not in the wonders of His creation.

Summary – 1) if you want a copy of the book it is available on Amazon. 2) We need to use this individually to find out where we are on this spectrum regarding the five (5) habits. 3) Need to grow these habits individually and as a parish. 4) If you have any questions see me and we can work on them together. 5) there are study notes from the 4 week Bible Study and Sunday message notes available through the office is so desired.

Mark the Dates

Weekly Bible Study – are finished for the summer and will resume Wednesdays, beginning September 5th 9:30 – 11:00am 3rd floor conference room.

Special Services

Thanksgiving Service	October 7th
Remembrance Service	November 4th (due to November 11th on Sunday and conflicting schedule with Harbour Station) Trinity will have a focus on Remembrance on the two services 8am and 10:30am on November 11th for those attending Trinity.
Service of Light	November 29th
Community Carol Service	December 22nd
Christmas Eve	December 24th 4:30pm and 11:00pm
Christmas Day	December 25th 10:30am

Special Events

Organ Recital – In the planning stages for a fall event at this time

Days Gone By:

Are you in Love? Take this test.

Love like the measles has certain revealing symptoms. Here are some questions for you to answer. Each answer in the affirmative gives you 5 points. If you make less than 30 points, you do not need to worry. If over 50 points you did not need the test.

- 1) Do you prefer to pass the time at the side of “that person”, in preference to going to a dance or the movies?
- 2) Do you feel impelled to confide in “that person” with your intimate thoughts and aspirations?
- 3) Do you find your memory slipping, forget where you left things and fail to recognize your friends when you meet them?

- 4) Do thoughts of domestic life interest you more than formerly?
- 5) Do you begin to enjoy poems and love songs?
- 6) (for her only) Do his opinions and ideas influence you? Do you feel attracted by his world experiences?
- 7) (for him only) Besides being attractive, do you believe that she possesses a fine sensibility and understanding of you, such as you have never found in any other woman?
- 8) Do you now believe that the economic situation does not have such importance as when you formerly thought of matrimony?
- 9) (for him) Does she give you great confidence in yourself?
- 10) Do you experience great happiness at simply being at this person's side?
- 11) Do you now judge all things from the point of view of the happiness which it brings to the other person?
- 12) Do you desire to live forever with "this person"?

Take the test as you were when you were single prior to marriage. Then take the test as you are today. Speaking for myself there are some self examination questions here, if kept in the for-front, would make for a better life together.

Well, how did you do? I remember my trades mentor once telling me many years ago, good thing I got married when I did as she would never marry me as I am now.

Source: Dr. Chase Medical Advice – Diary – dated 1940 (from my Grandmother's Diary collection)

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. (thanks to David Goss for his contributions)

Snippets

Opinions: On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. It read, "The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents."

Ketchup: A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4 yr old to answer the phone. "Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now, she's hitting the bottle."

Death: While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5 yr old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said, "Glory be unto the Father, and unto the Son and into the hole he goes." (never sure what our children hear)

School: A little girl had just finished her first week of school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk."

Bible: A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mama, look what I found." the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear!"