

# TRINITY CONNECTED

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*“Though much is taken,  
much abides; and though  
we are not now that  
strength which in old  
days moved earth and  
heaven, that which we  
are, we are, one equal  
temper of heroic hearts,  
made weak by time and  
fate, but strong in will to  
strive, to seek, to find,  
and not to yield.”*

*Closing lines of Ulysses  
by Alfred Lord  
Tenneson*

## MCMULLEN MANOR FIRE

On the evening of Thursday January 7th, the McMullen Manor housing complex was totally destroyed by a devastating fire. The 30 people living in the building managed to escape the fire however, these people were left homeless and lost everything in the blaze.



The Kingston Housing Authority, who owned the building, has managed to find accommodation for the displaced people. At this point, clothes and furniture are not needed. What is required will be cash donations. The donation fund will be managed by Southern Frontenac Community Services.

Donations can be made 1 of 3 ways:

1. By cheques made payable to Trinity with the “McMullen Fire Relief” in the memo area (Box 506, Verona, KOH 2W0)
2. By e-transfer to Don ([don@donaldcoleman.com](mailto:don@donaldcoleman.com))
3. Dropping cheques off at Dons house (4530 Snider Road).

The money will then be forwarded to SFCSC.

Our prayers go out to these people in this unfortunate situation.

## DON COLEMAN, MAN OF MANY HATS

Don is an Ottawa Valley boy, born and raised near Toledo Ontario, having attended a United Church virtually all his life, Don recalls his early travels into Toledo United Church, "Our neighbour had a 1936 Hudson Terraplane coupe, with no back seat." Crammed in the back "shelf" and front seat were five or six kids, including Don's brothers. Don's family moved to Verona in 1970 and Don's Trinity attendance began in 1971. He remembers that "two girls, Kathy Steele (Joan Steele's daughter), and Charlene Medlen (Ray Medlen, SS Superintendent's daughter), shared the organist duties. Our Minister was Rev. Shamehorn."

Jumping in with both feet - and here's where the MANY HATS comes in - Don was soon involved in the Committee of Stewards. Since the mid 90's, he added the role of Pastoral Charge Treasurer, and then added the Trinity United Church Treasurer position in the year 2000. And as we all know, he truly IS a TREASURE - a juggler's job for sure - as we will note, once again in his year-end treasurer's report. Make sure this is your bedtime reading mid-February, and you will know what this means.

And now for an incomplete survey of Don's MANY HATS...

Don has been a choir member since the days of Carol Ramer as Director. We look forward to seeing Don again "live," hopefully in 2021, in the back row which he has occupied ever since those days. He has been co-chair of our Trinity Breakfasts several times, and is not afraid to get his hands wet in the dishwasher either! Don has also served on Joint Needs Assessment Committees and the Joint Search Committees, both long-drawn out but important bodies that have found us new ministers when the time came. Don has worked closely with our Office Administrators keeping them, and us abreast of new events that will affect the church calendar, or use of space with outside users.

Don has liaised with our EarlyON playgroup, and has even been seen sitting on a tiny chair, near his grandson, taking part in the activities there.

Nowadays, Don is our very technologically savvy webmaster that keeps us right up-to-date during this COVID time on all Trinity matters. Additionally, he makes sure Rev. Catherine's voice can be heard, delivering our Sunday sermons to folks unable to attend. The fact that we have a much-needed ramp up to our church door is in thanks largely to three people:- Carl Turner (who did much of the grunt work), John McDougall (mover of people to get it off



## CHURCH FINANCES

Despite being shut down for about ½ of 2020, the givings for the year for all our funds came to \$78,173.. While it is down significantly from the \$96,055. that we received in 2019, given the circumstances we have to be pleased with the amount of support that we received in 2020.

For our Local Expenses operating budget, we received \$62,172. in givings. and we ended the year with a surplus of \$2,675. We started the year with a healthy surplus of \$14,913 which, along with the givings that we have received, has sustained us throughout this difficult year.

Our Mission and Service givings for 2020 were \$9,134. While we only managed to reach 76% of our target of \$12,000, we have to be pleased with the level of support that we have received. Mission and Service is the outreach arm of the United Church of Canada, providing support for many programs throughout Canada and around the world.



The support for our Christmas Food Hamper program has been outstanding. As of December 31st, we received \$4,430. With this generous support, we were able to provide Christmas Food Hamper gift cards to 19 families in the area. There is also enough money left over to help support families in need throughout the difficult winter ahead.

We need to thank everyone for their generous support throughout 2020 in spite of the pandemic restrictions. We look forward to your continued support in 2021.

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## CHRISTMAS FOOD GIFT CARDS - UPDATE!

Although Christmas was several weeks ago, our campaign continued with four other local families being the recipients of Gift Cards. Our total number of cards distributed is now 23. The last few families were referred to me (Sheila) by the Family Services Coordinator at SFCS. She and I have had several conversations and I am pleased that this partnership will continue. We will each serve as resources to reach as many vulnerable families in our area as we can.

Plans are already underway for a “Christmas in June” campaign to resume this year. Please feel free to contact me (Sheila) with any suggestions that you have concerning this. Let us continue, as a community of faith to “live our faith!!”

We're on the Web!!

Check out our website for weekly messages from our ministers and wonderful music from Stan Stinchcombe.

*“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”*

Isaiah 40:28-31

## DON COLEMAN, MAN OF MANY HATS

(Continued from page 2)

the ground), and also Don Coleman who liaised with everybody!

Space does not permit discussing Don's huge community involvement with the VCA, or other, unsung volunteer efforts on Don's part at Trinity. Suffice to say he is an asset to this area in general.

In summary Don confides, “I really enjoyed being part of the Christmas carol concert each year; the beautiful music, the full church, the candles and the decorations, all these have become a big part of my Christmas. I do feel optimistic that when the pandemic situation is brought under control, we can return to a sense of normalcy.”

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## LOOKING AHEAD.....

It looks like the pandemic and lockdown measures will prevent us from having a normal annual meeting, which usually takes place in February. So an alternative plan has been discussed. It was suggested that we send out the annual report, with additions as our next newsletter. The main purpose for this “newsletter annual report” will be to keep you (the congregation) informed and give a approval to the membership of various committees as suggested by the nominating committee.

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## A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

God of our lives, you are always calling us to follow you into the future, inviting us to new ventures, new challenges, new ways to care, new ways to touch the hearts of all.

When we are fearful of the unknown, give us courage. When we worry that we are not up to the task, remind us that you would not call us if you did not believe in us.

When we get tired, or feel disappointed with the way things are going, remind us that you can bring change and hope out of the most difficult situations.

Amen.