

## What in God's Name is Happening? Trinity United Church Newsletter Capreol, Ontario

## Minister's Musings

How did it get to be Fall already? But what a beautiful summer we had, I think. Yet, it depends on your perspective – in fact, the discussion about any topic or issue depend the perspectives of those discussing it. This summer was warm and wonderful for the LeGrand family outings. Unfortunately, some families had a terrible summer. "Warm and sunny" worked for me, but the humidity of summer days left some bunkered in their homes, surviving only thanks to their air conditioning systems. Isn't it strange, even frustrating, to realize that what seems marvelous to you could be experienced as most troubling to another. God's Creation, with all its diversity, can be both filled with magnificent beauty and fraught with conflicts of epic proportion, all at the same time.

Lately I've been trying to make sense out of the continuing flurry of changes and challenges experienced by our United Church of Canada (and, really, the Christian Church around the world). I'm proud that this United Church of Canada is arguably the most theologically diverse denomination in Canada – right here at Trinity United Capreol we run the gamut from very "traditional" Christians to "liberal" or "progressive" ones. In our pews, a great deal of potential for conflict, and we have seen it. In spite of what I suspect are "doctrinal" differences (our beliefs about God and Jesus and even what God's Church is called to be about), there is also a great deal we agree upon.

One thing I am absolutely certain we all share in common is our love for this "community" that has been created in God's Love called Trinity. Two years away from our  $100^{th}$  birthday in Capreol, Trinity United owes a great debt to the many saints who built this community. I believe that we can all agree, though, that our greatest debt is to the Cornerstone of our Church, our God who has called us together through Jesus. What enables us to do such wonderful, even dare I say, miraculous, work for Jesus, is that we don't expect newcomers to affirm to complex doctrines or creeds, but instead they answer simple, essential questions when they choose to become members: *Will you follow Jesus... to seek justice and resist evil...?* 

As we find our space at Christ's Table during the Holy Sacrament of Communion, we will hear the myriad ways God has blessed Creation and us, and in essence, how, "the Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood". [The Message, Copyright © 2002 Eugene H. Peterson]. That is a powerful and empowering thing, to recognize that this is not ours, but instead entrusted to our care in order to help our Creator to build a radical "kin-dom" that takes the teachings of Jesus seriously and turns our world's conventional wisdom upside down (read the parable of Jesus in Luke 14:15-24) .

Thanks to the work we have done to communicate widely that we at Trinity want to be partners in building strong and healthy community, we have been offered invitations to, well, actively partner with the community - projects like *The Good Food Box* and an interesting Revenue Canada program to help particularly low income families submit their tax returns for free. We are also stepping back and prayerfully reflecting, discerning the future. A *Joint Needs Assessment* has begun this Fall, assessing how the "ministry needs" of our congregation have changed over the past 10 years, AND a separate team will be reviewing the results from that Community Roundtable we hosted last winter, then asking, "What is God's Mission for our congregation given our resources?" Some may read all of this and say "It's just too much", yet others say, "Isn't this an active and relevant little church of Jesus Christ!" I will confess that I resonate with the second. Enjoy the colours of Fall (Creation's reminder that change is inevitable) and your Trinity family wishes you Health and Joy in this season.

Blessings to you and yours.....  $\mathcal{D}$ 

<u>Thanksgiving Neighbourhood Meal:</u> Monday Oct 10<sup>th</sup> 5pm Come and share Thanksgiving with us! Bring nothing or bring a lot! All are welcome!

# Christmas Bazaar Saturday November 18th 11am to 2pm:

Set up and decorating Fri Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 10am Donation drop off Friday Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 6 to 8pm and Sat Nov 19<sup>th</sup> any time after 9am

Intergenerational Service: Sun Nov 27th

## Children's Christmas Shopping Day: Sat Dec 10th 9am to noon

This well received event is planned again for our third year! Donations of new or very gently used items for all ages will be received by Tracey later in November. Volunteers needed! Children up to grade 8 can shop for members of their families – free of charge! Children must sign up. Watch for more details to come!

<u>Christmas Piano Recital:</u> Come early on Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> (10am) to listen to some lively Christmas music played by the students of Tracey LeGrand.

Christmas Pageant and Potluck following church: Sunday December 18th

Caroling to folks in need: Thursday December 22<sup>nd</sup>

Join us at 6:15pm at the church where we will head out to spread some Christmas cheer! All are welcome! See Tracey or Faye for more details!

Movie Nights: Friday Oct 28<sup>th</sup> Alice Through the Looking Glass (Disney PG)

Friday Nov 25<sup>th</sup> Secret Life of Pets Friday Dec 16<sup>th</sup> (to be announced)

-Tracey



Fidget blankets for people with Alzheimer's

I have been approached by a nursing home in Orillia to make these lap blankets for some of their residents. It is basically a lap blanket with zippers, buttons, etc for the resident to "fidget" with to keep them active and engaged. If there is anyone in our community that you think would like one of these please let me know. Because I have quite a few "scraps" of material the cost to make these blankets is around \$25. If money is an issue I am sure something can be worked out.

Thanks!! Arlene Newman. (705-858-1723)

When camels are crossing the dessert, each night they kneel down and their loads are unloaded. In the morning, they kneel down again and are given what they can carry for that day.

So it is with prayer.

-Joanie











An Uplifting Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Held at Trinity United Church

**Capreol -** On Saturday afternoon Sept. 24, 2016, the members of Trinity United Church held a special ribbon-cutting that celebrated the completion of the Carl Maahs Memorial Lift project, which has made the building more accessible. In 2005, the organization applied for, and received, a \$60,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to install a lift and to renovate the washroom facilities, making the building more accessible for members and for all of the many community groups that host meetings and events there. The work took longer than expected, but the results have been notable. "Capreol is a small town with a big heart," said MPP France Gélinas." "I'm thrilled to see how the community rallied together to make this space somewhere for all people to engage in fun recreational activities and how the Ontario Trillium Foundation recognized and supported the project."

A large donation from the Carl Maahs Estate spearheaded the project. The celebration last Saturday was the culmination of many years of work by Norm Beckett, Paul Seelig and the Access Committee. People using the space can now easily transfer from the meeting space upstairs to the hall and kitchen in the lower level. These renovations, made over the past few years, have made the building more user-friendly to community groups, such as Bread and Roses Food Bank, Collective Kitchen, Alzheimer's day program, Al Anon, AA, as well as for art exhibits, musical and dramatic events. We at Trinity United Church are always looking for more ways to serve the community.

\*\*\* If you wish to inquire about using this space for your event, please call the church office at 705-858-2591 \*\*\*

### **Rev Gretta Vosper**

I have always appreciated the United Church's acceptance of a wide range of theological expression, even mine. I am not a person who feels comfortable with "God Talk", although I do respect my friends who choose to speak this way. For me, God Talk was a useful starting point.

I recall learning years ago that Yahweh means "Nameless One" and that resonates with me. Also I have read in the Bible that the man Jesus welcomed EVERYONE who wanted to follow in his way. I believe that is what Christianity is all about, trying my best to follow Jesus' example.

Also in the early church, the followers of Jesus welcomed EVERYONE who wanted to try to follow the way of Jesus. It didn't depend on language; it depended on how folks lived.

My Higher Power does not need to be called God. I am starting to think that if there is no room for Rev Gretta Vosper in my church, then maybe there is no room for me?

-Judy Sumner

Friends Across Manitou Conference,

Elliot Lake has welcomed a refugee family from Iraq. They are named Al Sallami and arrived the week of August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This family of 5 consists of a mother, father and 3 little girls

- aged 2, 4 and 6.

They have been warmly welcomed by the community. There was a welcome pot-luck dinner at Holy Trinity United Church sponsored by the Elora Group (Elliot Lake Organization for Refugee Assistance). The Elora Group was a recipient of the St Paul's United Church disbursement that was given out in Sudbury Presbytery last year. The group has committed to a one-year responsibility with this family and also have plans to welcome one other family. The whole process of welcoming this family took just over 8 months (from December 2015 to August 2016).

Please join us in praying that they feel comfortable and settled in their new home of Elliot Lake.

Susan Whitehead
Office Coordinator, Manitou Conference

#### Africville

What visions are conjured up when you read the name Africville? Maybe a village on the banks of the Congo River. Or a suburb of the city of Cape Town, South Africa? Perhaps you thought of persecutions of black residents in long gone Colonial days. You'd be partially correct. In the 1960's the town of Africville was obliterated from the map, it's black inhabitants and their belongings shipped from their homes in dump trucks and their homes levelled to the ground by bulldozers. Africville was a small community located on the southern shore of Bedford Basin, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. During the 20th century, the City of Halifax began to encroach on the southern shores of Bedford Basin, and gradually took over this community through municipal amalgamation. Africville was populated almost entirely by Black Nova Scotians from a wide variety of origins. Many of the first settlers were former slaves from the United States, Black Loyalists who were freed by the Crown during the American Revolutionary War and War of 1812.

The children of Africville, Nova Scotia, lived in a special community where everyone knew their neighbours, and all helped and cared for each other. It was the perfect place for children to play and grow up.

In the 1960's, using the language of "progress" and "urban renewal" to justify the behaviour, the City of Halifax loaded women and children from Africville into dump trucks and destroyed their homes with bulldozers and dropped the people off with their possessions at condemned houses in other parts of town.

Folks who were not home when the bulldozers arrived lost everything as city workers leveled furnished homes, forcing people into homelessness and destroying generations of keepsakes and heirlooms. One man returned from hospital to his home to find that his house and contents had disappeared.

One victim of the Africville disgrace spoke to a reporter about the destruction of her community.

"They brought us in more or less like you would herd in a bunch of cattle. They used their city dump trucks to load up the children and brought them in and set them in the city. This was a complete disgrace. The City disgraced themselves. This is the only place in the world that you would send an old workin' dump truck to move children, mothers and families into a city. We were in a position, there wasn't anything too much we could do about it. We were threatened. They put threats on our heads. If you don't move at a certain time we'll bring out the bulldozers and push ya's over, push your shacks over. Now if they call them shacks, we call them our castles. It was our homes," she said.

The destruction of homes in Africville was covered extensively in the mainstream Canadian media in the 1960's. Canadians were told by politicians and journalists that the destruction of Africville was "progressive." Terms like "urban renewal" and "integration" were used to mask the racism and terror.

"Africville, obviously must be redeveloped. Sometimes, some people need to be shown that certain things are not in their own best interests and not in the best interests of their children," said John Edward Lloyd, the white mayor of Halifax, on television in the early 1960's.

Settled by former slaves in the 1840s, Africville would later become a source of shame for Halifax. The impoverished community had no running water, no sewers, no fire department and little access to electricity or police protection. But its residents were close and proud of a distinct neighbourhood that brimmed with its own music and culture. In the 1950s and 1960s, the city relocated its dump to land near Africville, expropriated all of the community's properties and razed what it said were "blighted houses and dilapidated structures" in the name of urban renewal. It was said that the land would be used for industrial purposes. This never happened. Today, the site is now an under-used park called Seaview Gardens Memorial Park. Seaview used to be the name of the Africville Baptist Church.

The Seaview Baptist Church was the heart of Africville. It wasn't just the place of worship in the community; it was the town hall, the business centre, the place where Bible classes were held and youth clubs met. And it was the first building to be destroyed—at three o'clock in the morning. A quote from a local newspaper at the time reads, "Soon Africville will be but a name. And in the not too distant future that too, mercifully, will be forgotten."

In 2002, the United Nations declared the destruction of Africville by the City of Halifax to be a human rights violation. Forty three years later, in February of 2010, the Halifax council along with the government of Canada issued an official apology for the destruction of Africville and pledged \$250,000 to rebuild the church. The new Seaview African United Baptist Church opened in September 2011.

The shame of this action lies with us all. It's not a local or provincial issue, nor even a federal government issue. The event was well covered by various media. The excuse "We didn't know" is not valid. And discrimination, whether it be against differences in skin colour, religious denomination, physicality or sexual orientation, is still with us.

Being born in England in the days when Colonialism was still something to be "proud" of in many circles I can remember singing "Land of Hope and Glory" in the school assembly and the words "Wider still and wider shall thy bounds be set," a clear plea for further colonial expansion. I am still ashamed of the treatment the inhabitants of the various countries received at the hands of their British masters.

Love and shalom to all.

-Michael Shepherd

# --- Retrospect ---



### A Gratitude Party (potluck) for Marilyn Liske on Sunday, June 12th

The Pot Luck was delicious as usual and a good turnout for Marilyn.







## Canada Day 2016

A good time was had by all again this year, even if we were chased indoors because of the rain.



They raised \$444.00 for Bread & Roses which was wonderful!







# Our Annual Church Yard Sale 2016.

We did not get very much to sell and the turnout was poor, but believe people were still tied from Capreol Days the weekend before.

But all was not lost, we made \$200.00 more than we had before the sale ©



#### Chronological Dates 2016 Fall - as of Sept 25, 2016

Weekly

Every Mon. 4:15-5 Jr choir\* 6-10 clogging

Every Thur. Bible Study 10-12 Every Thur. 7:30-9 Choir

Every Sun. 7 AA open meeting

Monthly

Every Wed. 9:30-11 TOPS

3<sup>rd</sup> Wed 1-3 Bread and Roses setup 3<sup>rd</sup> Thur 10-12 B+R Food bank

4<sup>th</sup> Wed. worship team,Kirkwood,1pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. Trinity Breakfast at M+R last Tue. Council meeting at 7

TBA: Book Study Discussion Me Before You, early October

Sept. 28 Worship team at Kirkwood 1-2 pm

Oct. 2 Worldwide Communion Sunday. Souper Sunday-Hosts: Bread and Roses team

Oct. 4 Marian Lawrence remembered. 11:30 a.m. Capreol Cemetery, reception after at church

Oct. 9 Thanksgiving Sunday Joyful Noise.

Oct. 10 Collective Kitchen

Oct. 10 Neighbourhood Meal (Thanksgiving) Community invited at 5

Oct 16 World Food Sunday. \*Worship Service will be at St. James for both congregations.10:30

Oct. 21 Messy Church 6-8.

Oct. 23 KIDChurch Quilt on display, sanctuary.incl nxt wk. Pulpit supply.

Oct. 26 Kirkwood worship 1-2. MILC evening event with John Buttars on Assisted Dying, Sudbury.

Oct. 28 Family Movie Night (Halloween theme)

Oct. 30 Anniversary Sun. (our 98<sup>th</sup>!) Souper Sunday lunch after church

Nov. 3 Marriage preparation event 7-10

Nov. 5 Marriage preparation event 9-12

Nov. 6 Remembrance Sunday. (Rev Dave on study leave) Pulpit Supply. Pick hymns for old time sing.

Nov. 12 Leadership prep event, 9-1:30, for CE+Worship of multiple churches, childcare provided

Nov. 13 Baptism. Souper Sunday-Hosts:? Pre-church Old time hymn sing 10-10:30. Afternoon music service TBA

Nov. 16. MILC event. Local people sharing spiritual journey. Details TBA

Nov. 18 Bazaar setup 10, Drop off 6-8

Nov. 19 Annual Bazaar 11-2

Nov. 20 Reign of Christ Sun. Children's Sunday. Children's Liturgy. Joyful Noise. White Gift info.

Nov. 23 Worship team at Kirkwood 1 pm.

Nov. 25 Movie Night

Nov. 27 Advent 1 Intergenerational Worship (all downstairs)

Dec. 1 CR Judd food drive for B+R, food coming to church

Dec. 4 Advent 2 Souper Sunday lunch. White Gift. Hosts:?

Dec. 10 Children's Christmas Shopping Day Morning-Setup 9th) Write for (Human) Rights 1-6

Dec. 11 Advent 3 Human Rights Sunday. A-I candle. Joyful noise.

Dec. 16 Family Movie Night (Christmas theme)

Dec. 17 Pageant rehearsal 2 p.m. and potluck setup

Dec. 18 Advent 4, Pageant Sunday, Potluck

Dec. 20 Longest Night/Blue Christmas service 7

Dec. 22 Christmas Caroling 6:15 meet dressed for outdoors

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Services at 7 and 10

Dec. 25 Christmas Day – no decision about service yet

Dec. 28 Worship team at Kirkwood

Jan. 1 New Years Day Informal service of Songs, Sweets, and Stories 10:30

Jan. 25 Worship team at Kirkwood 1 pm

Annual congregational meeting: Feb. 5 (reports due for annual report: Jan. 15)

Remit votes due Feb. 17 (#5,7,8) Feb. 28 (#6) June 30 (#1,2,3,4)



Mildred, the church gossip and self-appointed monitor of the church's morals, kept sticking her nose into other people's business. Several members did not approve of her activities, but feared her enough to maintain their silence.

She made a mistake, however, when she accused Frank, a new member, of being an alcoholic after she saw his old pickup parked in front of the town's only bar one afternoon.

She emphatically told Frank (and several others) that every one seeing it there would know what he was doing!

Frank, a man of few words, stared at her for a moment and just turned and walked away. He didn't explain, defend, or deny. He said nothing.

Later that evening, Frank quietly parked his pickup in front of Mildred's house .... walked home .... and left it there all night.

-Joan

I am not afraid of tomorrow,... for I have seen yesterday and I love today.



Noah's Ark: Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark.

ONE: Don't miss the boat.

TWO: Remember that we are all in the same boat!

THREE: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

FOUR: Stay fit. When you're 80 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

FIVE: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

SIX: Build your future on high ground.

**SEVEN**: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

EIGHT: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

NINE: When you're stressed, float awhile.

**TEN**: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

ELEVEN: No matter the storm, there's always a rainbow waiting.

Please pass this on to people you want to be blessed.

Give it...don't just get it!

Most people walk in and out of your life, but FRIENDS leave footprints in your heart. \* \* \* \* \*

# Check our website and Facebook page and the weekly e-mail updates for more news!

# **FB Page: Trinity United Church Capreol**

#### Thank You to those who contributed to this issue:

Arlene, Faye, Tracey, Rev Dave, Judy, Joan, Joanie, Michael

### Contact info:

Trinity United Church 72 Young St., Capreol ON, P0M 1H0 705-858-2591





Office hours: Wed+Fri 9am-Noon Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m.

Our minister: Rev. Dave Le Grand <a href="mailto:lapcap@persona.ca">lapcap@persona.ca</a>
Office 858-2591
[Home, for emergency 858-3647]

To book church, Gail Crawford, Office Administrator 858-2591 trincap@persona.ca

To get involved and about events: Faye Moffatt - 858-1415 1fmoffatt@sympatico.ca

To submit to newsletter: Lenie Potters 593-2735 hapmooren@hotmail.com

To receive envelopes or arrange for pre-authorized remit (PAR)
Laura Burch, Treasurer 858-3640
lauraburch@hotmail.com

Visit our website: <a href="http://trinityunitedcapreol9.wordpres.com/">http://trinityunitedcapreol9.wordpres.com/</a>