October 2020 Newsletter Volume 1, Issue 1



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Our Reopening

We welcomed people back for an in-church service on Sunday October 11th, Thanksgiving Sunday.

We had 33 people attend. We were able to accommodate 15 seated in the sanctuary, 2 on stage, 5 in the choir loft, and 11 in the upper hall. Many thanks to Don Coleman for his hard work in broadcasting the service into the hall. There were certainly glitches, which have now been resolved.

All our covid-19 protocols were adhered to; many thanks to everyone!

Going forward, our next service will be held on *Sunday October 25th at 10am* (see below for further details).



It was felt by the reopening committee that we could resume weekly in-church services as of October 25th.

It is still requested that you call or email to reserve your seat. Our numbers are still strictly controlled at this point, so seats are limited. Please call the church office if you are interested in attending.

Anniversary Service

Our anniversary service is to be held <u>Sunday October 25th</u> at 10am. It will include a celebration of the completion of the ramp construction and dedication of the new pew cushions. Barb Taft is to be our guest speaker.

Unlike every other celebration, we will not have refreshments following the service.

<u>A Bend in the Road</u> (by Helen Steiner Rice)

Sometimes we come to life`s crossroads And we view what we think is the end. But God has a much wider vision And he knows that it`s only a bend.

The road will go on will get smoother And after we`ve stopped for a rest, The path that lies hidden beyond us Is often the path that is best.

So rest and relax and grow stronger, Let go and let God share your load And have faith in a brighter tomorrow You`ve just come to a bend in the road.

Stewards & Session Reports

Both Stewards and Session continue to meet to discuss the matters of the church.

Right now their concern is for reopening safely.

The full minutes for both committees can be viewed at the back of the church (on the bulletin board).

Financial Report by Don Coleman

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented difficult challenges for many churches and other organizations over the last several months. We understand that some churches have had to close because of the financial losses because of the pandemic.

We were very fortunate in that in March 2020, we were in a very good financial situation with a comfortable bank balance that has allowed us to continue to function over the last few months. We have been able to retain our staff and provide limited operations during this time. However, as of September 30, our givings are down \$12,873 over the same period in 2019 and rental income is down \$4,239 over the same period. On the positive side, our expenses have been about \$7,000 less. This leaves us with a shortfall of about \$10,000 which has been covered by a surplus from previous years..

We have been fortunate in that we have several members regularly providing us with a stable income through the United Church of Canada Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) program as well as other donations that we have received by mail. If you wish information on PAR contact Don at 613 483-2450. Cheques can be mailed to Trinity United Church, Box 506, Verona, ON K0H 2W0.

With worship services commencing on October 11 and the return of other rental clients, we hope to see an improvement on our church finances.

Weekly Messages & Ministers Report

Throughout the last 6 months, Rev. Catherine has been adding messages to our website weekly.

If you missed any of the messages (sermons) delivered from January 1st to March 15th, the can also be found on our website.

www.h-vpastoralcharge.org

Pastoral care in the form of telephone calls, video communication and written notes has continued throughout the last 6 months.

Outreach

Many of our outreach activities have been postponed or cancelled but we plan to organize and implement a food card plan in place of the Christmas Hamper activity. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall l fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalms 27:1

The Lord sure has provided us with a beautiful landscape to admire this fall season. The trees are so beautifully coloured.



Trinity United Church

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Trinity Connected

The Mission of Trinity United Church is to be the ears, eyes, feet, hands and heart of Christ in the Harrowsmith-Verona area and in the world.



May your journey in life Shine with a star's delight May your days and your years Weave together a wondrous tapestry May your unfolding story Dance with the grace of eery blessing Always and ever, may you rest in God Always and ever, may God rest in you Amen

Autumn Odyssey by Ian & Jane Mackay



Autumn always brings with it a host of magnificent gifts. Jane and I, along with a few others, who also enjoy the pleasures of bicycle riding, were treated to a barrage of nature's unique scenes of autumn glory; cavalcades of colour, rushing mountain streams and brooks, forests ablaze, everything sparkling in the soft sunlight of this mid-September time of year. We were cycling on a recreational trail in the heartland of the Laurentians, a 200 km trail stretching from Mont Laurier in the north to St. Jerome where our adventure began. We climbed aboard our bus in St. Jerome with bicycles in tow taking us up north to Mont Laurier. For the next five days we cycled up and down the well-developed bicycle trail, le Petit Train du Nord, enjoying meal times and overnight stops at Auberges along the way, appreciating the warmth of Quebec hospitality and classy French cuisine. Fortunately, for us, the weather each day was ideal with early misty, cool mornings followed by warm bright sunshine bringing a sparkling radiance to every stretch of the trail. What a splendid, energetic event it was for us! And, we did it without running into any unexpected problems, not even one flat tire!! Bravo!