

Trinity reflections - Christmas 2018



The **“Greening of Trinity”** was beautiful for Christmas Eve services, showing our warmth, the church’s glory and creating an inviting worship experience for our Trinity faithful and many guests. We welcomed one hundred & ten to our Christmas Eve Family Service at 4:30 pm and eighty-two attended our Christmas Eve Candle Light Service at 11:00 pm.

The traditional reinstallation of the crèche is a highlight of the Family Service wherein our children and young ones bring forth the figurines to the manger scene and once again the story of the birth of Jesus on that day in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago is depicted.

The challenge for all of us is how to perpetuate the wonderful vibrant feelings we share here, especially on Christmas Eve? How do we preserve, enhance and make others aware of the joy of being here in Trinity Church with many of our friends and family who are missed many Sundays throughout the year? What new directions will Trinity embrace for ours and future generations? One thing is certain: we all need to address these questions in order to best continue the Strategic Plan for our historic Loyalist Parish landmark here in Saint John.



Welcome:

Trinity welcomed many new faces to worship with us on a regular basis over this past year and look forward to our continued expansion of family here.

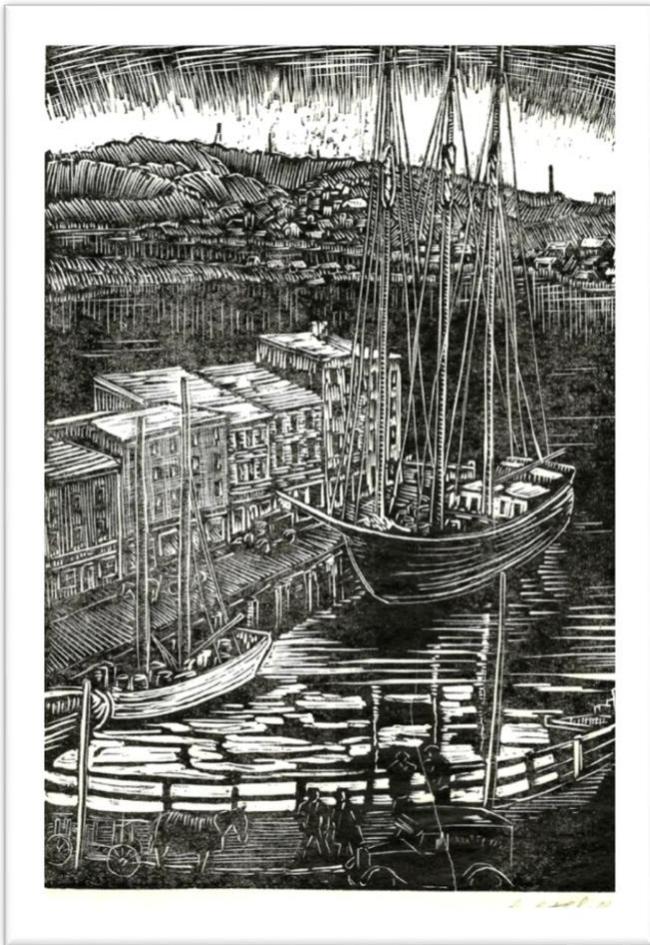
You, our visitors and our newest members provide much joy for us at Trinity. We are blessed to have you with us. Thanks be to God.

Parishioner Profiles:

My connection to our Trinity Anglican Church.

We all have a story of why we are here inside these red doors. Mine is far from straight forward but I share it (*at the Rev's insistence*) and **I do hope all of you will share your stories too!**

I was about three years old when I met my great grandfather Walter Albert Gillett up in Andover, NB, so can only share the story as told to me by my great aunt, the artist Violet Amy Gillett and her sister, my grandmother, Beatrice Rivers. Two very proud New Brunswickers (and prolific storytellers!)



"Market Slip, Saint John" woodblock Violet Amy Gillett

Walter Gillett arrived in Saint John harbor in 1906 from Gloucester England. One of many immigrants bound to make Canada their new home. As Walter had sung with the Gloucester Cathedral choir since boyhood, just after his first Sunday service here at Trinity Anglican, the gentleman sitting next to him commented favourably as to his singing abilities and noting his strong English accent, struck up conversation. This man was Reverend Frederick Bedell, then parish priest of the Trinity Church in the small crossroads village of Andover, New Brunswick.

As Walter told of his courageous determination to travel in to the wilderness of the Prairie Provinces, procure house and land for farming and bring his young family to join him, the good Father certainly must have been awestruck. Only one detail of their conversation was recorded: Father Bredell's suggestion that he need look no further. A very fine area of Canada that also had ample acreage of farmland was available right here in New Brunswick. Looking back on their life here my great grandmother Ada was quoted saying "*Surely in so beautiful a country one cannot but be aware that there is a special benevolence over us.*", to which Walter replied "*Aye, Providence was good.*"

I grew up in Toronto only able to visit during vacations, always dreaming one day I might be able to live here and now I do. I spend a lot of time admiring the dedication and skills of generations before us in their gifts of our beautiful woodwork, stone work and stained glass knowing this place and these bells captured my great grandfather's heart... and have continued to do so for all generations of my family since.

Being that I "*come from away*" I will likely not make much of a mark here, but have written a manuscript of Violet Gillett's life, her artworks and many achievements here in her adopted province of New Brunswick and hope, one day, to see it published.

JoAnne Rivers

Concert Series 2019



Trinity Church presents: Theresa Malenfant in Concert

February 8th at 7:30 pm
(Charlotte Street doors open at 7 pm)

This is a concert not to be missed, and a perfect opportunity to bring family and your friends out to experience the beauty and brilliant acoustics of our church!

Theresa Malenfant is a vocal powerhouse in the tradition of Janis Joplin and Etta James who has built a loyal and enthusiastic following across Canada and Europe. With a number of critically acclaimed albums to her credit and over thirty years of performing under her belt, she delivers the kind of incredible knock-out show that audiences never forget.

She will be accompanied by Saint John's own Scott Medford who is a professional Guitar/Bass instrumentalist.

Raised in Dieppe, New Brunswick, Theresa Malenfant is one of the great blues artists of our province and has been bringing down the house ever since one of her earliest public appearances, on stage with the late Dutchie Mason.

Of her many recognitions, in 1995 she was voted Best Female Artist at the East Coast Music Awards and was twice nominated for Female Artist of the year along with winning the Blues with a Feeling Award (Lifetime Achievement) at Canadian Maple Blues Awards. Theresa recently won the Maritime Blues to Memphis challenge.

Tickets are available at the Church Office for \$45.00 each. Start the New Year off in style. If you haven't already done so - please make plans to attend. Call the office to reserve your tickets.

This concert is a key fundraiser for the Trinity Steeple Capital Campaign.

Concert Series 2019 continued

**Trinity Church
presents:**

**An evening
with
Paul Halley in
Concert**

Date: May 3rd



Trinity is truly blessed to have the multi Grammy Award winning composer, choral director and keyboardist Paul Halley here to *“pull out all the stops”* on our new Phoenix digital pipe organ.

Paul Halley, the multi Grammy Award winning composer, choral director and keyboardist is the Director of Music at Halifax's Cathedral Church of all Saints, and at the University of King's College and its highly-acclaimed Chapel Choir. He is past Music Director of St. George's Anglican Church, Halifax, and Chorus Angelicus & Gaudeamus and Trinity Episcopal Church in Connecticut, to mention but a few of his church music associations.

Paul is an English born pianist with an impressive career. After receiving a Master's Degree from Cambridge University, he was named Music Director of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, in New York. He is credited with expanding musical programs where ever travels and has written numerous choral works and Broadway scores. Choral musicians across North America know his musical scores and his 'Song For Canada' is performed in Ottawa every year on July 1st, Canada Day.

Last Summer Paul performed a public organ recital for the Royal Canadian College of Organists' international music convention. The Chronicle Herald called him . ***"A perfect storm of energy and creativity."***

Please plan to attend – and tell all your friends!.

This concert is a key fundraiser for the Trinity Steeple Capital Campaign.

Trinity Mitten Tree



The 2018 Trinity Mitten Tree was bountiful this year, blossoming with hand-knit mittens, scarfs and hats.

Thanks to all who supported this Trinity ministry.

We have so many generous, creative and wonderfully skilled knitters among us in the pews and friends of Trinity who have kept Trinity in their sights all year long as they knit one and pearl two through those cold winter nights.

Let your hearts be warmed that there are young boys and girls in our Up Town community adoring your handiwork, not to mention keeping a little warmer against these brisk morning temperatures as they travel to and from school!

May God bless each and every one of you and please keep these children in your prayers as you cast the yarn on those needles for the next woolen craft you have in store.

Thank you to Janice W. for delivering the Mitten Tree “fruit” to the Saint John Boys and Girls Club this past week.

Keep your eyes open for a new Mitten Tree to adorn the upper hall in 2019 in preparation for another abundant harvest.

Trinity Ambassadors

“The Vision of Trinity Church is to be a Warm, Attractive and 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 and services we present, promote professionally our ministries, prioritize our time, talents and treasures so that we offer the programing 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:

Vestry – November 27, 2018 Highlights

1) Parish Finances – year to date (Jan – Nov 2018)

Comparative Income Statement (adjusted removing the Steeple Funds off line)

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Total Revenue	\$261,263	\$221,010	\$40,253
Total Expense	\$263,654	\$219,983	\$43,671
Net Income	\$(2,391)	\$1,027	\$(3,418)

Financial Notes:

- As of November 30th, there was \$75,866.50 in the Restricted Investment Income and these funds will not be used to cover regular Operational Expenses; therefore, were removed from the Comparative Income Statement Totals in order to show the true Operational totals YTD Nov 2018.
- The 2018 annual Fundraising returns fell short of that which was budgeted and will negatively affect the year-end bottom line.
- The Diocese rebated an amount to Trinity of \$3k for excess account balances at the Diocese for Employee Benefits and Travel Pool premiums.
- Trinity received \$3,757 from the City of Saint John from the Heritage Fund based upon applied consideration for work completed during 2018.
- Repairs & maintenance increased in November mainly due to the unexpected / non-budgeted costs associated with the temporary electric heat installed in the Church Building (due to the Natural Gas issue in late October which remains unresolved at this time). The costs incurred were; Labor \$5,154.63 and Materials \$3,581.69 for a total of \$8,736.32.
- 2019 Trinity Budget – in progress to have a Draft for Vestry review January 15th regular meeting.

2) Business arising from Nov 27th Vestry

- The 2018 Financial Audit / Review requires the addition of a second person with financial background to assist prior to the **AGM scheduled for February 24th, 2019.**
- Dr. Beverly Sheehan was presented with her parochial lay reader license on Dec 2nd, 2018.
- Trinity Steeple Restoration – ongoing communication to the Diocese as requested to keep them abreast of the project.

3) Committee Reports

- Safe Church – progressing with the minor outstanding items as noted previously
- Special Events – The Faure's Requiem & Cantique presented Nov 23rd was well received.
- Fundraising Events – Trinity has three scheduled events in the winter / spring 2019, namely Theresa Malenfant, Paul Halley Organ Recital and the Annual Dinner/Speaker evening with Retd Lt.-Col. Robert L.Dallison.
- Property Committee – focus is on rectifying the Church Building heating system issue regarding the Chimney as code requires for Natural Gas discharge. The report is pending on the health of the four Church oil fired furnaces for future budgeting

considerations. Church yard lighting reviewed, with adjustments underway for the South lane – Quad area for lighting throughout the nights.

- Trinity parking for the most part around the buildings are rented monthly and these parking spots need to be respected as such from 6:30 am – 6:30 pm Monday thru Friday.

All other hours and weekends these parking spaces are available for our use.

4) Upcoming Services / Events

- Theresa Malenfant Concert – Friday, February 8th, 2019
- Paul Halley Organ Recital – Friday, May 3rd, 2019
- Annual Speaker / Dinner with Retd Lt.-Col. Robert L Dallison – Tuesday, May 14th, 2019

5) Steeple Committee Report

- Phase 1 is approximately 90% funded for commencement May 2019 which will see the South and West Steeple Tower faces completed as designed.
- Plans for future communication both in print and site signage are being drafted
- Many thanks to both Joanne McGraw, Parish Administrator and Debbie Hughes, Treasurer for their added efforts to support this significant capital project.

6) New Business

- The Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been scheduled for February 24th after the Sunday 10:30 am service
- Discussion ongoing regarding the Summer Student program / Trinity summer tours

Next Vestry Meeting January 15th – time: TBA

Trinity Outreach:

Prayer Shawl Ministry:



Over the centuries, shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace and spiritual sustenance. Today, knitters and crocheters of all faiths are creating handmade shawls for people in need, as gifts of comfort, hope and peace.

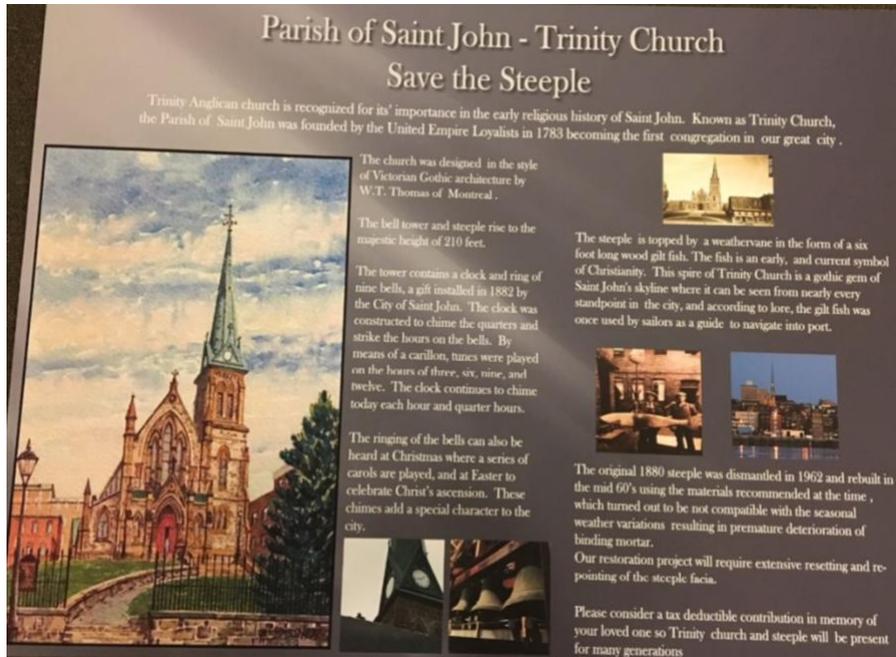
Beth Lawson, in her parish ministry, had a number of knitters who provided her with a supply of prayer shawls that she would bless and present to those she met at home, in the hospital or care facilities. These shawls provided much comfort to those she spent time with and become a very visible reminder that others do care and pray for them.

I would like to reinstate this Pastoral Outreach ministry at Trinity and would encourage anyone who has a desire to knit, to speak with myself or the Office and we can supply the yarn, pattern and instructions.

When we have a number of Prayer Shawls ready, we will have a blessing of them at our morning service. Please consider this powerful ministry that you may do in the quiet of your homes especially as the cooler temperatures creep in to our days.

Trinity Property Update

Trinity Church announces the “Save the Steeple” – Capital Campaign



Warden's Christopher Waldschutz and Derek Oland formally introduced to the congregation present on December 2nd, 2018 the Capital Fundraising Campaign for the necessary maintenance required for the Trinity Church Steeple / Tower.

A brief chronological narrative highlighted the extensive work Trinity's Corporation (Vestry) and the committed Save the Steeple Project Team, made up of the following members; Phillip Christie, Derek Oland, Terry Hutchinson, Christopher Waldschutz and Rev. Steven Scribner.

The Corporation engaged local Structural Engineers from Estabrooks Eng. Ltd. to review the current overall condition of the Steeple Tower and utilized the firm for the development of the engineered solution as well as to tender documents and drawings.

Trinity tendered the project initially to four firms, with two smaller firms declining, resulting in two successful bids.

After review of the bids, reference checks and scope of work review with the prospective bidders, the contract was awarded to Coastal Restoration & Masonry Ltd., Nova Scotia. Trinity and Coastal Restoration entered into a contract based upon a signed Letter of Intent for Phase 1 of the three phased approach to complete the total scope of the steeple repairs.

Phase 1 will address the two more severely affected steeple faces, south and west in 2019 and to date is about 90% funded.

Derek and Christopher thanked all who have stepped forward providing the funding to date and encouraged all to consider this capital project as their respective circumstances support.

There will be active fundraising ongoing within the greater community along with focused fundraising events for Trinity to promote and support which will provide much excitement for the project and the future of our Trinity.

The first fundraiser Trinity presents will be Theresa Malenfant with guitarist Scott Medford in concert on February 8th.

The second fundraiser Trinity presents Paul Halley, five-time Grammy Winner who will perform an Organ recital on Trinity's new Phoenix Digital Organ on May 9th.

There will be a host of other programs as the year(s) unfold. Let's all get excited and involved in our Trinity. If we don't, who will?

Additional Property Items on the table for 2019;

- Trinity Tower / Steeple maintenance – as noted above
- Fire Marshal deficiencies – continue on completing items identified.

Note: With the extensive repairs required on the Tower, only necessary items will be taken on during the 2019 year with regards to the Building Maintenance.

New Business

Parish Nurse – plans to pursue hiring a Parish Nurse are still outstanding at this time – position description to be developed along with securing salary funding prior to moving forward.

Greeters / Sides Persons Roles

It is very important to provide a strong presence of Trinity Greeters / Sides Persons on Sundays as well as on special services and concerts to extend the “*Trinity Connection*” with those visiting. As per recent suggestions, a Sides Person is available at the Chancel Stairs during Eucharist to assist those up and down as needed.

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 1½ 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 so 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 in your life, we can explore this further over a cup of coffee.

A piece of our History:



The vessels for the Holy Communion used on Christmas Eve are guardedly kept in the fireproof safe all year long, and brought out for Christmas and Easter services. This communion set, presented to Trinity by His Majesty King George III, consists of two Patens, one Chalice and two Flagons on each one of which is engraved the letters “G” and “R” with the Royal Arms surmounted by a crown.

According to the History of Trinity Church 1791-1891 compiled and edited by the Rev. Canon Brigstocke, D.D. Rector, these were received by Dr. Byles in a letter to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts in 1790. He noted that the church, thus enlarged, renovated and ornamented and now complete, formed a noble and substantial edifice and a worthy monument of loyal attachment to the Church of England.

Trinity and its contents barely escaped the destruction by fire in 1849, only to succumb to the Great Fire of June 20, 1877 which destroyed 2/3 of the city core. The actual time the fire (which reportedly started at 2:30 pm) captured Trinity may

never be known, however the tower clock’s last hour struck was 5 pm.

Rev. Canon Brigstocke concluded in the caption on the 1877 fire that destroyed the former Trinity Church, “*The bush burned with fire, the bush was not consumed.*” Trinity was rebuilt and consecrated three years later on Thursday, December 9th, 1880, by the Lord Bishop of Fredericton. This is our legacy and this is our Trinity today which we all enjoy.

Books and Authors of note:

I was asked a while ago what authors I read or would recommend. We each will gravitate to certain writing styles or generations of writers.

In addition to those authors I listed in November, I must add the following book as a very good read. Book title, ‘The Divine Conspiracy – Rediscover our hidden life in God’ by Dallas Willard. I recently read this book and will have it as a reference book in my collection soon. This book is available on line with Amazon currently if one so desires a copy.

Words to Reflect Upon:

I'm very ugly
So don't try to convince me that
I am a very beautiful person
Because at the end of the day
I hate myself in every single way
And I'm not going to lie to myself by saying
There is beauty inside of me that matters
So rest assured I will remind myself
That I am a worthless, terrible person
And nothing you say will make me believe
I still deserve love
Because no matter what
I am not good enough to be loved
And I am in no position to believe that
Beauty does exist within me
Because whenever I look in the mirror I always think
Am I as ugly as people say?

(Now read again from the bottom to the top)

Remember, being happy doesn't mean you have it all. It means you're thankful for all you have.

Cheer up friends, God doesn't give us what we can handle. God helps us handle what we are given.

Trinity Worship in the community 2019

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 11 am.**

I would like to extend an invitation to members of Trinity to enrich this service by attending. I have always been encouraged by active parish members joining in on these services. Your presence provides a wonderful atmosphere for those who may not get out to church due to their current life styles. In conversations with those who attend I find all are anxious to share their connection with Trinity and the wider Anglican community in this city. Your presence would certainly be welcomed.

The next service is **January 28th at 11:00 am** in the chapel on the third floor. Please consider coming out and joining this service.

Bible Study

Wednesday morning Bible Study will resume **January 9th at 9:30 to 11:00 am** in the third-floor meeting room.

The six week program will be exploring the writings of Mr. Dallas Willard's book titled "The Divine Conspiracy; Rediscovering our hidden life in God". Dallas Willard makes a compelling argument for the relevance of God to every aspect of our existence.

Wk 1 - Jan 9 - The Divine Conspiracy

Wk 2 - Jan 16 - The Path to a Blessed Life

Wk 3 - Jan 23 - Becoming a Good Person

Wk 4 - Jan 30 - Treasuring What Matters Most

Wk 5 - Feb 6 - Becoming a Community of Prayerful Love

Wk 6 - Feb 13 - Living as a Disciple of Jesus

I will provide some printed material, however if you would like to access the book yourself it can be found on Amazon for \$31.99 Cdn or maybe in the library or on line for a download if you are so inclined.

I was provided a copy of this book to read by Ven. Harold Hazen prior to my fall leave to the south. I spent many hours slowly reading this wonderful work and recommend in all that I have read, it rates at the very top. Worth the investment and the time.

I look forward to our time together in January - for a hot drink, snacks and great conversation.

Following this six week session on the Divine Conspiracy we will take a three week session on Baptism for the Baptized - what you may or may not know about your Baptism might surprise you!

Rev. Steven G. Scribner

From David Goss's collections of this and that

From "Rhythmic Reveries Round the Year", a book of poems by Margaret M. Hamilton.

I will be doing a Walk n' Talk on poems relevant to Saint John, so have been on the lookout for some good examples. I loved the second one printed below as I can walk people by the Loyalist Rock, and recite it.

I am trying to find out some details about Margaret M. Hamilton. She lived on Spring Street when she wrote this in 1956. I suspected she might have attended St. Paul's Church, so I asked Joan Pearce about that, but she did not know her. Joan suggested I ask Olga Grant, and I did. She remembered her, and said her sister ran a grocery store in the area. She had no other memories, but perhaps some of you who read this might be able to add to the information?

I am also trying to collect this sort of detail on several other poets including Constance Soulikias Whittaker (formerly of Trinity). If anyone can help with her poems that mention Saint John, or about Constance herself, please contact me at 672-8601 or gosswalk@nbnet.nb.ca, or speak to me at coffee hour any Sunday.

The following poem seemed most appropriate for this issue of the rector's January newsletter, so I'll give it first, then follow up with the poem I'll use on the Walk n' Talk.

The New Year by Margaret M. Hamilton

I see the curtain fall
On this old year's last day,
We shall not tread this path
Again the self-same way.

The curtain soon will rise
Upon a glad New Year,
More days in which to love
Or hate, to trust or fear.

So, for the interim
Between the old and new,
I'll be alone with God
The past year to review.

Then gathering added strength
Press onward in His name,-
To love foe Christ and others,-
This is my New Year aim!

Now for the poem about the Loyalist Rock.

The Compulsion of Loyalty by Margaret M. Hamilton

There's a monumental boulder
At Market Slip, Saint John,
Which should prove an inspiration
To all who look thereon.
It tells of settlers who came
Because of loyalty
To the royal crown of Britain
In seventeen eighty-three.

What did it cost these Loyalists
Who came to Fundy's shore?
The loss of homes and comforts
And friends they'd see no more;
The direst deprivations
In a land so young and bold;
Courage and perseverance
To face hardships unfortold.

What did they gain, these Loyalists?
Not wealth or worldly fame,
But in making of our nation
They have a glorious name!
So read again their story
And with its valour thrill:
God grant that we Canadians
May have their spirit still.

Humour – the Lighter Side of Seriousness

Give me a sense of humour, Lord. Give me the grace to see a joke,
to get some humour out of life, and pass it on to other folks.

According to Nelson’s “Complete Book of Stories, Illustrations and Quotes”, children often hear adults sing the following lyrics during the Christmas season:

Deck the halls with Buddy Holly.
On the first day of Christmas my tulip gave to me.
Later on we’ll perspire, as we dream by the fire
He’s makin’ a list, chicken and rice.
Sleep in heavenly peas.
In the meadow ewe can build a snowman, then pretend that he is sparse and brown.
You’ll go down in Listerine.
Oh what fun it is to ride with a one horse soap and hay.
Good tidings we bring to you and your kid.

To everyone that received a book from me for Christmas;
they’re due back at the library next Friday.

The darn computer keeps saying I have mail.
I’ve walked out to the mailbox ten times today and there’s nothing there

A guy walks into a bar, orders twelve beers and starts drinking them as fast as he can.
The bartender asks, “*Dang, why are you drinking so fast?*”
The guy says, “*You’d be drinking fast too if you had what I had.*”
The bartender asks, “*What do you have?*”
The guy responds, “*75 cents.*”

It is January 1st and only 358 days until Christmas.

Birthdays are good for your health. Studies show that people who have more birthdays live longer.

The five stages of winter: Shock, denial, anger, depression, APRIL !!



As the clock strikes midnight on December 31st, remember to raise your left leg.
That way you will start the New Year on the right foot.