



THE COMMUNICATOR



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MINISTERIAL SEARCH TEAM

The search committee have spent countless hours to get to this point. We have been getting direction from Our Regional Liaison, Wayne Harris, so we could figure out what the process was and know what we had to do. We looked at the United Church Hub and became very excited to see 297 ministers looking for positions. That feeling of excitement left as we looked over their information and discovered how few were looking in our area. We gave a period to allow applications to arrive, and to look at those whom we might consider not necessarily looking in this area, but looking in surrounding areas. Those people were sent letters to reach out and to ask them to consider going just a short distance outside their area of search to Trinity.

Once applications were received, the group decided which applicants might be a “fit” for our Community of Faith and set up interviews. We chose our questions carefully to be sure we were covering all aspects of Trinity. After each interview, the candidate was discussed, as to how they would “work” with our Community of Faith. After the first round of interviews, we met for a second interview, this interview included discussions on terms of employment and expectations. When the second interview was complete, the search team discussed what we felt was a fair offer and contacted the candidate to meet for a consultation.

When terms of the Call were finalised with the Candidate, the Search Team presented the financial package to the Council and requested that Council call a Congregational Meeting on October 6th to bring the Search Team's choice of Minister to you, our Community of Faith, for your approval. On that date, the motion was put forward to call Rev Takouhi Demirdijian to The Trinity Smiths Falls Community of Faith effective January 1, 2025 and it was approved.

A Word from Spiritual Leadership

Welcome back to worshipping at Trinity. It has been a busy time for the Spiritual Leadership Team. It was difficult saying goodbye to our minister and friend, Rev. Christopher Ryan and his wife Lorraine. I am glad we were able to send them on their way with many memories. We wish them well in their new home on the East Coast. Christopher’s retirement meant a return to finding supply ministry for the time being. I am pleased that we have a great Church Council to assist with services as well as some wonderful Licenced Lay Worship Leaders. Our Music Director, Wendy Earl, has been very helpful with her music. We have invited Rev. Matt Gallinger from Ottawa to preside and offer us communion for Worldwide Communion Sunday on Oct. 6. We have managed to fill all the Sundays until the New Year.

We have also been able to begin a new Bible Study with Norma Wrightly. We are studying The Women of the New Testament. It is proving to be very interesting and intense, and we are taking as long as it takes us to study this important topic. We have met 3 times and only made it through the first half of the questions on the first chapter. Our focus has been kept on topic but there is so much insight that can be gained through our discussions. Everyone is welcome to join us on Wed. mornings from 9-10:30. Our book study will begin again, probably in the new year focussing on the book “Feathers of Hope” by Sharon Garlough Brown. Date of the study to begin will be determined.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Arlie Dopson for her wonderful assistance with keeping our church decorated. Everything looks wonderful.

We have been pleased to welcome the Christian Community Team to join our meetings. However, they will continue to maintain their identity and missions. We are happy to assist at any time.

Please remember that the Spiritual Leadership team meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall at 7 p.m. and we are looking for a secretary. ALL are welcome.

God Bless, The Spiritual Leadership Team, Chairperson Heather Quinn

Trinity United Church, Smiths Falls

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UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW)

MONTHLY UCW MEETINGS the first Monday of each month. Gather after 9:00, meeting starts at 9:30.

All women of the church are invited to attend.

CRAFT & CHAT Bi-weekly Wednesdays. Watch for details in Sunday Bulletin

CHAIR EXERCISE held every Monday of each month at 11:00 (Statutory holidays excluded). Small donation is appreciated but not expected to offset the cost of insurance.

October 2 EOOD LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP at Trinity. Topics included taking minutes and making motions.

October 8 FOUR RIVERS UCW at Portland UC. Theme: Women- Strong We Stand. Guest Speaker: Rev. Lynne Gardiner of Bethel UC, Rideau Ferry.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 13 UCW SUNDAY THANKSGIVING SERVICE will follow Fellowship of the Least Coin service lead by Norma Wrightly and Linda Stronski. Members of UCW will also assist with the service.

October 19 HARVEST SUPPER – Doors open at 5:00, supper served at 5:30. Cost \$22/Adults, \$10/child (6-10 yrs), under 6 yrs free. Only 100 tickets being sold. Buy yours early! Call church office. Menu: ham, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw and pumpkin pie.

November 2 HOLLY FAIR, 10 – 1, Tables include baking, Cookie Lady, Christmas table, Balloon Drop and Coffee Shop to rest and chat with friends.

WREATHS will be on sale again in October and November. Price \$30. Pick up date will be Thursday November 28 after noon. Contact Linda Zieman 613-283-2728 or the church office.

UCW members visit Van Horne Manor The 1st Tuesday of each month following Trinity Worship time there at 2:00 p.m. Refreshments are available. Next visit will be Tuesday, November 5.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Sale of the Bell Avenue Property: The final administrative requirement regarding the sale of the Bell Avenue Property was submitting to and receiving Regional Council approval of a sustainable “Ministry (Financial) Plan” for the use of the proceeds of the sale which is retained by Trinity (90%). The plan submitted to the Regional Council entailed a mixture of short-term, medium term and long-term investments, to be held in Trinity’s current investment portfolio at BMO Nesbitt-Burns (Perth) and how the investments would be spent. The revenue generated by these investments will be used to support the immediate and long-term needs of the church. The conditions for the use of the funds were contained in the Ministry Plan. Trustees are happy to Report, that on May 9,2024 the Executive Council of the EOORC received and approved Trinity’s Ministry (Financial) Plan. The investments strategy of the “Plan” was completed on June 7, 2024 with a total investment of \$880,000. Since that time Trustees have transferred (October 3, 2024) an additional \$15,000 from “Funds in Trust” to the General Fund to meet on-going operational expenses. To date, the total of “Funds-in-Trust” that has been transferred to meet operational expenses is \$45,000.

PROPERTY

Sanctuary Restoration: As reported in the Easter 2024 Communicator the restoration of the sanctuary has been completed and paid for. However, the Property Team has called in ServiceMaster to address several identified deficiencies that require repairing. Several of the sconces were damaged during the restoration. In addition, the faux stonework on the arch of the choir loft has dried out and needs some attention. The work has yet to be completed.

United Church of Canada – Faithful Footprints Energy Reduction Grant Program: This project has been completed. The application for the \$20,000.00 grant has yet to be submitted... hopefully by the end of October... yes, this year. Sometimes, life just gets in the way and overtakes best laid plans and intentions.

2024 Property Projects: The following three projects Sanctuary Restoration, Energy Reduction Projects and the Painting of the Main Entrance Foyer were the main projects for 2024. Another inexpensive project (approximately \$325.00) was the purchase and installation of curtains in the gymnasium to help reduce the heat from the summer's afternoon sun. It has been a welcomed improvement to the afternoon users of the gym.

Looking to 2025: Along with the task of maintaining the church in good repair, the property team's top project will be the installation of two (2) accessibility ramps from the Market (gym) Street entrance into to the gymnasium. One ramp will be from Market St. into the building and the other ramp will be from the entrance down into the gym. The project will take some time to complete as each ramp requires professional designing, Town of Smiths Falls approval, and construction. It is anticipated that the project will not be completed until late in 2025.

Submitted by Bob Swan on behalf the Property Team and Board of Trustees, October 3, 2024



STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE TEAM

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. Your faithful donations continue to support Trinity in meeting expenses this year. However, we did need to access \$30,000 of interest earned on Investments held by the Trustees in the late spring as approved in the 2024 Budget. We are on the verge of needing more cash at this time to meet the day-to-day expenses so we will be asking the Trustees to release some further funds for this purpose. Our current deficit is running at - \$34,000. As mentioned in previous Communicator newsletters, the goal of the Team is to have weekly offerings and donations to the General Fund provide the necessary revenue to meet those day-to-day expenses. To that end, it would be most helpful if more Trinity folks would enrol in the Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) program so we can be assured of regular monthly contributions which in turn provides stable funding to pay the ongoing costs of maintaining the church and staff. PAR applications can be found at the back of the Sanctuary or through the church office. Please give PAR your consideration at this time of Thanksgiving.

There are some fundraising activities coming up that would be a wonderful way to support Trinity:

UCW HARVEST SUPPER, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 - 5:30pm

UCW WREATH SALE - pre-order now

HOLLY FAIR, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 – 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

TRIPOLY AND THE GRENVILLE TROUBADORS, CHRISTMAS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 – 7 p.m. Advanced tickets \$20, At the door \$25

While supporting Trinity through your financial donations is welcomed, so to is the donation of your time. You can give to Trinity through service on one of our Teams. We are currently in need of Recording Secretaries for Stewardship & Finance Team, Spiritual Leadership Team, Outreach & Social Justice Team and Property Team. Also, if you enjoy visiting folks, the Christian Community Team is looking for more volunteers to “buddy” up with those who enjoy a visit and the care and attention of a Trinity member. Just a phone call on a regular basis will show we care. Next year the Council will need a Council Secretary (could be a shared position) and a Council Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. The challenge is to see yourself committing to some volunteer time at Trinity in a way that shares your talent and answers the call of “Here I am Lord”.

Many blessings this Thanksgiving, Your Stewardship & Finance Team – Janine Hanna, Treasurer, Bob Swan, Trustees rep., Joanne Hunter, UCW rep., Mike Murphy and Jan Montgomery, Members-at-Large

Ministry and Personnel

Your thoughts are welcome! Our office administrator, bookkeeper, sound and video technician, media editor and choir director/organist all contribute to the functioning of our congregation.

The Ministry and Personnel Committee encourages you to provide input for the upcoming annual reviews by speaking with Becky de Groot, Lee Davidson, David Johnston, Dave Donovan or Carol Williams, or emailing Carol at carolwilliams.ca@proton.me



COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

The Communications Team is responsible for this Newsletter as well as Facebook, the church website and the recording and distribution of our church services on YouTube and Cogeco. We would invite anyone who would like to submit or share articles, news or an item of historical interest to the congregation to forward to Arlene Hunter at arlene_fraser@hotmail.com

Patty Agnew is currently working diligently to update our website. Stay tuned for the new look.



Pot Luck & Praise

Join the Spiritual Leadership and Christian Community team every 3rd Tuesday of the month for a pot-luck supper and a short worship service. Starts at 6:00 pm. The coffee pot is always on.

Sunday School

Second and Last Sunday
of the month



Rainbow 101

Second Friday of each
month 6pm - See 'Rainbow
101 Lanark' on Facebook
for location



Lanark Drum Circle

Last Sunday of
each month 1pm
in the gym