

Fall Newsletter August 2019

Minister's Message: Churches and Colonialism

It starts with a history lesson: Remember that Canada started as, "New France." That likewise, the United States began as colonies - this time, of England. And that in New Testament times, the dominant Empire started its Roman colonies to spread *their* civilization. Like other colonists, those Romans crucified innocent locals who got in their way - Jesus was just one of thousands of victims to meet such a fate.

Colonial powers have done a great deal of damage throughout history.

In recent years as Canadians we've all been working towards "Reconciliation" - increasingly aware of the dangers of colonialism and the often terrible impacts that settlers had on the indigenous people of Canada. Regretfully, churches had a destructive role in that sad history. Nonetheless, churches are still intended to be a kind of colony - but not a colony of dominance or violence or exploitation - but a colony of God's Kingdom of love and peace.

Churches are called to be an example of caring community - a counter-culture in a world otherwise distracted with pride, and isolated by selfishness. We try to model joyful service, humility, healing and fulfillment.

Jesus still calls his people to bring light and flavour to this beloved world - in ways that learn from the past, and prepare for the future. At Trinity we are always trying to prayerfully discern how to best be one of God's "outposts" for this time, and this place. Do you feel God's tug on your heart to be a part of that?



Hello Trinity Friends!

It may seem counter intuitive a few days ahead of holiday time to be looking ahead to the fall, but at Trinity, we are always looking ahead for new ways to keep our Church family engaged! This fall we are looking forward to engaging worship, meaningful music, fun and thoughtful Sunday School sessions, lively meetings, apple pies and so much more! There will be some new events and activities to look forward to as well as the return of some of our beloved yearly events. Our church is a busy and active place and I cannot imagine it any other way.

As we head into a busy fall, I wanted to express my sincere thank-you to the many volunteers who make Trinity what it is. Our Trinity family is generous in so many ways - with time, with talent and with support whenever it is needed. You are a people who are deeply committed to being God's hands and feet in our world and I am so grateful for that.

This fall, as always, there will be a number of opportunities to join in and participate in the life at Trinity. Our season kicks off with our Rally Back Day and Church Family Picnic on Sunday, September 8th. During morning worship, we will covenant with our Sunday school Teachers and Volunteers and officially kick off our Sunday School year! In the afternoon, *everyone* is invited to attend our annual Church picnic at Camp Tillicum. It is a fantastic way to spend time with your Trinity friends and family while enjoying good food, fellowship, games and an evening vesper's service on the shores of Lake Nipissing!

Please be sure to spend some time looking through the newsletter, check out the website and/or facebook page and re-acquaint yourself with Trinity United Church - perhaps this is the year that you decide to try something new.

Grace and Peace,

Lisa Blais, DLM

Faith Formation and Outreach Minister



The fall season will soon be upon us. Our Junior and Senior Choirs are excited to begin rehearsals for a new church year.

Senior Choir practices will resume on Thursday, September 5, 2017 from 7:15 – 9:00 p.m.

We will be preparing special music for the fall season – Thanksgiving, and Remembrance Sunday, as well as anthems for each Sunday worship service. The choir will also lead in our regular monthly hymn sings at 10:15 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month.

Our Senior Choir will also be presenting a Christmas Cantata, on Christmas Sunday, December 22, during morning worship. This special presentation will be accompanied by a small instrumental ensemble and has a great variety of music. Watch for more information in the Christmas newsletter.

The Junior Choir and the Trinity congregation thank Peggy Millar (“Miss Peggy”) for establishing our Junior Choir, and leading it so capably for the past 8 years. Her love and dedication will always be treasured.

And...children!! Watch the Sunday bulletin for regular information on our Children’s’ Choir. Junior Choir practices every Sunday before church under the leadership of Laura Farris-Einarson, with Chris Mogan as accompanist. Children from JK and up are most welcome. Our first rehearsal will be on Sunday, September 8 at 9:30 a.m. Come, and bring a friend!

The J.O.Y. Band looks forward to participating in the Remembrance Day worship service on Sunday, November 10, 2019. The concert “Musical Memories of the War Years” will be on Sunday, November 17 with a sing-a-long at 1:00 p.m. and band concert at 1:30 p.m.

Our choirs and their directors appreciate the wonderful support that they continue to be given by the Trinity congregation.

Betty Farris, Minister of Music

... from the Roofing Team

The people working on the roofing team are Brenda Holbein, Dave McKenney, Gerry Foster, Jim Dickson, Jim Evans, John Haflidson, Kirk Elliott, Michelina Beam, Ryan Rozicki, Rev. Ted Harrison, and myself.

After months of analyzing and planning, we’re really close to starting the actual repairs. The engineer is close to finalizing his drawings and we have a contractor lined up to get the permits for us and to start work as soon as possible. We've estimated that the work will cost \$200,000 and we made our first request for special donations on Sunday, July 21. Several people have already made donations and others have offered to loan us money, so it is certainly looking very promising. At a Board meeting on Tuesday, July 23 we passed several motions giving the roof team everything they need to get the work done.

The scope of the project includes: replacing the rotten beam; replacing the complete roof system including ceiling joists, rafters, decking, and shingles/membrane in at least the 1st “bay” and perhaps the whole McIntyre Street side; removing the failed eaves-troughs on the McIntyre Street side; repairing the checked column; adding connectors to the high timber-frame; fixing the leak on the Main Street side; and repairing the ceiling.

You've all been very supportive and encouraging of the roof team’s efforts, and I'm hopeful that you'll be as supportive with your donations. We need early donations to allow us to do the required repair work without borrowing too much, but we expect to have more fundraising in the fall to repay some loans.

Thank you all, John Roberts

Donations to the Trinity Roof Project

- If paying by cheque, please make it payable to Trinity United Church and add a note that it is for the roof project.
- If you want to donate by e-transfer or need information on how to do that, please get in touch with Michelina at trinityuc.treasurer@gmail.com.

If you have any questions feel free to get in touch with John Roberts at 705-724-9829 or jrobertsnb@gmail.com.

Thank You!



... from the Finance Committee

For the first six months of 2019, our income of approximately \$188,000 exceeded expenses by about \$3,400. Total offerings, which account for 68% of YTD income, show an increase of 4% over last year's amount for the same period. Thank you for your contributions to our offerings. Thanks also to those folks who have joined the PAR program or increased their PAR contributions.

Kudos to various Trinity Groups, including UCW, AOTS, Trinity Families, Scouts, Choir, Joy Band, Joyful Bells and IV Trinity, for their important contributions to income during the first half of the year. The June YTD income total from these groups is 37% higher than last year. Kudos also to the folks involved in various fund-raising activities during the first half of 2019, including Soup Tasting, Glitter Dinner, Mustard Seed Productions, the Roof Fund and Swiss Chalet. Please recall that Swiss Chalet will give us 10% of your dining room purchases, which is a very generous offer. Save your table receipts and deposit them in designated containers at the church.

Year-to-date expenses of about \$184,000 were 1% lower than last year and include costs of about \$4,500 for initial engineering related to the Roof Project. We anticipate costs for this project to increase over the next few months as additional engineering and investigation work proceeds, leading to a repair plan, budget and construction. Several Finance Committee members are participating in Roof Committee activities, assisting to obtain the significant funds required for the repair work. Probable sources of funding include some money from investment accounts, a loan from United Church of Canada and further fund raising by Trinity folks. We welcome any contribution you can make to the Roof Fund established to help finance this essential project.

Respectfully submitted, John Hafidson

... from the Worship Committee

The Worship Committee provides support and assistance to Rev. Ted in the conduct of worship services, such as providing lay leaders, ushers and lift operators for our Sunday services. The current members of the committee are Marlene Little, Jean Rideout, Shirley Myre, Claudette Brown, Judi Rose, Marian Robinson, Rod Carley, Wanda Gleason and Bonnie-Rae Bailey.

Would you be interested in helping with any of those duties from time to time? This is a terrific opportunity to make new friends and say hello to old friends, to make a connection as part of the Trinity family. Would you like to be an usher occasionally? There will be an Usher signup sheet beside the coffee pot in the Fellowship Hall following the morning worship services. You can choose which days suit your schedule. Or speak to anyone on the committee if you would like more information.

Thank you, Bonnie-Rae Bailey (705-478-7208)

Worship Committee Chair

Special Rally Back Celebrations

On Sunday September 8th, we will enjoy "Rally Back" Sunday. Our regular 10:30 a.m. worship will kick off a new season of Sunday School. In the afternoon, we'll gather for a sunny Rally Day Pot Luck Picnic at beautiful Camp Tillicum, which will feature fun family games for all ages, and a potluck picnic.

Tuesday Morning Coffee Group

Tuesday Mornings 9:30 – 11:30

Join us Tuesday September 10th for our welcome back potluck!

We would love to have you join us for conversation and coffee (or tea). We are a non-denominational group of **friendly** and **welcoming** women of all ages who meet on Tuesday mornings throughout the school year. The program varies from week to week with guest speakers, cooking, crafts, gardening, child development, tours, health & nutrition and lots of other interesting events.

Childcare is provided in a safe, fun and stimulating environment for babies, toddlers and preschoolers. Our group meets at Trinity United Church (at the corner of McIntyre & Ferguson) each Tuesday morning during the school year from 9:30 – 11:30. Cost is \$3.00 per week.

AOTS Gift Cards

As you are aware, Trinity will be closed for the summer from July 29th until September 8th but I will be available to take your orders on the first Sunday back (Sept. 8th).

Thank you, Ed Rose

1st North Bay Scouting Group

As fall fast approaches our Scouting Groups are once again starting up. Youth can be registered and paid for online at "myscouts.ca". We offer a Beaver and a Cub programs so age 5 thru 11 boys and girls.

If any adults are looking to join and help out, we would be glad to talk to you. Give us a try. You can get in touch with myself, Anna Wright, or Ryan Rozicki or Dave McKenney.

Please enjoy this upcoming Fall season.

Submitted by Anna Wright

Trinity Vacation Bible Camp, "Adventures Across the Ages"

Trinity's summer daycamp was a great success again, as we explored history with our own resident time traveller, *Tempus Fugit*. There was art, music and games, drama and challenge, food and fun.

Particular thanks to coordinators Lisa Blais and Marcel McDonald. Thank you to our endless helpers, leaders, and volunteers who helped with lunch and baking, before and after care, with love and commitment.

We're shaping the next generation with faith, humour, *and a sometimes wildly distorted sense of how history actually works!*

Apple Pies

Here are the dates for this Year's Apple Pie Project.

- **Monday, August 26 (9-12):- clean the kitchen**
- **Tuesday, August 27 & Wednesday, August 28 (9-2):- mix dry pastry and mix spice bags**
- **Monday, September 2 & Tuesday, September 3 (9-2):- roll out pie bottoms**
- **Saturday, September 28 (8-5):- travel to Meester's to pick apples**
- **Sunday, September 29 after church:- wash apples**
- **Monday, September 30 to Thursday, October 3 incl (9-2):- assemble pies.***

***Lunch will be provided during apple pie assembly week.**

All other activities require a brown bag lunch.

Order forms will be available in the church bulletin in September.

If you are able to help with any part of this project, please just come along or contact Darlene at (705) 474-7847 or darlene_laferriere@hotmail.com

UCW Report

Despite the change in the governance of the United Church, the UCW has continued on, with a couple of minor changes. Instead of having Manitou Conference as our district "umbrella" group, it is now called Cambrian Shield Regional UCW. The North Bay Presbyterial group has changed it's name to Near North UCW.

We are still trying to find our place in the new structure. Our President is continuing to work to have UCW represented at the executive level of the Regional Council.

Unfortunately, as we age, the number of UCW groups has diminished. One local group has decided to not be UCW anymore, and another has decided that since they can no longer travel to be included, to no longer be UCW.

Our own UCW continues to be interested in what happens at the local, and regional levels. We are lucky to have members who can fill in when I am gone. The support of the congregation certainly contributes to keeping our group viable.

Cont. on page 5

Since the last newsletter, Trinity UCW has been able to lead in worship. This is an activity the ladies quite enjoy. It is great to see so many taking on a responsibility to make sure the service runs smoothly.

It gave us great pleasure to assist at Ryan and Kelly's wedding. It is not often that we are asked to help at such a joyous occasion.

Our June potluck was a huge success with 22 visitors, and 23 Trinity people gathering to listen to Bob and Fay Jackson discuss travel.

Summertime gives everyone a chance to regroup, and gear- up for the upcoming fall and winter activities. It allows us to experience God's wonderful world, and all the beauty He has created. Enjoy our area, even if only from your lawn chair. Summer is a special time for us to give thanks for all our blessings.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Biondi, President

Prayer Shawl Group

The Prayer Shawl group would like to express its appreciation to everyone who has given of their time to create the beautiful, cozy lap robes, and shawls. They have indeed given comfort to everyone who has received one.

We have a good supply, and variety at the moment. Each of the last two Blessings have had about 15 blessed each time.

While we do not meet to make these shawls, the dedicated people who make them offer prayers for the recipient of the item, that it may give them comfort and healing as they snuggle under it, or wrap themselves up in it. As a group we continue to feel blessed that we are able to use our skills to create these things to help others.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Biondi, Leader.

Welcome to Sunday School!

We are so blessed to have so many youth and children in our Trinity Family! We want everyone to feel welcome to check out our awesome programs, whether you attend regularly, occasionally, or are just visiting.

The Sunday School classes are aimed at children ages 4-13. The staffed nursery is available for children 3 and under, and teenagers (or those who feel too old for Sunday School) are always welcome as helpers in the Sunday School and the nursery. This is a great way to earn volunteer hours for high school!

During regular Sunday School, children will break into groups and have fun discovering many topics through crafts, cooking, games, story-telling, and more!

Our children are lucky to be led by our wonderful volunteer teachers. We are looking to add more teachers to our rotations, please let us know if you've been thinking of volunteering.

Submitted by

Carling Lutecki and Marcel MacDonald – Sunday School Co-SuperIntendents

Trinity Families

Trinity Families is an all-inclusive group aimed at encouraging togetherness, friendship, and fun. We would love to welcome you and your family to any of our events or outings.

Our mission is to provide fun for the whole family, young and old. Some of our past activities have included backyard movie nights, camping trips, and berry picking. We've participated in the Santa Claus Parade, gone on outings to the pumpkin patch at Leisure Farms, and we have an amazing Winter Retreat each year at Spirit Point in Trout Creek! We even schedule some events just for the grownups, like game nights and paint nights.

We want everyone to feel welcome to come out to any of our activities. There's no age limit and you don't need to have children to join us.

Check out our private Facebook Group (search Trinity Families and ask to join) and follow us for information on upcoming events.

Submitted by Carling Lutecki

For Youth at Trinity

Trinity youth are a vital and active part of Trinity United Church. Activities and events happen throughout the year. Please look for information about upcoming activities and events on our website or our facebook page. Many youth choose to earn their highschool volunteer hours by helping out in the Sunday School or other Trinity ministries. For more information contact Lisa: blais.trinity@gmail.com or phone 474-3310.

- **Trinity Youth Group**

Trinity youth, and occasionally youth from other area churches meet throughout the year. We participate in a variety of fun activities with a goal towards building community with other Christian youth. We are looking at re-launching the Youth Group here at Trinity. All youth in Grade 7 and up are invited to a Games Social on Sunday September 22nd. We will have an opportunity for ice-breakers and some planning for future events.

Youth events to look forward to this year:

September 22nd	Games Social
October	Fall Hike/GeoCache
October	Niagara Youth Event from October 25th – 27th
November	Youth Confirmation Weekend – date tbd

- **Holy Grounds – NEW!**

At various times throughout the year, youth will gather Sundays after church for Coffee (or Hot Chocolate) and treats for meaningful discussion and activities – sometimes around a seasonal theme and sometimes just because. An Advent session will take place December 1st and 15th.

- **The Mustard Seed Players**

For young people who are interested in theatre. We welcome actors, singers, dancers, stage hands, musicians, those interested in lighting, sound, props or costumes to join our troupe anytime. We are eagerly anticipating an exciting new musical with rehearsals beginning this fall. Look for the Mustard Seed Flyer in the newsletter. Please speak with Darlene Laferriere, or Lisa Blais for more information.

The Trinity Testosterone Men’s Canoe Adventure, 2019

As in years past, late June 2019 saw 15 Trinity guys venture out on a church men’s wilderness canoe trip into the Anima-Nipissing area of the Temagami wilderness. The longest days of the year greeted us with sunburns, blackflies, mosquitoes... and great food, laughter, singing and comradery. Besides the facts that we enjoyed God’s creation, meaningful worship, hard work and great food, the participants are sworn to secrecy - so you’re not likely to get many details out of them! Thank you to everyone who made it possible this year - and to all who will make it possible again next June. Huzzah!

“It’s A Wonderful Life”

This December, look forward to an all-new way to prepare your Christmas Spirit. Trinity’s sanctuary will become an old-time radio recording studio for a soul-stirring production of the Christmas classic, “It’s a Wonderful Life.” A seasonal fundraiser for Trinity’s new roof, the production will set a new standard for holiday hilarity! Be sure to bring your friends!

Women of Wonder - Trinity Women’s Retreat

A Trinity Women’s Retreat will be happening sometime this fall. It will be a wonderful weekend of faithful friendship, fun and food at Camp Caritou.
More details (and a date) will be announced in September. Stay Tuned.

Rally Back Sunday

Sunday September 8th , 2019

Church Family Picnic

Fun and Games, good food, music and lakeside vespers.

Sunday September 8th at 3:00 p.m.

YMCA's CampTillicum on beautiful Lake Nipissing

Bring a salad or appetizer, plate and fork, bathing suit
and lawn chair.

Everyone is welcome!

Trinity's Sunday School

This year's Sunday School theme will be
"God Knows Me"

Sunday School topics will include:

Around the table (Communion and family meals),
Unlikely Heroes, Music of the Psalms, Baptism, and
of course the always popular Christmas Pageant.

Discovered and explored through:

Science, Crafts, Cooking, Songs, Drama,
Dance, Games and Storytelling!
Sunday School is geared to children ages 4 to 13.

Too old for Sunday School?

We would love to have high school students to help with our workshops!
(this will also meet the requirements for high school volunteer hours!)

Nursery care is available for children under the age of four.

Upcoming Dates: Get them on your Calendar!

Sunday September 8th: **Rally Day** Service, plus Afternoon Picnic (See Article)

Saturday September 14th: AOTS Men's Retreat at Spirit Point

Saturday September 28th: 9:30-4pm get on-line for a Spiritual practises workshop with the United Church
Moderator, Right Rev. Richard Bott

Sunday September 29th: **Saint Francis Sunday** (*all ages are encouraged to bring a favourite friendly stuffie, pet, or animal memento to church!*)

September 30th- October 3rd: Help assemble some Trinity Apple Pies!

Sunday October 6th: World-Wide **Communion** Sunday

Sunday October 13th: **Thanksgiving Baptism Sunday** (*families interested in baptism on this Sunday should be in touch with the Trinity office ASAP!*)

Sunday October 27th: Feel free to wear a **Hallowe'en** costume to church

Saturday November 9th: UCW Christmas Tea and Bazaar

Sunday November 10th: **Remembrance Sunday** service

Sunday December 1st: First Sunday in Advent. **Communion Service**