



*Merry Christmas!*

**Ministry Team**

*The Members and Adherents of Trinity United Church*

*The Reverend Peter C. Woods, M. Div.*

*Mr. John Wanless, Organist & Choir Director*

*Ms. Gwenda Kinch, Church Secretary*

*Mr. Klaas Van Der Meer, Custodian*

**Trinity's Office Hours**

*Please take note of Trinity's office hours.  
They are as follows:*

**Monday thru Thursday  
9:00am to 12:00noon.**



**TRINITY  
UNITED CHURCH**  
*Smiths Falls, Ontario, Canada*

# The Communicator!

A Publication of Trinity United Church

Smiths Falls, Ontario

December 2010



[www.trinityunitedsf.ca](http://www.trinityunitedsf.ca)

## Christmas Pastoral Letter 2010



### Upcoming Services

## Letter to The Editor

Many people are asking about restructuring of our Board of Management. There are a number of questions. Why are we doing this? What is the benefit? Why are people not volunteering for these positions?

Here are some answers based on information provided to the congregation:

(1) & (2) we are doing this because it simplifies the board structure, reduces number of groups/committees from 13 to 8 people to make quorum and decentralizes autonomy to the three major committees: Spiritual Leadership, Stewardship, and Christian Community. (3) These 3 committees at first glance appear to be huge. The tasks existing before are still going to be carried out by people doing the work before. So the jobs of the chair of the teams would be a manageable job. It would be the position of the Chair to coordinate the activities and report to the Church Council. The actual activities would be undertaken by the team leaders.

For example: The new Spiritual Leadership chair would still have the Team Leaders: Beth Hill in Christian Development which would encompass pretty much what it does now. John Wanless and other Music Team members doing what they do now. Same goes for Karen White and other members of Worship and Arts.

The activities that need to be done have not changed - just the organizational structure under which they are done. The hope is it will be more efficient and better organized for everyone.

SO EVERYONE, GET WITH IT !! VOLUNTEER FOR THESE JOBS AND LET'S GET MOVING!!



## Happenings At Trinity

**Our beautiful new building** – definitely something to celebrate.

**Apple pie** making in September is always a big hit – a lot of work, fun and it raises money. This year 1,000 pies were made and sold. They were only made to order, so there were no leftovers.

**Meat Pies** continue through the year, except for September, December, July and August and they continue to be very popular.

**Mom to Mom** sale in September by New Horizons remains a popular community event.

**The Halloween Dance** in October.

**The Trinity Retreat** in October.

**The Harvest Dinner** in October was a huge success and sold out very quickly.

**The Candy Cane Bazaar** in November.

**The Great Canadian Coffee Party**

**The Bake Sale**

**Music** – always something to celebrate and the evening of Christmas music concert on December 11<sup>th</sup> was a “not to be missed” event. Our choir just gets better and better.

**The Popular Car Rally** was greatly missed this year – hope to see it back on the list next



### NOTE!

**Annual Congregational Meeting  
Will Be Held  
Sunday, February 27, 2011**

## Advent Labyrinth

Trinity United Church will be hosting its first **Advent Labyrinth from December 19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

Based on the Labyrinth at St Aldhelm's Church in England, this special Labyrinth is designed to help us think about the journey the wise men made to the manger in Bethlehem all those years ago; and also to help us prepare to make our own journey towards Christmas, to prepare for the birth of the Christ child in our own way.

It will take you something like 15 minutes to complete, though it may take much longer. At each stop on the journey, there will be a chair for you to sit and rest as you reflect on the questions.

Sign up sheets will be available so we don't rush anyone, and so there will always be someone present to assist you if needed.

The times will be 1pm - 3pm and from 7pm - 9pm or by request.

**Norma Wrightly**

## All Hallows Eve Monster Mash!

Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> the Hills sponsored a Halloween Dance at the Smiths Falls Legion. Although there was a disappointing crowd of approx. 30 people, those who attended had fun. We did manage to make a little bit of money for the renovations.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped us out and to those who attended. A special thank you to our children, Julia, Derrik and Jade Hill who took on this fundraiser.

**Beth and Jim Hill**

## Letters To The Editor

The Communications Team plan to create a new column. We are requesting comments, questions, commentary and feedback on anything and everything that might be of concern to the Trinity Family.

We want to hear from you - what you like and what you don't like, about anything happening at Trinity.



## Questions and Comments Box

This will be located at the back of the church for your convenience.

Submit your questions on any issue – anonymously or otherwise and we will attempt to provide answers from the appropriate source in the next issue of The Communicator.



## Men's Breakfast Club Report

### NEW NEW NEW LOCATION!

As of Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, we are meeting at 8:00am at Alexio's Family Restaurant at 16 Russell Street, East. The door to the restaurant will be opened at 8:00am, especially for the Men of Trinity. All are welcome; it is a time of relaxation and fellowship. Our sessions usually end by 9:00am. Hope to see you there!!!

**Tom Foulkes**

## Board of Management Report

Hello Everyone,

With the upcoming Christmas season fast approaching, the church will be busy.

Our restructuring team continues to work on Policies and Procedures and we hope everything will start to take shape in the new year.

Our board meetings have been difficult, as we have not had a quorum. I hope we have better turnouts for the upcoming meetings as it is difficult to conduct business for the church without a quorum.

If anybody is interested in filling a position on the new Church Council, please phone the office at 613-283-4444.

On behalf of my family and the Board of Management, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and all the best in 2011.

**Jim Hill**  
**Chair, Board of Management**

## Update From The Treasurer

As we come to the end of the year, Christmas reminds us of the joy of sharing. Knowing that you will remember the needs of our church, I am confident that we can end the year with a balanced budget. With your continued support and our controlled spending, we should be able to erase the present deficit and begin the new year in a positive financial position.

We are now preparing the budget for next year and again we will keep in mind the present economy and carefully plan to continue a worship program that is in keeping with the upgrades to our church. My wish is that you enjoy the Christmas season and approach the new year with confidence and enthusiasm. Sincerely,

**Arnel W. Pattemore, Treasurer.**

## Implementation Team

The implementation team provided the finance committee, trustees and others with our estimates to complete the necessary work to ensure the structure will not require significant expenditures over the next 25 years on October 12, 2010. As directed at that meeting, the Board of Management was presented with that data. We estimated \$30,000-35,000 to finish our renovations/restoration project, to cover roof, valve and stage area expenditures as outlined below.

During the past two (2) years your implementation team has spent monies on the basis of appropriate measures rather than a "quick fix". The recent decision to replace the throttling valves and associated thermostats on the air handling unit (heating system) is an example of that philosophy. The Main Entrance door has been stripped and redone by Al McFadden, Steve McFadden, and Tom Foulkes with professional input from Sandy Rankin. The sanctuary ceiling and one area of the roof need to be addressed before next summer.

Our 2010 Preventive Maintenance inspections have been completed. Tim Edwards of Cornerstone Builders Ltd. generously donated his time to conduct a thorough examination over three (3) days in late October. Between Tim and others over 30 items were identified for activity. Of these, repairs or upgrades have been finished on 12 of these items, at the time of writing, at minimal cost to the Congregation. The annual preventive maintenance program will highlight issues that should be addressed, thereby, ensuring that we will not have major surprises or actions in future years beyond normal wear and tear.

Continued.....



### Implementation Team (cont'd.)

The long established Property and Building Maintenance Committee has been subsumed into the Implementation Team during 2009 and 2010 and will continue as such for the time being.

**Tom Foulkes**  
Chair

**Barry Mapplebeck**  
Vice Chair

### Litigation

In May 2009 during our renovation process, an incident occurred which led to a resident of Smiths Falls launching a lawsuit against Trinity United Church, Campbell Trucking Ltd., the Town of Smiths Falls, and another party. The matter has been recently resolved. Our insurance company paid out \$40,000 as Trinity's share, which includes legal costs. The overall total was \$95,000. One hopes that the impact on our annual insurance cost will be minimal.

### Board Restructuring

The Board Restructuring process began in 2008 and was approved by the Board of Management and Renfrew Presbytery in 2010.

The Team has been working on a Policies and Procedures Manual to reflect the new Council/Teams and we anticipate completion in January 2011.

It is now time for Nominating to search for qualified people to fill positions so the new Council can be approved at the Annual Congregational Meeting in February 2011.

Please feel free to contact any member of the Team:

**Marilynne Blair 613-283-5692**  
**Marguerite Cameron 613-283-7438**  
**Arlene Hunter 613-283-0063**  
**Gwenda Kinch 613-283-4444.**

### Nominating Committee

In the previous two Communicators short articles were presented on the newly approved Church Council structure and the need to fill leadership roles within that structure. Guess what? While some progress has been made, the response from you (the congregation) to this request has been under-whelming.

The members of the current Board of Management certainly do appreciate the continued support and involvement that all of you have given to the various activities and programs of the church: in time, skill, finances and talents. Without your involvement we could not deliver on our mission and goals.

However, we cannot implement the new structure unless we get your help again.

To re-state the requirements:

We need a chairperson for Church Council; We need Team Leaders for Christian Community, Spiritual Leadership and Stewardship; and

We will need new participants for some of the activity task groups.

As previously mentioned, an outline of the duties of the Church Council and each Team is available at the back of the sanctuary or via email through the church office.

If you can contribute some additional time, energy and talent to the re-vitalization of our leadership structure, we ask that you obtain a copy of the "Restructuring" Document and then contact one of the Restructuring Team members for clarification if you need to do so. Call me (Bob Swan) if you can help us.

We do need to move this initiative forward so we can install the new "Council" at the Annual Congregational Meeting scheduled for February 2011.

**Bob Swan,**  
**Nominating Chairman 613-283-4933**

### United Church Women's (UCW)

How do you live your faith? The United Church Women (UCW) of Trinity constantly put their purpose into practice.

It is not all making pies (as a non pie maker: thank goodness) or baking in general; but it is recognising the talents that God gave you and combining that with time you can offer.

Beautiful gift baskets, baked and knitted goods for the bazaar, pie making, delicious soups and fruit breads, are all part of the diverse ways women share in service to the Church.

But that is not all the UCW is about. Feeding our spirits is a major part of who we are and why we meet as a group.

Some of the ways we nurtured our spirits this fall was at our Fall Rally held at Trinity in September. The Rev. Elizabeth Tucker was our guest speaker about IONA.

In October, we had the opportunity to go to the Conference UCW Mid-Week event in Omeme. 'Seeds of Hope' was the theme; and hope is what we came home with.

The women gathered in October for the 'In Gathering of the Least Coin'. For every prayer we offered for Justice, Peace and Reconciliation, the Least Coin of our country was set aside as a token of that prayer. Thank you for adding your prayers monthly. The money gathered goes to the International Fellowship of the Least Coin and grants are issued around the world to help make those prayers a reality.

December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Christmas pot luck supper and program was held at 6:30pm. You will read this after that event, but I am writing this before that date...so barring a repeat of last years snow storm, I know we will have had a wonderful evening of fun, fellowship and food.

What better way to start the Advent Season then by worshiping together. Our guest soloists: Shannon Bower and Sheila McRae, always bring delight with their beautiful voices.

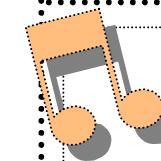
Many blessings as we head into the new Christian Year and please consider joining us. There are three (3) units who meet monthly and also a monthly general meeting. Linda Stronski will be the incoming president. Unit leaders are: Rita Edwards, Joy Unit; Lois Grubb, Friendship Unit, and contact Linda Stronski or myself, Norma Wrightly, for New Horizons.

**Norma Wrightly**



A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied, "They couldn't get a baby-sitter".

### TRINBIT!



Trinity United Church Senior Choir welcomes the following new members:

Ken Hunter, a tenor addition to the Choir. Ken grew up in Trinity as well as being past member of both the Junior and Senior Choirs; and

Kim Chatwood, a new soprano addition to the Choir. It's really nice to have both Mother and Daughter, Emily in Trinity's Music Ministry.

## Worship and Arts



### Trip to United Church in St. John's Newfoundland in 2011

Watch the bulletin for updates on plans for the trip to Gower St. United Church in St. John's, Newfoundland in 2011.

If you have a flare for making travel plans and would like to help, please contact John Wanless or Rev. Woods. Thank you,

**Karen White**



## Retreat 2010

A good number of people attended Trinity's first annual retreat on October 17, 2010 at Camp Otterdale. The beautiful fall day enhanced the atmosphere of the peaceful nature of the facility. The general consensus expressed was, it was a "great day" and most agreed we should continue this event annually with speakers and music, perhaps a different time of year and/or different facility. The children thoroughly enjoyed their time, ably supervised by Camp Otterdale staff. Indeed they were reluctant to leave at the end of the day. Some concerns were expressed about inadequate available washrooms, otherwise everyone felt it was a good event.

**Retreat Organization Team**

## Wall of Recognition

People have been asking about the Wall. When will it be completed?

At the Board of Management meeting in May, the prototype designed by Mark White was approved for production. As you know, Mark has been looking for photos of volunteers working during the May to November period of 2009. As of November 30<sup>th</sup> this phase has been completed. The Trustees have provided a list of the donors, plus those who contributed to the windows. Early in the new year, the 2010 data will be given to Mark. At that point, Mark will be able to finalize the project.

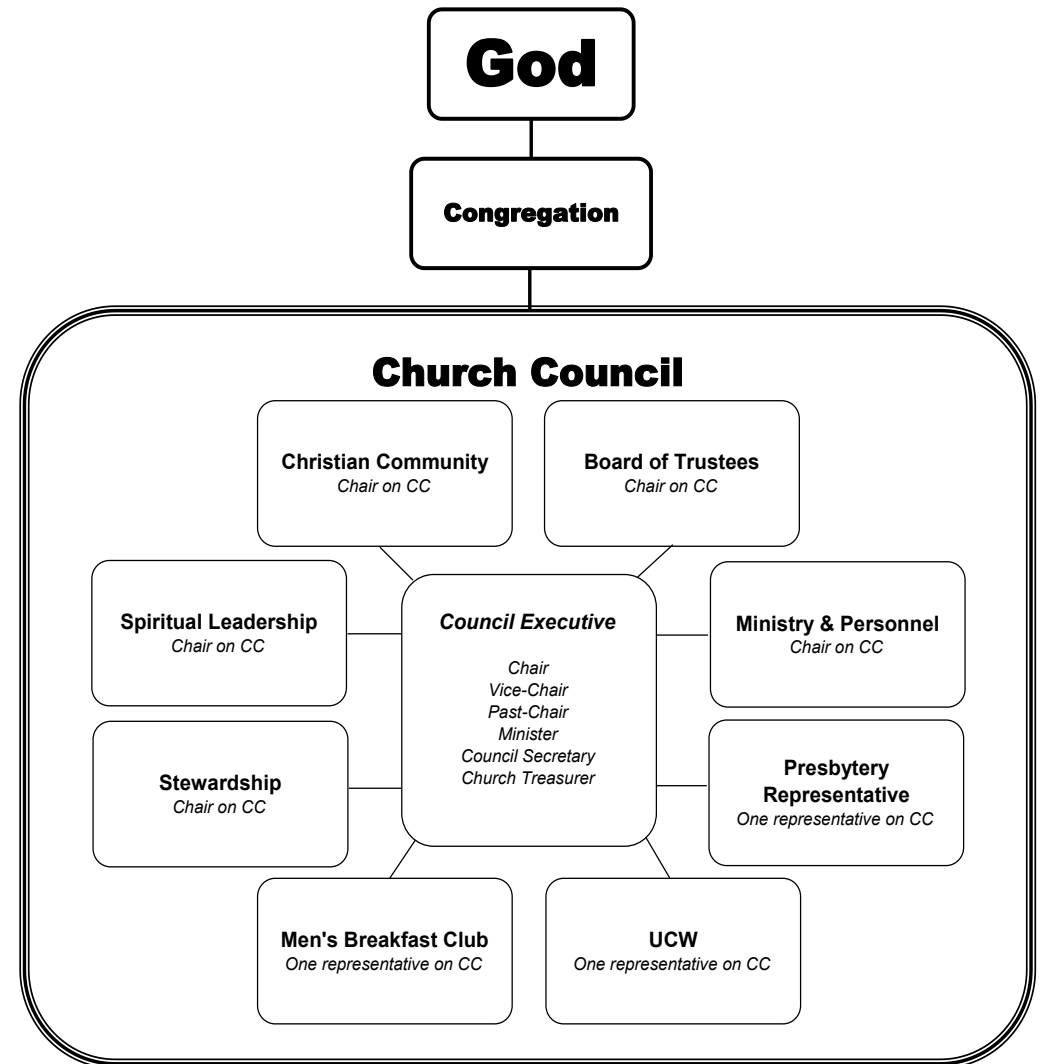
**Based on Information Provided By Mark and Karen White**

## TRINBIT!

Our own Lorraine Allen, a long time member at Trinity, led the newcomers in the Municipal Council race in Smiths Falls. In fact, Lorraine was number three (3) in a list of 17 candidates.

**Congratulations Lorraine!**

## Board Restructuring Organization Chart



## TRINBIT REMINDER!

Don't forget to visit our Trinity United Church Web Site for information on upcoming services and church information!

[www.trinityunitedsf.ca](http://www.trinityunitedsf.ca)



**Trustees Report  
Trinity Renovations Project Financial Report**

*I am sure that you will all be pleased to read that the Renovations Project that you have supported is drawing to a close. Several items remain to be completed. Please refer to the Implementation Team's Report for details. Trinity's Board of Trustees is managing the finances for the Renovations Project. Here is a summary of their report as of October 7, 2010 which is the latest complete set of figures available.*

Renovations Summary:		
a. Paid through Trustees held funds	619,952.00	
b. Paid through Capital Account	25,000.00	
c. Estimated funds required to complete projected work	35,000.00	679,952.00
Funds Provided by:		
a. Congregation Renovations Fund Raising (to June 31, 2010)	155,162.00	
b. GST Refund	11,134.00	679,952.00
c. Capital Account (for Furnace)	25,000.00	
d. Trustee held funds	488,156.00	
Trustee Funds on Hand:		
a. Scotia Bank (Cash Available Account)	12,437.00	
b. Scotia Bank Investment Account	63,022.00	<b>19,459.00</b>
<b>Less</b> —Estimate to Complete the Project	-35,000.00	<b>Unallocated Funds</b>
<b>Less</b> — Reserved for defined use	- 21,000.00	
United Church of Canada Loan:		<b>Loan Funds Available</b>
a. Initial Loan	115,000.00	<b>113,890.00</b>
b. Loan Repayment to October 7, 2010	-1,110.00 (Monthly Mortgage Payment)	<b>as of October 7/10</b>

Currently, there are sufficient funds to complete the known (estimated \$35,000.00) expenses.

As noted in the Trustees Report, there is \$19,459.00 of unallocated funds that could be applied to the any unexpected expenses and we do have the UCC loan which could be applied to these expenses.

**Please keep in mind that as of July 2011, we will be required to pay a 3% interest charge on the United Church of Canada (UCC) Loan and to make monthly payments on that loan, so it would be in our best interest to pay back as much of that loan as possible, prior to that date. So regardless, a further round of fundraising will be required. At this moment, we are not sure how much that will be.**

The Board of Management will be taking up this issue at its January meeting and we will have a report to make to you at the Annual Congregational Meeting which will be February 2011.

**Bob Swan, Fundraising Team**

**Dick Donaldson, Chair Board of Trustees**

**Trinity Fundraising Activities 2010  
Wrap-up and Planning for 2011**

Thank you to all of you who have contributed financially and/or provided personal time, energy and talent to the various fundraising activities within the church. Without your assistance we would not fulfill our mission and achieve our goals. There are one or two fundraising activities remaining on our 2010 calendar:

- December 10, the Bake Sale at County Fair Mall sponsored by the Finance Committee with proceeds going to Trinity's General Fund; and
- December 11, the Trinity Senior Choir will present "An Evening of Christmas Music – Glad Tidings and Joy" in the Sanctuary beginning at 7:30pm. This will be a "free-will offering" event with the proceeds going to Trinity's General Fund.

Looking forward to 2011, it is time to begin planning and scheduling the various fundraising activities. If you have an idea and are willing to organize it, please contact me, Bob Swan at 613-283-4933. The Fundraising Team is certainly interested in ideas to help the church fulfill its mission and that doesn't usually happen without sufficient financial resources. Please remember that the Fundraising Team's main function is to assist in coordinating and scheduling fundraising events.

**Bob Swan,  
Fundraising Team Leader 613-283-4933**



**TRINBIT!**

Do you read the Observer?? It is a greatly improved magazine with plenty of thoughtful, controversial and interesting articles. Well worth reading.



**What is a Committee?**

*"A group of the unwilling, picked from the unfit, to do the unnecessary."*

*From the New York Herald Tribune 1960.*



**Christian Development**



**Bible Study**

Rev. Peter Woods continues to have Bible Studies on Wednesday mornings in the Upper Room at 9:30am. All are welcome.



**Communicant Class**

In February 2011, we will have another Communicant Class. Young people who are in Grade 7 and up will be contacted or feel free to contact the church office, myself Beth Hill or Rev. Peter Woods.



**Children's Ministry**

The leaders and children are very busy right now. We are preparing for our Annual Christmas Pageant to be held on Sunday, December 19th, during our church service. Please join us.

Children's Ministry is looking for anyone who would like to help out on occasion. If you are interested in sharing a story with the children or a craft or hobby, just for one Sunday, please contact Beth Hill. Thank you,

**Beth Hill**