



## TRINITY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

January 23, 2025

### TRINITY CHURCH A Warm – Thriving – Christian Community

**We are on Facebook! We invite you to “like” us!**

<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityChurchUptownSJ>

**Our Parish Events Calendar is available on our Webpage!** <http://trinitysj.com>

*You are receiving this weekly Trinity Newsletter as you are a member of the Trinity family. Should you not wish to receive this, please indicate by return e mail.*

*Photo Credit – Uptown Saint John*

**Trinity OFFICE HOURS:** Our parish administrator works in the church office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 12-3 pm while working from the home office on Monday and Friday. All telephone messages regarding church business are to be directed to the office 506-693-8558 or [trinsj@nb.aibn.com](mailto:trinsj@nb.aibn.com).

**You Tube Trinity Services:** You can view Trinity’s recorded services by going onto YouTube and typing in Trinity Anglican Church SJ. That will bring you to our channel and all of the previously recorded services.



The Trinity family wishes to extend to a very happy birthday this week to Allison Homer, Sean Ezeocha, Helen Webb, and Lynda Lomax. We hope your special day is made even more special with family and friends sharing the day with you.

## Trinity Financial Update



**December – Revenue** – was \$38k over budget with regular offering showing \$7k under against plan. Donations were over plan by \$36k due to the McKean Family Foundation being reconciled by RBC Wealth Management Toronto and funds that were deemed under distributed over past years were made current – with the sum of \$32,942 being received along with \$2.4k donation through Canada Helps site from an individual donor.

**December– Expenses** – Salaries and Benefits, Programs and Office and Administration were on or near plan for the month. Utilities was over plan by \$2.7k attributed by delayed billing from Liberty thus Nov & Dec billing received in Dec. Maintenance was over plan by \$2.5k attributed to the resolve of the domestic hot water issue that has been ongoing for the past couple of years in Trinity Centre resulting in replacement of a pump and valves. Financing was over plan by \$3.3k due to timing of the invoice for the annual professional fees.

**December – Net Income** was improved by \$30k due to the above unexpected funds received as noted

**Important to note** – The December numbers will have a couple of adjustments due to the delay in invoicing as a result of the Postal Strike however in essence the month was a very good month for Trinity financially.

**Year to Date – December– 2024 – Revenue** – YTD is \$55.7K ahead of plan. **Expenses** – were \$2.8k over plan. This results in a **Net Revenue** of \$15K against a budget Net Revenue for Dec YTD of (-\$37.7k). An overall improvement against the deficit budget of \$52.9k.

**Important to note** – The December year end numbers will have a couple of adjustments due to the delay in invoicing as a result of the Postal Strike however in essence 2024 ended very good for Trinity financially.

**E-Offering Stewardship Option** Thank you to all who are supporting Trinity through their regular stewardship, as this helps the Treasurer meet the ongoing financial needs of Trinity's ministry. Should you wish to join the E offering program, you can do so from your home by contacting Denise at 506-693-8558 or through the church email, trinsj@nb.aibn.com.

As of year-end 2024 Trinity had 17 parishioners utilizing the E Offering option for ongoing stewardship. Thank you for your continued support.

**Last Sunday at Trinity:** Last Sunday Trinity celebrated The Second Sunday after Epiphany with the Gospel taken from John's Gospel John 2:1-11 which centred around Jesus' first miracle, that being changing the water into fine wine at the wedding He, a number of His apostles and His mother Mary were attending.

So, the question asked of us all was; What did Jesus turning water into wine in this scripture narrative mean to them present in the day and what does it mean to us today?

First, let me remind us all, myself included, that the Gospel of John was written some seventy years after the Crucifixion by the last surviving apostle. Why is this important to us today? We need to remember the Synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke were all written similar like my grandmother's diary – such that they recorded what Jesus was saying, doing etc. in real time – here and now. While John experienced much of the same, heard the stories and was with Jesus through it all, soaked on what he had seen and heard then some seventy years later put pen to paper if you will. So, when we read John's writings, we are getting what he heard and seen, with the richness of seventy years of thought and by and through the power of the Holy Spirit we have his writings of not only what Jesus did, but also John gives us a deeper thought in 'this is what it meant' having the benefit of time. As we know, quite often Jesus disciples did not understand at the time then post the Crucifixion their eyes were opened more fully. We remember Jesus saying, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth." John 16:12-13.

This very familiar story we have, one that most likely most of us could recall from memory not only was Jesus' first miracle but also set the stage for the onset of His public ministry. At the same time, this passage is layered with meaning, offering insights into Christ's ministry, His relationship values and showing the abundant grace of God all in this one story.

The simple facts rest as:

- The setting was at a community wedding
- There was an apparent urgency of the hosts running out of wine – huge embarrassment for them
- Mary tells Jesus of the situation – they are running out of wine
- Jesus replies – so why do you and I need to be involved – and for Me, "my hour has not yet come"
- Mary gives simple instructions to the servants – "do what every He tells you."
- Six jars, 20-30 gallon each, were filled with water at Jesus' request
- The liquid that was drawn from these water-filled jars – turned into the finest of wine.

The conversion of water into wine, beyond the physical needs of the wedding celebrations of the day, has a deeper meaning for them and us in showing the overflowing abundance of God's grace. A grace that is totally sufficient to meet our every need. A grace that will transform the most ordinary aspects of our life into something extraordinary.

In the times of scarcity, stress and uncertainty we should be reminded that Jesus will meet us where we are and transform our minimalization into abundance as He did with the wine at the wedding – however He often will do this in unexpected ways.

Looking at similar practical applications this scripture provides to us today;

- Trust in God's timing – be open to His call on your life – ask the simple question when you have a decision to make – if I choose this, does this continue my walk closer to God or not.
- Celebrate God's abundance in your life today – ways in which He turned water into wine for you – providing blessings when you least expected them
- Be channels of His Grace – Follow Jesus – sharing this grace with all present.

In keeping with Pope Francis guide for us preachers;

**Focus of the message:** God has and will continue to the extraordinary with the ordinary

**Call to Action:** Trust in God's timing, Celebrate God's abundance and Be Channels of His Grace

**This Sunday at Trinity** This Sunday we will be looking at the realization of Jesus for those who truly hear and see Him then and now.

## Prayers

We offer special prayers for:



**Prayers for Rt. Rev. Geoff Woodcroft Bishop of Rupert's Land.** Bishop Geoff has been recently diagnosed with a terminal illness at the young age of 63. He was a fellow minister in Winnipeg when I was there and his wife, the Ven Jennifer Sissons, was my Archdeacon who jointly presented me to my bishop for Ordination ten years ago. His leadership in his diocese will live on. Please uphold Bishop Geoff, his family and the Diocese of Rupert's Land as they journey in faith going forward.

**Prayers for Ukraine** Most Holy God and Father. Hear our prayers for all who strive for peace and all who fight for justice. Help us, who today remember the cost of war, to work for a better tomorrow and as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict, bring us all, in the end, to the peace of Your presence through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Special Prayers** ongoing for Viktoriia (34) and Alex (34) Yezerskaya and their children, Daniel (4) and Samuel (7). Let us pray for their safety and the blessings they will share as God's hands, speech, and feet in their answering of His call on them as they continue as missionaries in Russia among their own people.

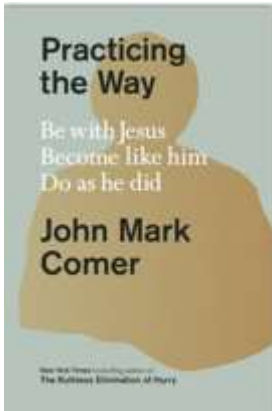
**Anglican Cycle of Prayer** The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria, the Rt Rev Samy Fawzy, Archbishop. Anglican Church of Canada, Acting Primate Anne Germond. Diocese of Montréal, Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson. Diocese of Ho, Bishop Matthias Meduadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, Bishop Lesley Wheeler-Dame, Carcross: St. Saviour's; Tagish and Johnson's Crossing. Archbishop David, retired bishop William and their families.

**Prayer for Israel and Palestine** –we pray for the current peace actions and the safe release of those taken captive. We hold both communities in our prayers as they commence rebuilding their lives and that the peace presently experiencing will live on. Amen

**Parish Prayer Requests** Arthur Kristoffersen, Neil Patterson, Edmund Gallant, Helena Gomke, Katie Kassner, Richard (Dik) Coates, Theresa Wanamaker, Shirley Shaw, Winston Wilson, Ann Campion, Grace Gogan, Frank Rodgers, Kristin Gushurst, Alex Gushurst-Moore, Hannah Gushurst-Jones, Stephen James Du Plessis, Robert Signoretti, Jenny Bishop and Martin Palkovic.

**Prayer Cards** There will be prayer cards for you to fill out on Sunday's that will enable me to pray during the service for you - or your loved ones and friends by name – if you so wish. Please place them in the offertory plate and I will have them at the Altar for the intercessions. Thank you.

## Educational & Spiritual Opportunities:



Our Archbishop David Edwards has recommended this book for our Diocese Lenten study – **Practicing the Way: Be with Jesus. Become like him. Do as he did.**

I have ordered ten copies for us at Trinity. These will be made available once received for a price of \$20 each. Please let me know if you would like to reserve a copy. There are seven of the ten available. If we need more, we can see what we can do to secure additional copies. They are listed on line [christianbook.com](http://christianbook.com) at \$14USD.

We will plan to hold a weekly lunch-hour Lenten Book Study focusing on the work of this book and where these words might inspire our discussion.

Session 1	Thursday March 13 – 12 noon - `1pm
Session 2	Thursday March 20 – 12 noon - `1pm
Session 3	Thursday March 27 – 12 noon - `1pm
Session 4	Thursday April 3 – 12 noon - `1pm
Session 5	Thursday April 10 – 12 noon - `1pm

## TRINITY'S SERVICE CALENDAR

Date	Sunday	Service	Readings	Presider
Jan 26	Third Sunday after Epiphany	BAS Eucharist	Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21	Rev. Steven Scribner
Feb 2	The Presentation of the Lord	BCP HC	Malachi 3:1-4 Psalm 84 Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40	Rev. Steven Scribner
Feb 9	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	BCP HC	Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11	Rev. Steven Scribner
Feb 16	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany	BCP MP	Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26	Rev. Steven Scribner
Feb 23	Seventh Sunday after Epiphany	BAS Eucharist	Genesis 45:3-11 Psalm 37: 1-12,42-42 1Corinthian 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38	

**Beacon Cove Donations** Toiletries in larger size (not travel size), feminine hygiene products, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner and body wash. Also looking for clothing, shoes, socks,



blankets and larger towels. Gift cards in small denominations. Paper products, toilet tissue, paper towels and facial tissue are welcomed.

Trinity will collect these products and deliver. Beacon Cove will also accept donations via the diocesan website – choose Beacon Cove from the drop-down menu: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/13778>.

Keep up the great work and remember the great work Beacon Cove is doing in our community

## 7th Trinity Speaker Dinner Series –

**7<sup>th</sup> Trinity Speakers Dinner**  
Annual  
**HUMOUR & WISDOM**  
MAKING PEOPLE LAUGH IS NO JOKE  
An evening with:  
**James Mullinger** **Marshall Button** + **Archbishop David Edwards**  
moderator  
**Wednesday 30th April, 2025**  
6pm for 7pm  
at the Union Club, 125 Germain St  
Tickets: \$150  
Sponsors: \$750  
Reservations  
E-transfer: [trinsj@rib.aibn.com](mailto:trinsj@rib.aibn.com)  
Trinity Anglican Church  
115 Charlotte St  
Saint John, NB E2L 2J2  
506-693-8553

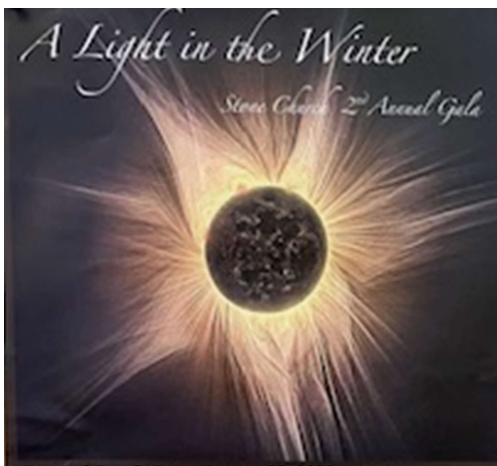
By way of this announcement please be advised the opportunity to reserve your ticket and or sponsorship is open for Trinity's 7<sup>th</sup> Speaker Dinner Series.

This Speaker Dinner series has been an over-the-top success and we thank Jacqueline Oland for her initiative dating back to December 9, 2016 when she brought forth the idea of a signature fund – fun raising event for Trinity.

We are very pleased to have two of New Brunswick's great comedians who will be joined by none other than our Archbishop David Edwards – who's sense of humor keeps us all grounded in this Diocese.

Mark your calendars and as you will not want to miss this exiting evening – tickets will sell quickly as the word gets out. Don't be on the outside looking in and saying I wished I went!

**There are presently 30 tickets available with the preference to go to Trinity Parishioners – The tickets not reserved by February 10<sup>th</sup> will be made available to all interested parties.**



**Stone Church is holding their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fundraising Gala** with hosts, Julia Wright and Bob McVicar on January 25, 2025. Tickets available for \$100 each – take out meals available at Thandi's from 4-6pm by calling 506-648-2377.

The evening program;

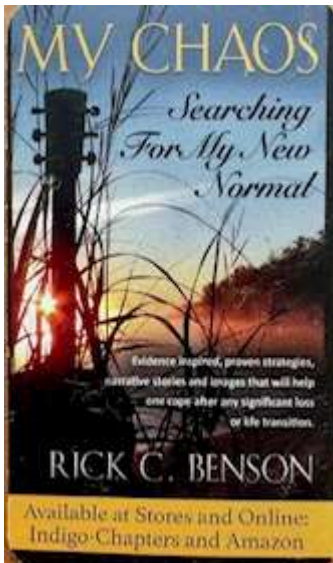
5:30pm Hors D'oeuvres at the Saint John Art Centre

6:30pm Dinner at Stone Church

All invited for an evening of great food and great entertainment in support of Stone Church.

Door prizes. Music by Miriam Westen and other guests. Poetry reading by Clyde Wray, Silent Auction and food by 'Thandi'

It's ok not to be ok.



#mentalhealth – Not sure if you have seen these signs which have been posted over the past year in the valley. They speak volumes on this topic of mental health.

Personal note as I completed my CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education – Chaplaincy Training) at Riverside Mental Health in Selkirk MB I quickly learned we all have a level of mental health sensitivities and depending on our personal experiences and circumstances our mental health can become fragile.

Please think about this opportunity to be guided in a number of life challenging pressures we accept but rarely know what to do with them to keep our health – healthy.

I have set up with Mr. Rick C. Benson, B.A. B.Ed, M.A. Licensed Counselling Therapist, Grief Loss & Life Transitions, Spiritual Health Counsellor / Educator, Author / Speaker to offer a two day session which will cover many areas we all find challenging to navigate when life throws us those curve balls. I have personally attended two of Rick's programs in the past and have a copy of his book which I

have read a couple of times.

- Session 1      Saturday February 8, 2025    10am – 3pm (light lunch will be provided)
- Session 2      Saturday February 15, 2025    10am – 3pm (light lunch will be provided)

Registration is required with a fee of \$40 to secure your participation for the two-session program. Registration will be limited to a maximum of sixteen (16).

Place   Bennett Room Trinity Centre

The workshop will cross a number of topics that Rick has included in his book, My Chaos – Searching for my new normal - shown here and he presently has 5 hard cover copies at \$29 ea, and 1 soft cover copies at \$25. Indigo has a number in store copies or one can buy through Indigo on line and shipped free to the store. Also available through Amazon.ca.

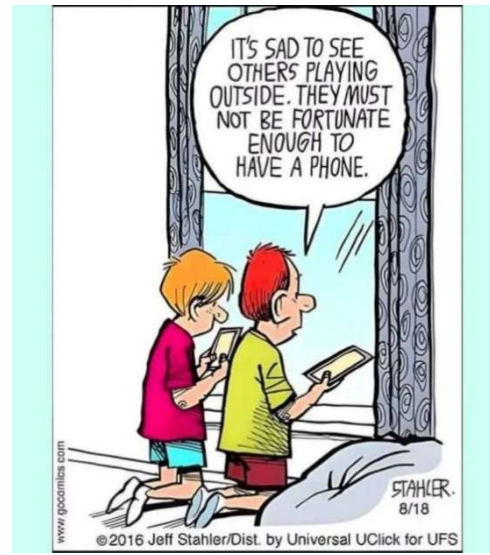
## Winter Wonderland in the South:





Pirate Land Myrtle Beach South Carolina – may not be your destination of choice for January! This is the campground Heather and I frequent twice annually May and October – to get an early start on summer and an extension to summer in the early fall. Myrtle Beach received 3-5 cm of snow Tuesday night and somewhat unseasonal temperatures for them. Orange groves covered in snow and over 9” of snow in Pensacola Florida. Snowball fights on Bourbon Street in the French Quarter New Orleans. I can only imagine what snow removal equipment their municipal departments have for handling a snowstorm. Also, I do know that the deep south is not prepared at all for these minus temperatures not to mention the affect these temperatures will have on the fruit growers. We ourselves went from a

rain over night Saturday past, plus 4 deg C to 10” of snow Sunday night and now -25 deg C. All seasons in less than one week.



Do you remember when a good snow fall would have all the kids outside making forts, snowball fights and building sliding hills on what was otherwise flat ground. Looking at neighbourhoods as I drove to church on Christmas Eve day and Christmas day – not a child could be found – expect they were like the cartoon suggest – huddled inside with their electronics.



## Thoughts to Ponder:

### SIX BRIEF STORIES FULL OF MEANING

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set alarms to wake up. That is hope.
4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
5. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!!

[www.facebook.com/EnglishLiterature11](http://www.facebook.com/EnglishLiterature11)

## Vintage Uptown Pictures:







Oh, how I miss the stores on King Street especially at Christmas time. This would one sure time my mother would bring us up town from the far reaches of the North End to see the splendour of the shops on King Street all decorated to their finest for the season. Pascal Emerson was a store that reminded me of a 'seek-n-find' store as it had many isles and a few door ways to pass to get from one department to another. One funny story of my mentor whom I learned the Machinist Trade from, Sandy Macdonald (small d as he was proud of). One Christmas he went up to Pascal Emerson to look at a purchase and talked with a particular salesman. He went about I expect doing his comparative shopping and then returned a day or so later to seek out this particular salesman. Sandy was all in for a joke at almost any costs. His antics

would make a very humorous book no doubt. He went in and found, purposely found a young girl, most likely working there for the Christmas holidays, and was asking for this particular sales man, using such names as Mr. Snowstorm and such only to eventually have the young girl say, oh, you must be looking for Mr. Blizzard.



This is a picture looking east on Rothesay Avenue taken in 1971 with Central Equipment, Lawson Motors, City Barns on the left and Lawson Motors also on the right. What I found interesting is the car you see in the centre is a 1970 Ford Cortina – my first car. An English ford which probably should have stayed in England. I did learn a lot about keeping a car running from this adventure, I having purchased my 1970 Cortina in the fall of 1973 – in my grade 11 year.

## Dining experiences of the past:

Not sure how many will remember Leo's Supper Club on Ocean West Way. It was one of the hidden gems in the restaurant offerings in our greater city limits. Out of the way, unassuming as the road at one time was the main entrance and exit of our city from the west prior to the new highway. I only got acquainted with Leo's Supper Club and Leo himself when I was the Operations and Maintenance Manager of Labatt's Brewery. You see, when I was hired, I was a non-drinker of any alcohol which almost eliminated me from being considered a candidate for the position. Once hired, I was sent to the University of Madison US to 'learn' to be able to taste

beer – the various qualities the brewery were trying to attain and identify if any of the taste characteristics they did not want in a particular brand. When hired back in 1981, I was provided a \$25,000 expense budget – which I was directed to spend – and given options, like when Heather and I were in town, take a pass through a few bars and buy some rounds for those enjoying the evening. Not in my character ever – and still not high on my list of activities for an evening out. So, being somewhat frowned upon for the only one in the senior group with an unspent budget, I asked my staff where they would like to go for an evening out with their wives or husbands. That is when I was introduced to Leo's Supper Club. For those who are familiar with Leo's, I had no problem in making a dent in my annual promotional budget. And, the atmosphere, service and the food was the best I have had this side of Old Montreal when it came to steaks. I became a lover of Leo's and remained a customer past my Labatt years and was saddened by its' closing. This restaurant later in life became the first home for the Island Girls restaurant and now lays dormant I believe. This advertisement I came across brought back great memories with great friends enjoying an evening in front of a crackling fire in the huge stone fireplace at Leo's.

## Request for all of our readers.



Thanks to David Goss for organizing his files we have the above two pictures.

Here we have Trinity's Organist and Choir Director Mr. Fred Horton- David Goss and Peter Garner during the Bicentennial for the city of Saint John.

### Can we check our old photos for pictures of past choirs and Organists / Choir Directors.

In assembling the history of Trinity, I would like to capture pictures of Trinity's past choirs and organists over the years. We have two choir members who are regular readers of this newsletter weekly who sang in the Trinity Choir over thirty plus years ago under the Organist and Choir Director Ruth Clarke.

## Humour



A man stood at the airport check-in counter, placing his luggage on the scale.

"I'm flying to Los Angeles," he told the agent. "but I'd like this bag sent to Portland, this one to Albuquerque, and that on to Sioux Falls."

The agent blinked, looking utterly baffled. "I'm sorry, sir, but we can't do that."

The man grinned and replied, "Why not? You did it perfectly the last time I flew."

I have been extremely lucky in my days of flying about, however many of my work mates and my son from UK – almost every trip they are missing or waiting for the most essential of luggage, the boys' items which is why in the US, if you are mid to last getting

on board, there is no overhead compartment space available – as they all carry everything on board. Hence the airline industry now charging for every carryon piece of luggage.



A priest, a rabbit and a minister walk into a bar. The bartender asks the rabbit "what'll you have?" The rabbit says "I dunno. I'm only here because of Autocorrect."

### **Blessings 2025 – Reverend Steven**