

The Communicator!

A Publication of Trinity United Church

Smiths Falls, Ontario

September 2016



Ministry Team

***The Members and Adherents of Trinity United Church
Rev. Arlyce Schiebout - Intentional Interim Minister.
Mr. John Wanless, Organist & Choir Director
Ms. Gwenda Kinch, Church Secretary***

www.trinityunitedsf.ca

[Facebook.com/TrinityUnitedChurchSmithsFalls](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityUnitedChurchSmithsFalls)

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MUSINGS FROM THE MINISTER

Grace and peace to you all, as I write this from Canberra, Australia. It is coming on spring on this continent in the Southern Hemisphere. I enjoy seeing different plant and vegetation species, animals of this great island as well. Soon I will be back in North America, coming on the fall season.

In liturgical life, it will be World Wide Communion on October 2 and Thanksgiving Sunday on October 11 as this is shared with you. So I have Deuteronomy 26 in my head as well as my learning experiences in Australia.

I experienced worship in the Serbian Orthodox Church and in a Presbyterian community. The Presbyterian Church building was used by two distinct communities, one service at 9:30 am and then the second community worshipped at 6 pm. The Serbian Orthodox Church liturgy offered the gospel reading in English and the balance of the service in Serbian. The music was offered by a small 3-4 part choir and the priests. I am sure that the female leader of the choir has the gift of perfect pitch. I found the unaccompanied music enhanced the worship time.

A Presbyterian fellow queried a twang in my speech so he shared that his mother had worked for the Canadian High Commission during his elementary school years, and he developed a Canadian accent because he spent his after school time with the Canadians.

Thanksgiving is celebrated in North America and in a few other places around the world, including some in the Southern Hemisphere. World Wide Communion Sunday always holds great meaning for me and my faith journey. I will be sharing more fully my reflections with you in worship and upcoming meetings.

Back to the scripture text, though, it is a text of remembering, it is a text of hospitality, of being an alien in a foreign land. It is about acknowledging the covenantal relationship and the gifts that one receives from God. It is a text that reminds the reader of seeking to be in right relationship and care with one another and with the Divine. It surely is a daily walk of trust and obedience, and the joy of living in this manner is reflected in the life of the community that seeks "to do justice, show mercy and walk humbly with God". Blessings on your observances of World Wide Communion Sunday and Thanksgiving!

"And now to the One, who by the power at work within us can do far more than we ask or imagine, to God be all glory in the church and in Jesus Christ throughout all generations, for ever and ever, Amen". Ephesians 3:20-21

Rev Arlyce



TRANSITION TEAM ACTIVITY UPDATE

Your Transition Team has continued its work since the Easter edition of the Communicator. We provided a Transition Team newsletter, with regular updates to the congregation, and available on the web site. So, here is recap of those activities since March 2016:

Reports on the findings of the three following workshops - presented to the congregation via the Transition Team newsletter:

- A Congregational Day of Discovery for All Ages – Who are we as a Congregation?
- A Workshop on Transition “Letting Go and New Beginning”

A Congregational Day of Discovery – Who are Our Neighbours?

Extension of Our Period of Intentional Interim Ministry - On the approval of Presbytery, the appointment of Rev. Arlyce Schiebout as our Interim Minister was extended to June 30, 2016. This enables the Transition Team to properly complete the transition process. A revised time table to complete our transition work and to call a new minister was presented to the congregation in June 2016. A copy of the timetable is attached.

A Progress Review Report - The results of a Six Month Progress Review of our Interim Ministry Period were presented to the congregation in July. Copies are available at the church.

Reflective Questioning - Throughout the summer months, Rev. Arlyce posed reflective questions to the congregation during worship service. The questions focussed on

personal life changing events, a series of questions regarding life at Trinity (currently and into the future). The responses to the questions were presented to the congregation in August. Copies are available at the church.

Mission Statement Writing Process - A writing team was formed and has drafted an updated Mission Statement, a new Vision Statement and a Core Value Statement for Trinity. The draft was presented to the congregation on September 11, with an invitation to provide feedback to the writing team by September 25, 2016.

Trinity Youth - The Transition Team has had a conversation with available Trinity “teens”, who are off to university this fall, to obtain their feedback and input on life growing up in the Trinity family. The same questions have been passed to other teens that were unable to attend. Also, we are meeting with our remaining group of teenagers to seek their views as to what is needed for youth at Trinity. Once we collate all the responses, we will share the information with you.

A Congregational Day of Discovery –

“Envisioning our Future” - The Transition Team has prepared a final Congregational Day of Discovery to “Envision our Future”. What is God calling us to do? The event will follow Women’s Sunday worship service and Potluck Finger Food Luncheon on September 25, 2016. We have looked at our past and present, we have looked and continue to look at who our neighbours are and now we need

to envision our future as we prepare for a new pastoral relationship. The results of the workshop will be shared as quickly as possible following the event.

Next Steps

Continue the work to meet the following goals set for our Period of Intentional Interim Ministry:

Over-arching Goal

The over-arching goal (purpose) of The Intentional Interim Ministry Period is to revitalize Trinity’s mission after a long pastorate.

Preliminary Interim Goals

- Review our history, consider the present, and define a vision for the future;
- Develop a shared “living mission” where a sense of belonging and caring is felt by all who enter the church, that inspires commitment, enthusiasm, stewardship, provides direction and focus for Trinity’s programs, activities and celebrations;
- Identify and address structures, functions, programs and relationships that may need to be developed and/or altered to support the vision and facilitates our emerging “living mission”;
- Assist in gathering information that will be utilized by the Joint Needs Assessment Team for the purpose of seeking new Ministerial Personnel and Congregational Growth.
- Project and match our future Ministry Personnel requirements and financial potential.

**PERIOD OF INTERIM MINISTRY
MASTER TIMETABLE
2016-2017**

AMENDED JUNE 1, 2016

DATE	TASK
MARCH 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congregation advised that the Transition would be recommending to Church Council that the Period of Interim Ministry be extended to June 30, 2017. • At May 29, 2016 meeting, Church Council approved the request.
APRIL 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team continued to implement transition plan, by engaging the congregation conducting a six month review (on-line survey) of the Interim Ministry process and providing support to the Rev. Arlyce in her work.
MAY 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team continued to implement plan, focussed on analyzing the survey results and passing the issues raised to appropriate leadership teams for discernment and action.
JUNE 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team completes & submits to Four Rivers Presbytery the Covenant for Appointment Application to extend Trinity’s Period of Interim Ministry to June 30, 2017. • Transition Team presents to Council and the congregation reports on the activities conducted to date by the Transition Team and to report on the effectiveness of the Interim Ministry Period after six (6) months into the process. • Transition Team continues to implement transition plan, by engaging the congregation in the process of self-discovery, discernment and decisions.

<p>JULY 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team Identifies and actions issues that need further consultation and action with church leadership and congregation. • Transition Team establishes a Mission Statement Writing Team to begin a review and updating of the church mission statement.
<p>AUGUST 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team continues to address identified area that need attention before Trinity decides on its future mission and ministry. • Transition Team continues to work on Interim Ministry goals.
<p>SEPTEMBER 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team completes discernment and make recommendation on Trinity’s future mission and ministry mission statement. • Transition Team continues to work on Interim Ministry goals.
<p>OCTOBER 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete work with church leadership and congregation on meeting the Interim Ministry Goals. • Decision is made on Trinity’s future mission and ministry (Mission statement & supporting clarification). • Transition Team makes recommendation to Council and Presbytery regarding the formation of a Joint Needs Assessment Committee, (JNAC) to prepare for the call of a new minister or other such actions that it deems necessary. • Transition Team reports to Church Council & Presbytery with recommendations for the review/evaluation process, the disengagement period and the immediate post-interim period.
<p>NOVEMBER 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team continues to work on Interim Ministry Goals. • Transition Team action recommendation(s) approved by Presbytery, prepare for “Needs Assessment” and/or other actions. • Transition team submits 2017 Budget Requirements for completion of Period of Interim Ministry. • Joint Needs Assessment Committee undertakes its responsibilities.
<p>DECEMBER 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team begins preparation of Final Evaluations of the Interim Ministry Process. • In anticipation of completion of the JNAC work, and approval by Church Council, the pastoral charge and Presbytery identify members of the Joint Search and Selection Committee.
<p>JANUARY 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team completes any tasks that need to be undertaken regarding a Final Report. • Transition Team completes Step 1 of Final Evaluation. • JNAC conduct and complete “Needs Assessment” and provides a report and recommendation to Council, the congregation and Presbytery regarding next steps. • Once approved by Presbytery the Joint Search and Selection Committee begin its task and establish a timetable for action and completion of its responsibilities.

FEB. 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team continues to work on Transition Goals (as necessary) • Transition Team completes Step 2 of Final Evaluation. • Joint Search and Selection Committee carries out its responsibilities as directed by UCC policies and procedures.
MARCH 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team continues to work on Transition Goals (as necessary). • Transition Team completes the Final Evaluations of the Interim Ministry. • Joint Search and Selection Committee carries out its responsibilities as directed by UCC policies and procedures.
APRIL 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team continues to work on transition goals (as necessary). • Transition Team submit its final Interim Ministry review and evaluation report to Council and Presbytery. • Joint Search and Selection Committee carries out its responsibilities as directed by UCC policies and procedures.
MAY 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team will wrap up its work on the Transition Process. • Joint Search and Selection Committee carries out its responsibilities as directed by UCC policies and procedures.
JUNE 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Team will bring the Interim Ministry to a close. • Joint Search and Selection Committee carries out its responsibilities as directed by UCC policies and procedures.

Continued thanks to all those who are participating in the Transition Process as we move along this journey together!

Submitted by Bob Swan & Diane Bennett, Co-chairs, Trinity Transition Team

COUNCIL NEWS

Council last met on Tuesday, June 14th, 2016.

In addition to the Team reports, Rev. Arlyce advised that the 42th General Council of the United Church of Canada has issued Remits to the Basis of Union that require the governing bodies of the pastoral charges to study and vote on the changes by June 28, 2017. The Council will meet outside of Council meeting date and form workshops which may include members of the

congregation. Currently, Rev. Arlyce and Jan Montgomery are looking into an information session facilitated by someone through Four Rivers Presbytery.

The Policies and Procedures Manual is being reviewed by each Team and it is the expectation that updates and changes will be completed soon.

The Council Directory has been completed and copies are available from the office, at the Botham table at the rear of the Sanctuary or on the Bulletin board in the front entrance. Contact Jan Montgomery for contact changes for the 2017 edition. jmontgomery827@gmail.com.

The Council meetings are open to anyone interested in how church business is conducted. Please feel free to join us.

Next meetings: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, November 29, 2016.

Happy
Thanksgiving
to all.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

The Board of Trustees have not held a meeting since May 19, 2016. **The Board of Trustees held its most recent meeting on September 15, 2016.**

Financial Report

The total Balance of “Funds Held in Trust” as of August 31, 2016 is \$200,834.70. Since the last Communicator report to you, deposits to “Funds in Trust” totalled \$1,287.27 including a bequest of \$900.00. Disbursements from “Funds in Trust” were bank charges totaling \$19.75 and a loan of \$12,000.00 to the General Fund to cover cash flow issues due to Summer Givings Shortfall.

A Summary of Investments is as follows:

- The Trustee’s Investment Savings Account at Scotia Bank is \$5,462.16;
- The balance in Trinity’s BMO Wealth Management Investment Portfolio is \$175,372.54; and
- There is the \$20,000.00 investment in of Trinity’s Gift Card Program.... for a total balance in “Funds Held in Trust of \$200,834.70.

Investing Funds in Trust

In late 2014, we engaged BMO-Nesbitt Burns (The Graham-Dixon Group) in Perth to provide professional advice and investment portfolio management to assist in executing our investment responsibilities. The investment strategy is to help rebuild our Funds in Trust and to provide annual income for the use of the Church, while protecting our principle investment. Our investment strategy was reviewed in May 2016 and we agreed that this is not the time to alter our investment portfolio which is made up of GICs, a Bond Fund, an Equity Fund and a Dividend Fund. **The next review of our investment strategy will be held at the next Board of Trustees Meeting scheduled for November 17, 2016.**

Legacy (Planned) Giving

We are very grateful for a bequest that has been received in the sum of \$900.00.

As a reminder, Trinity’s Legacy Giving Program offers a variety of ways that members and adherents can make gift to sustain the future of Trinity. Information as to the various ways that you can participate in the Legacy Giving Program, and what potential benefits may be available to you as a donor, is available at the church.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert D. Swan
Chairman
Board of Trustees

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Trinity has exciting opportunities for many aspects of Church Life.

EXISTING AND UPCOMING VACANCIES to serve on the following Teams to name a few:

- Christian Community (Historic Room, pastoral visiting, outreach) – contact Cynthia Sirett
- Stewardship (financial sustainability) – contact June Pevere
- Ministry & Personnel – contact Heather Morrison
- Nominating – contact Jan Montgomery or Marguerite Cameron

You may wish to assist a particular Team with small tasks rather than commit to serving as a full member of that Team. Let us know where you may be interested in helping out.

IMMEDIATE NEED: COUNCIL SECRETARY

This position entails keeping records of the proceedings of meetings of Council, providing required notice to Council members of meetings, preparing the Agenda in consultation with the Council Chair and performing other duties assigned by Church Council.

Training will be arranged. If you have the skills for this position, please consider sharing your time by contacting Jan Montgomery or Marguerite Cameron.

All contact particulars can be found in the Directory on the Bulletin Board at the front entrance of the Church or by obtaining a copy from the Botham table at the back of the Sanctuary.

From your Nominating Team: Jan Montgomery and Marguerite Cameron.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Your Trinity Website is Alive!

Thanks to the leadership of Diane Bennett, and the efforts of Chris Dickson, Karen White and many others as well as our web designer Chris Woods, we now have a totally new website. Chris has been the web designer for Trinity from the very beginning when he was still at the local high school, and has volunteered many years to enable us to keep a web presence. He is now a professional in the field.

Check out the works of your **Transition Team under the WHO WE ARE section**. You will find all its reports, updates and newsletters there. Don't miss the August 14 update – it lists the **reflective questions and answers** from the congregation. These questions were posted in the last few months at our church services by the Transition Team and Rev. Arlyce Schiebout to help determine the identity, mission, vision and priority of Trinity. A synopsis of the survey was also listed. You can also find special events very quickly on the new calendar.

To get to Trinity's website, key in: trinityunitedsf.ca on your search engine.

Let us know your comments and suggestions.

Your Christian Community Team is looking for members to help with the Historic Room, pastoral visiting and outreach. Contact Cynthia Sirett for more info.

The Team will be meeting in the very near future to examine its mandate and how it can help to implement the recommendations of the Transition Team.

Peter Au,
Communication Task Force

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

Spiritual Leadership thanks John Wanless for his excellent musical leadership in organizing the summer, noon-time musical concerts. They were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Generous donations were sent to aid the Food Bank. We all hope that John will continue this in upcoming summers.

We have also enjoyed all joint services through the summer. It is always a pleasure to connect with our friends at Westminster Presbyterian under the leadership of Jill Turnbull and Christian Allan. A big thank you to Norma Wrightly who has so ably stepped in as well.

I look forward to meeting with my Spiritual Leadership Team again as we regroup to plan for the life and events of Trinity. I thank this dedicated group for giving their time and their careful considerations that contribute to a consensus of ideas to reflect the best for Trinity United, Smiths Falls.

Shelley Doucet
Chair, Spiritual Leadership

Rainbow Sabbeth, the second Friday of the month, will begin in October. Potluck Supper at 6:00 pm followed by spiritual read of one's choice and conversation.

This is for members of the LGBTQ and their allies

UCW REPORT

“God calls us into the future and a new vision as we celebrate our strong past!”

We hope everyone has had a great summer.

Since our very successful Strawberry Social, the UCW has taken a much needed rest as we prepare for a busy fall season. Some of us helped with Hospitality time after church and the Mega Sale on August 27 and of course donated baking.

- Sept.19 we will begin making our approximately 1000 apple pies. Don't miss out ordering yours.
- Sept. 25 is Women's Sunday at Trinity with special guest speaker and special music. Join us for worship and finger food luncheon following the service.
- Sept.28 is our Fall Rally at Wall Street United in Brockville. This is a great day of worship and fellowship with the ladies of Four Rivers Presbytery. All ladies are encouraged to attend. Let Marguerite Cameron or Linda Stronski know (see poster on bulletin board).
- Oct. 26 is Mid Week at Wooler United in Wooler, ON. More info to follow (see poster on bulletin board).
- Nov. 5 is our annual bazaar. Join us for lunch and lots of goodies.

We are saddened to have to report the death of one of our much loved members Lorraine Lloyd. You will be greatly missed, Lorraine. Our prayers are extended to family and friends.

Submitted by

Marguerite **Cameron**

UCW President

INDOOR MEGA SALE AND BAKE SALE

Trinity held a MEGA yard sale on Saturday, August 27/16, 8 am - 1 pm. The sale was a great success and was well attended. Due to generous donations from Trinity members and the community, the sale generated a total of approximately \$ 2032.00. The sale consisted of many treasures from clothes, dishes, books, tools to Christmas items, plus much more along with a great variety of treats provided by Trinity Cooks. Thanks to all for donations and support. Special thanks to all who set up the sale and packed it up plus to those who arranged for the removal of the things left over. Hope to see you all in 2 years at the next MEGA yard sale!

Marguerite Cameron

STEWARDSHIP

Hope everyone had a good summer, now it's time to get to work.

Over the summer , we were happy to get the new kitchen windows replaced; sure will make it a little more comfortable when we are working.

The position of chair of Stewardship has been an eye opener for me. I have chaired other committees but this has been quite a different area for me. Firstly, we have to keep in touch with so many groups . There are new things being sent to us from Rev. Arlyce. When she comes back to us, we would have a new defibrillator installed.

Hope this year will be successful for one and all.

Chairperson,
June Pevere

The following is an abstract from a flyer distributed in church the first two weeks of September. It was also sent to all members who provided the church office with their email addresses on September 19. Comments were solicited and reply requested by September 25, 2016

Trinity United Church

Connect,

Inspire,

Serve

Upon reviewing the information provided by you to the Transition Team, we are presenting a Living Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Core Value Statement which we believe describes who we are and what we aspire to be and do.

September, 2016

Core Values Statement

Living Mission Statement

Trinity United Church is a Christian community that explores and shares its faith in open-minded dialogue.

Living out the love of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ, we grow spiritually as we connect with, inspire and serve our community and beyond.



Guided by the Spirit, mindful of our roots, we are a community of faith, called to celebrate the Christian gospel by practising:

- † *Inclusion*
- † *Pastoral Care*
- † *Hospitality*
- † *Community Service*
- † *Justice-making*
- † *Open-minded exploration*
- † *Transparency & Accountability*
- † *Whole World Ecumenism*
- † *Stewardship, and*
- † *Life-long learning*

to bring about transformation and renewal.

Vision Statement

On our Journey of faith we will;

1. Become more intentional in living out our living mission and core values; we will "walk the talk".
2. Embrace changes and take risks to live by our Living Mission.
3. Practise stewardship of all resources.
4. Ensure that God's house is open, accessible and sustained.
5. Foster communication between Church Council, its teams, the congregation and the greater community.
6. Provide ongoing faith development opportunities for all ages.
7. Encourage, equip and empower individuals and groups for shared leadership.
8. Invite the participation of all in our church programs and activities.

SHIPMEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB

The Men's Breakfast Club meets on the 2nd Thursday at 8:00 am at the Roosterant on Lomdard St. This is a new location. Men of all ages are welcome!

We continue to be involved with the Breakfast Program at Duncan J. School with the help of ladies from Trinity.

Join us and get involved with this outreach program.

Tom Foulkes



CALLING ALL MUSIC LOVERS!

The Portland United Church hand bell choir (Portland Pealers) would love to welcome new members. We meet on Thursdays from 5:45 to 7:15 pm. in the Portland Church. If you are interested in playing hand bells, come out and see us. Reading music is a big plus, however if you can't read music, but can count, we can teach you!

For more information call Jan Haskin, [613-272-2741](tel:613-272-2741).

TOP 10 REASONS GOD MADE EVE

God was worried that Adam would frequently become lost in the garden because he would not ask for directions.

God knew that one day Adam would require someone to locate and hand him the remote.

God knew Adam would never go out and buy himself a new fig leaf when his wore out and would therefore need Eve to buy one for him.

God knew Adam would never be able to make a doctor, dentist or haircut appointment for himself.

God knew Adam would never remember which night to put the garbage on the curb.

God knew if the world was to be populated, men would never be able to handle the pain and discomfort of childbearing.

As the Keeper of the Garden, since he didn't have metal sheds or greenhouses, Adam would never remember where he left his tools.

Apparently, Adam needed someone to blame his troubles on when God caught him hiding in the garden.

As the Bible says, "It is not good for man to be alone!"

When God finished the creation of Adam, He stepped back, scratched His head and said, "I can do much better than that!"



<http://www.charlesspecht.com/a-funny-christian-joke-or-two/>