

JULY/AUGUST 2019

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

On **July 7th** we are receiving several new members into our Trinity Community – including one adult baptism. Join us in this celebration of the Holy Spirit in action.

MINISTRY TO THE STUDENTS IN LONDON

In 2012, shortly after I started my calling to ministry with you at Trinity, the Lutheran Student House on Richmond Street near the University was sold. This was in line with the changing approach to Campus Ministry in our Lutheran witness for the students across Canada. But what of the money from that sale? Those funds were set aside by the Eastern Synod to fund ongoing ministry to the Student population in London. So, Trinity set about to create a new role – a dedicated person to work with the many students that come to London.

In the changing world on campus, it has become increasingly difficult to have an on-site presence. Enter Janelle Lightbourne. We hired Janelle in September 2014 to find ways to connect with students and walk with them in their faith journeys. Our selection committee was moved by Janelle's faith and compassion.

Janelle was already working in at Navigators Canada which is a large organization that does have some onsite presence at Western and campuses across the country. Now she was also working as **our Christian witness** to the students as well. Janelle connected with and joined the spiritual care team at Fanshawe College who were still allowing a campus presence. She has been doing that faithful and never-ending work of connecting with students as they keep graduating and new ones keep arriving.

The word 'Lutheran' was not part of Janelle's background and that was not an essential part of our direction for this new role. The students come from all sorts of Christian denominations, and we were not in the business of 'conversion' of any sort. Our direction in this ministry was to support all Christian students studying in London. Janelle did just that and did it with such compassion, joy and dedication and she invited all of us into her work – serving meals at Trinity, filling student care packages at exam time, etc.





Doing student ministry:

My favourite experience was the worship night at Huron this March. This event brought together people from all of my student ministry communities--Fanshawe College students and chaplains, Western students, members of Redeemer and Trinity. Teenagers were worshipping with people in their 90s. I was so grateful to be a part of it!

The word 'Lutheran' was not part of Janelle's background. Her background was the Baptist church in the Bahamas, and as you can imagine, it was different than our Germanic Lutheran tradition. Janelle's approach to ministry has poured a different style of love of Christ into our community, and then there is that voice. With such passion she can lift our spirits in song. Trinity is blessed with many musical talents and Janelle added a new dimension to Trinity's musical and worshipful gifts.

Being with the Trinity community:

I came to church one Sunday morning, sat in my car and watched everyone walking in. I thought to myself 'look at my people!' Trinity wasn't just where I worked but the community where I had a strong sense of belonging. I also love how engaged everyone is. Everyone, young and old, is invited and has something to offer.

The word 'Lutheran' was not part of Janelle's background. Janelle discovered what Lutherans are through us. Initially she said it was our approach to grace and acceptance of the 'other' and our desire for social justice that she loved about the Lutherans. Then as she worshipped more and more with us, it was the ancient words. She didn't mean the old pastor who was preaching, but the words of the liturgy that connect us back to the original Christian churches. There is a depth of meaning in our liturgy – Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.

The word Lutheran has now become part of Janelle's background. She joined us as a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in 2016. Her role as Trinity staff has now come to an end since Janelle is focusing on her studies to become a Lutheran Pastor. She will become part of substantial group of 'Pastors from the Trinity community', we even raised a Bishop and maybe now a second one? Now that is a fantastic Lutheran witness to the wider world.

Why Lutheran:

The Lutheran church stands out in its focus on grace and justice. I love that what we do in worship is an expression of God's grace. More importantly, I experienced this grace and God's love in a Lutheran community. Our theology is lived out.

With Janelle's studies in full swing she is required to do a practical placement in a congregation. Janelle will be working at Redeemer Lutheran in the fall under the guidance of Pastor Katherine Gohm. To enable a wider learning, one the conditions of the student placements is that you cannot serve in your home congregation.

So, on June 9th, which appropriately was Pentecost Sunday, we gave our sending blessings to Janelle – the Holy Spirit has been working through hearts of Trinity and though Janelle's own heart .

Come, O Holy Spirit, O Sanctifying Spirit. Fill Janelle's heart!

Fill her life with your fiery presence. Fill Janelle's heart!

Fill her so that all that she does comes from the You within her. Fill Janelle's heart!

Bless her now as she continues in faith to carry out your mission in the world, now and always. Amen.

(Adapted from: Miriam T. Winter, Woman Wisdom; New York: Crossroad, 1991)

*We hope to know her as **Pastor Janelle** in the years to come.*

BIBLE STUDY & LEARNING

- Spiritual Beings

On July 7th I will have been ordained 13 years and if you add on the 5 years in school, then I will have dedicating my working life and time in the study of the Bible. That should be enough time to learn all there is to know about the Bible, don't ya think? I know you are all thinking, that I would be wrong in that idea, and you are completely correct. No better example is the Bible study we started in June. I thought that we could do all seven videos (each one is less than 5 minutes) in our two remaining Wednesday afternoon sessions. Again, I was dead wrong.

In the opening pages of the Bible, God creates two overlapping realms, the heavens and the earth. This is where the drama of the biblical storyline takes place. In each of the videos we explored the question, "What are these **Spiritual Beings**?"

It is fascinating to dig into ideas that we have kind of brushed passed even though we mention them EVERY Sunday. You have heard me say words like these:

"with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:"

Looking at that middle line ... what do you know about these spiritual beings? So even with my 18 years of biblical studying, I was blown away by this study in **Spiritual Beings**. The scriptures were not new to me, or any of us, but the ideas that are revealed in this study were new. Join us when will resume our study and conversation on these in the September.

Videos on Spiritual Beings

1. Intro to Spiritual Beings
2. Elohim
3. The Divine Council
4. Angels and Cherubim
5. Angel of the Lord

Each of these videos are available through our subscription to RightNow Video (a sort of Christian Netflix). So, unless you already know everything there is to know about Spiritual Beings, email me and I will sign you up.

- A Visit to the London Mosque

I learned English at my mother's knee, and then learned some more in school, but I learned even more at seminary. Not in an English class, but in studying the Greek language and in helping at the English as a 2nd Language Class at the community centre when I was an intern. Though other viewpoints you can also learn about your own faith.

In June we made a trip to the Mosque on Oxford Road as part of the confirmation class' learning. It is good to understand other people and understand their faith. But we invited others from Trinity and invited the people of Redeemer Lutheran church as well. Thanks to Pastor Katherine for setting this up.

We had over 25 people attend. The Iman talked with us about the Muslim faith, the Koran (their Holy Scriptures), and their approach to following Allah (the Arabic word for God). He told us of their calling to peace, love and action towards the world.

We were invited into the prayer room and we stayed to see their evening prayer which is one of five times Muslims are called to prayer each day. The women have their own prayer room in the back, and this is for modesty reasons since part of the prayer involved touching your forehead to the ground in an act of submission to God.



One thing I observed as the men came in to pray, each newcomer went shoulder to shoulder with his brother in faith – a beautiful moment. Afterwards we came back to Trinity for pizza and to share our experience and reactions with each other.

The Pope said in 2017 he believed the wording should be altered.

“It is not a good translation because it speaks of a God who induces temptation. I am the one who falls. It’s not him pushing me into temptation to then see how I have fallen. A father doesn’t do that; a father helps you to get up immediately. It’s Satan who leads us into temptation – that’s his department.”

www.theguardian.com/world/2019/Jun/06

I am with Pope Francis on this one. When I was starting my Greek studies at seminary, I decided to use my new linguistics skills to do a translation of the Lord’s prayer:

*O Father of ours who is in the heavens
Let your name be held in reverence
Let your Kingdom come
Let your will be done as in heaven,
also upon earth
Give us today sufficient bread
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who are guilty of sin against us
Do not allow us to enter into temptation
but save us from the evil one
Because yours is the kingdom, the power
and the glory into the ages
Amen*

This is a more literal translation of the passage with as many as possible of the Greek words and phrases left in. The line “Do not allow us” uses a subjunctive verb, which expresses something that you wish for, and in this case implies that, “do not start to allow” which is stronger in meaning but clumsy in English. The punctuation and breaks are not in the original Greek and also the verse divisions were a later addition, so I took the liberty of breaking the lines to be more poetic and recitable.

References:

- United Bible Societies, The Greek New Testament USA 4th edition, 1983
- Greek-English Lexicon by Arndt & Gingrich 4th edition, 1952
- The Analytical Greek Lexicon by Samuel Bagster & Sons Ltd, 1971
- A Grammatical Analysis of the Greek New Testament, Editrice Pontificio Ist

SUMMER MUSICIANS

While I am on holidays during July and August we will have guest musicians providing the music for our services.

July 7 & 14 Owen Spicer – Organist / July 21st, 28th, August 4th – Dave Hutchison – Pianist

Many thanks to Owen and Dave for sharing their gift of music with us.

Have a wonderful summer!

Ross McDonald, Director of Music



REMINDER ~ VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Dates: 22 to 26 July ~ 9 am until 12 noon

Ages: 3-12 years ~ Cost: Free

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church

Registration: www.trinitylondon.ca



SERVING IN JULY

	<u>7 July</u>	<u>14 July</u>	<u>21 July</u>	<u>28 July</u>
Communion Assistants	Bob McGee Vivian Parker	Ted Reinhard Reinhard Helbing	Heather Holmes Brady Hough	Steve Krautner Bob McGee
Ushers	Nancy Hickling Nancy Jackman Brady Hough	Dave & Pauline Hutchison	Steve & Jean Krautner Lawrence Petch	Bob & Carolyn Sellars Vivian Parker
Reader	Reinhard Helbing	Herb Henkel	Lydia Reinhard	Jean Krautner
Greeters	Cheryl Millar Marg Fish	George & Viola Cooper & Family	Alice & Francis Hinnah & Family	Nancy & Herb Henkel
Altar Care	←---Dorothy McGee, Barb Hamilton---→ & Kathy Schmidt		←---Marie Gray, Carolyn & Bob Sellars---→ & Jodi Kaufman	
Refreshments	Phoebe, Robert & Emily Kmith	Jean & Steve Krautner	Julia & Dennis Liska	Kathy & Laurie Meadows
Prayer Rotation	Rev. Steve Johnston Sr. Jean Widmeyer Trinity, London	Rev. Mike Lees Trinity, Windsor	Bishop Michael Pryse, Eastern Synod & Support Staff	Bishop Susan Johnson, National ELCIC Office & Support Staff

SERVING IN AUGUST

	<u>4 August</u>	<u>11 August</u>	<u>18 August</u>	<u>25 August</u>
Communion Assistants	Service of Word & Prayer	Vivian Parker Reinhard Helbing	Ted Reinhard Steve Krautner	Heather Holmes Brady Hough
Ushers	Steve & Jean Krautner	Nancy Hickling Nancy Jackman Brady Hough	Dave & Pauline Nancy Hickling	Bob & Carolyn Lawrence Petch
Reader	Cheryl Millar	Teresa Nicholds	Nancy Magguilli	Vivian Parker
Greeters	Gerry Wigelsworth Fred Schmidt	Vivian Parker Janelle Lightbourne	Dave, Lynne Nick & Nathan Killinger	Barb Drogemuller Nancy Magguilli
Altar Care	←----Carol Boyd, Jean Hohnstein --→		←--Nancy Magguilli, Linda Reynolds, Julia Liska--→	
Refreshments	Cheryl Millar Teresa Nicholds	Lydia & Ted Reinhard	Barb Hamilton Linda Reynolds	Jean & Doug Hohnstein
Prayer Rotation	Thames Ministry Area for our work and celebration together	Our Anglican neighbours – St. Paul's & the Bishop of Huron Linda Nicholls	Retired Pastors Rev. Jack Dressler Rev. Jim Garey Rev. Tom Ristine Rev. Jo von Schmeling Rev. Glen Sellick Rev. Bob Zimmerman Rev. Paul Sodtke	Rev. Katherine Gohm Redeemer, London

YARD SALE RESULTS



	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Profit</u>
Food Sales	\$ 96.00	
Cost of Food	57.00	\$ 39.00
50/50 Draw	20.50	
50/50 Draw Donation		20.50
Sale of Fruit Pies (net)		372.00
FaithLife Support		150.00
Sale of Shepherd's Pies & Plants		363.00
FaithLifeSupport		<u>150.00</u>
		\$1,115.00
Outside Sign Cost		<u>115.00</u>
	Total	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
