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VISION STATEMENT

Trinity Lutheran Church is a community inspired by God
to share Christ's good news by what we say and do.

NOVEMBER 2021

FROM THE PASTOR

A reprint of Pastor Jim Garey's message from November 2009

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity Lutheran,

November is traditionally Stewardship Month in congregations of the Lutheran Church. It is time to consider how richly God has blessed us, and what we might do to return those blessings to God.

As I thought about our loyalty of Christian service, I found myself reminded of an old stewardship story. I first came upon this story over 35 years ago, but still as instructive now as it was then.

The scene is set upon the boarding platform of a suburban railway station. We see a businessman running as fast as he can toward a commuter train. The train is just ready to pull out of the station. The man almost catches up with the train. But the train gains speed, soon leaving him in a swirl of leaves and scrap paper in its wake.

A look of great disappointment comes upon the man's face. "I'll be late for work again," he cries out. "My boss will have my head for sure."
A newsboy standing on the platform calls to the man, "Mister, you didn't run fast enough."

"Oh, I ran plenty fast," replies the man. "My problem is that I didn't start soon enough."

Many of us live our lives like that businessman. We are always in a hurry, but we are never really achieving our goals. We promise ourselves time and again that we are going to become serious in our faith relationship with God. We say we are finally going to become more involved in the life of our church. We promise that we will attend church more regularly, every week possible. We tell ourselves that this is the year that our offering gifts will truly reflect our gratitude for God's many blessings to us.

Yet, it never seems to happen. We allow our lives to get wrapped around all kinds of other things, and we forget that which is truly important and of significance.

Let this be the year that your faith in Jesus Christ, the one who gave his life on the cross for you, becomes the centerpiece of your life. May God grant you gifts of faithfulness and purpose as you covenant to serve God with all your heart, all your mind, and all your strength.

Don't miss the train, my friends.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Jim

James R. Garey
(1999-2011)

COUNCIL NOTES



Fall is definitely upon us. Time for coats and hats. COVID-19 has not gone away and everyone must remain vigilant, but we can see an improvement as more are fully vaccinated and are being careful. We pray this will continue.

RETURN TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Trinity has returned to in-person worship and will be holding at least once monthly, possibly twice, communion. At this time we still need to wear our masks through the entire service and continue to follow the Middlesex Health Unit and Ontario Government guidelines. You must, however, sign in when you arrive providing your name and telephone number. Our services are available both in-person and live worship services on line. We are working on the purchase of the equipment approved so that our sound quality will improve and those at home will hear us much more clearly and louder.

SPECIAL MEETING

The Town Hall meeting was changed and is now a Special Congregational meeting set for November 7th immediately following worship. The meeting is to deal with the Motions made at the Annual Meeting where Council was to further review the Pastor's Proposal and the Letter of Call, as well as a discussion regarding the future of Trinity as we continue to be in a partial pandemic and as we contemplate what life will look like outside of the pandemic. I look forward to seeing everyone on the 7th.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, concerns, please let Annette know and she will get in touch with me. You are always free to reach out to me directly. My number is in the Directory.

Deb Pepers
Council Chair

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES SCHOLARSHIPS



The board of directors of Lutheran Social Services London wishes to share some changes to the annual LSSL scholarship program.

The total value of the fund remains at \$12,000.00 but the board will now disburse funds twice in a calendar year. From January to June \$6,000.00 will be made available (application deadline each April 30) and from July to December another \$6,000.00 will be available (application deadline each October 31).

Applicants must fully complete the recently updated application form available from the church office. Please consult the full program criteria located on the application form.

Funds are still available for the second half of 2021.
~ Paul Glinz

KIDS CLUB



It's time to come back! Our Sunday School classes will begin on October 31st.

We encourage the children to wear a fun hat or shirt to our first day back. (no costumes, please)

Rehearsals for Christmas Pageant will begin on November 7th. Pageant will be presented on Sunday, December 12th.

Any youth or adults interested in assisting with Kids Club are strongly encouraged to speak to either Deb Pepers, Kathy Meadows or Nancy Manners. High school students can claim their time as volunteer hours. We welcome anyone with new ideas and helping hands.

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY

WISHES



Thank you to everyone who have responded to Annette's requests for birthday and/or anniversary wishes for members of our congregation. They are well received by those we deliver them to. Please continue to let Annette know if you have a special birthday or anniversary coming up. We would love to celebrate the occasion with you, even if only via email or a card.

TLW

Due to COVID 19 restrictions the full membership was not able to meet for an Annual Meeting. The Executive meeting on September 28, 2021 will constitute as the AGM.

The Executive will remain: Lydia Reinhard and Linda Reynolds (Co-chairs), Jean Hohnstein (Secretary), Carolyn Sellars (Treasurer), Kathy Meadows and Susan Okkonen.

In 2021, charitable donations agreed upon in 2020 AGM were distributed as well as additional donations made to Wish, World Day of Prayer & Haitian Relief.

Donations for 2022: Northern Hospitality - \$300.00
My Sister's Place, Lamp, Teen Challenge, London Food Bank, London Pregnancy & Family Support - (each \$100.00)

Anova, Child Can, Change Her World, Mission Services Store - (each \$200.00)

Mission Services Thanksgiving & Christmas Meals - \$162.72

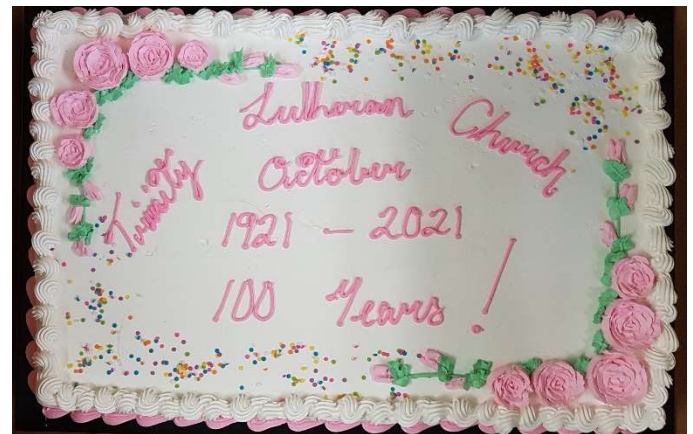
TLW has been providing flowers for in person services and decorated for Thanksgiving as well as provided the food for the altar display. The food was delivered to the Food Bank. Plants were provided for the Oxford Street planter in the spring and decorated for fall.

For Christmas 2020, gift bags were provided for the Sunday School children who participated in the Pageant and Christmas cards were sent to seniors in our congregation. The same is planned for 2021.

My Sister's Place: Please continue to donate much needed personal care products, socks, gloves, etc. Place in marked container in Killinger Hall.

The sale of meat pies provided funds and it is hoped that we will be able to continue.

Blessings to all and stay safe
Lydia Reinhard



An Anniversary worship celebrating Trinity's one hundred years of service was held on October 3rd. Our congregation was blessed by the presence of several of our past ministers, including Rev. Thomas Ristine and Rev. Jim Garey, who spoke during service and Bishop Susan Johnson, who delivered the sermon, as well as Rev. Steve Johnston.

Joanne Vogel has transcribed Knute Carlson's essay on "The Beginnings of Trinity Lutheran Church in London" for which we are very grateful; copies are available in Koehler Hall. The display of memorabilia will remain in Koehler Hall until the end of November.

Please feel welcome to look at the wonderful photos and other items to reminisce about the last 100 years.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
MEN'S CLUB BREAKFAST MEETING
SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2021
9 AM**



**We are excited to get together again
with the members of our
Lutheran Men's Club.
Please mark your calendar and join us!
Speaker: TBA**



BIRTHDAYS

Joy Kunkel (1)
Roy Merkley (4)
Margot Fish (8)
David Penny (15)
Gerald Hamilton (19)
Kathy Meadows (24)

Steve Krautner (2)
Dianne Vogt (5)
Jeffrey Beuermann (11)
Esteban Rodriguez (18)
Kyle Cook (21)
Kate Millar-Harrison (27)

Ross McDonald (3)
Christine Ruiters (6)
Inge Huetter (11)
Kathryn Coughlin (19)
Heather Holmes (23)
George Cooper Jr. (30)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Lorne and Jean Keller (58)
Marty and Deb Pepers (29)
David and Beverly Rush (45)

TREASURER'S REPORT					
For the period ending		30-Sep-21			
Please find below a report of this years receipts and disbursements compared to last year.					
		Jan -Sept 2021	Last Year	Variance	
Current Operating Fund					
<i>The current fund is used to cover our day to day expenses of operating the church.</i>					
<i>The expenses incurred are based on the budget approved by the congregation.</i>					
	Envelope Offering	63,991	113,255	-49,264	
	Rent Income	2,970	4,813	-1,843	
	Grants	6,366	4,499	1,867	
	Wage Subsidy 2020	60,065		60,065	
	Disbursements	177,729	182,377	-4,647	
	Surplus (Deficit)	-44,338	-59,810	15,472	
Benevolence Receipts					
<i>Funds designated as Benevolence or marked to another charity (ie Mission Services) are deposited into this fund. Weekly Benevolence collections are forwarded to the Synod.</i>					
	Receipts	4,703	3,968	735	
	Disbursements	4,320	3,280	1,040	
	Surplus (Deficit)	383	688	-305	
Debt Reduction					
	Receipts	1,064	929	135	
	Disbursements	-	-	0	
	Surplus (Deficit)	1,064	929	135	
Help for Others					
<i>Funds designated as Help for Others go to fund our outreach program for Northern Hospitalit</i>					
	Receipts	360	1,185	-825	
	Disbursements	789	1,031	-242	
	Surplus (Deficit)	-429	154	-583	

Lynne Killinger
Treasurer