



June 2021

Trinity Connected

In-Person Outdoor Sunday Services

The church reopening committee met on Monday June 14th to discuss how we should proceed with in-church services.

It was decided that we will have 2 services per month outdoors in the Verona Lions Pavillion like we had last summer. This decision was based upon the new provincial reopening guidelines; indoors we are limited to only 15% capacity (substantially less than we had prior to shut down in December), outdoor services are only limited to social distancing measures. On the alternating Sundays we will continue to provide online services.

Our services will be as follows:

**July 4th
July 18th**

**August 8th
August 22nd**

We ask that if you wish you attend the services you call the office ahead of time to reserve your space, and please bring your lawn chairs to sit in. Should you be experiencing any new Covid like symptoms, or have had any known contact with someone with Covid, we kindly request you not attend the service.

Finally some good news! We are all very excited to return to in-person services, and see each and every one of your faces.

*Children are a heritage
from the LORD,
offspring a reward from him.
Like arrows in the hands of a warrior
are children born in one's youth.
Blessed is the man whose
quiver is full of them.*
Psalm 127:3-5

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Local Excitement - Verona The Movie

You are all likely aware that the town of Verona became a film set this month featuring local establishments (including our church), homes, and people thanks to Verona native, Sebastian Back.

Early in the spring of 2020 Trinity had an inquiry from a location manager asking if it was possible to shoot a movie in the church. Due to provincial restrictions and closures (and of the unknown) the movie was unable to be filmed. So when Trinity received another inquiry early in April about the possibility to film at our location again the Committee of Stewards took a vote and thought it would be a unique opportunity for the church.

Filming in Verona began the week of June 6th, however the actual filming within the church started on June 8th. Rebecca Peters was our church liaison with the filming crew and states “It was definitely an experience. There was a definite excitement in the air when they arrived bright and early Wednesday morning and started to set up. Everyone for the most part has been friendly and very eager to learn the history of the church and of the town. Small details of the church that we might take for granted or not see anymore became highlights for the film crew.” A few of the crew were very fascinated by the unique wall lights and shutters on the windows of the upper hall, and almost everyone commented on the beautiful quilt hanging that Barb Stewart made and donated to the church, and (of course) the fabulous acoustics of the church sanctuary. “One of my wow moments while I was meeting with the crew was walking into the sanctuary for the first time and seeing the ropes and signs off of the pews. It has been so long since any of us have seen the sanctuary as it was pre-covid that it made the whole experience more special for me,” says Rebecca. The film crew had on-site rapid covid testing for each member, and followed precautions outlines by the province. All conducted themselves in a very professional and respectful manner while inside the facility.



Back said the film is a coming-of-age story of a young woman named Camilla. Back said that the storyline of the film is not specific to any particular location, but that his memories of growing up in the beautiful and varied countryside just seemed to fit his vision.

The community was involved and excited to participate said Back, a fact that he and Maeve Kern (the producer) were very happy and excited about. “We did a large call out about a couple of months ago to see if anyone in Verona or the surrounding areas was interested in being a background actor and we had an overwhelming response,” he said. Kern further explained, “A large group will be in a church congregation scene that we’re filming at Trinity United Church. And our locations were local, we’ve had a bunch of people offer their homes, offer their vehicles, offer their services, we received catering by the Verona Lions Club, and a lot of our vendors and people that we worked with are very local.”

“That was a priority: to involve the community and root the story in the actual community and get as much involvement there that we could,” she said. Back is very thankful to all of the locals, home and business owners

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Wishing everyone who celebrates a birthday in June a very happy birthday!

Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you.
May God's richest blessings fall upon you!

Carl Pritchard	June 11th
Barb Joyce	June 11th
Alice Kennedy	June 16th

Trinity Anniversary - 135 Years

Traditionally, on the second Sunday in June, Trinity celebrates Anniversary Sunday. The celebration includes having a special speaker and a fellowship luncheon with an anniversary cake. Because of the pandemic restrictions, we have had to forgo our June celebrations both in 2020 and again in 2021.

This year marks the 135th anniversary of the founding of Trinity United Church. It originally started out as a Wesleyan Methodist congregation. The Methodists, Congregationalists and some Presbyterians were amalgamated in June 1925 to form The United Church of Canada. This marks 91 years being a United Church in Verona.

This year also marks 50 years of my association with Trinity. Mary and I moved to Verona in 1970 and I started attending in 1971. The minister at that time was Rev. Shamerhorn. Ray Medlen was the Sunday School superintendent. The organist duties were shared between Charlene Medlen and Kathryn Steele.

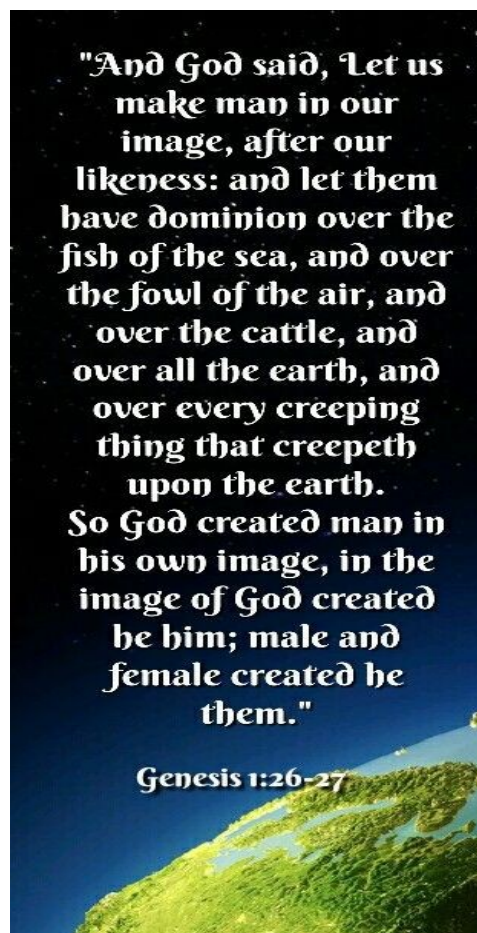
There were mixed emotions within the church at that time. The members of Trinity took pride in the construction and completion of the Christian Education Hall in 1968. The former members of the Bellrock United Church were left with a feeling of anger over the forced closure of their church by the United Church of Canada in 1968.

Over the years there have been several changes at Trinity. In 1984 there

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"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

Genesis 1:26-27



Carl & Jean Pritchard - A United Church Experience

Jean and Carl started out at Sharbot Lake United Church. After they moved to Harrowsmith in 1960 they began attending St. Paul's United Church. It was around the same time that St. Paul's began extensive renovations, (including an elevator to assist folk who found the stairs a challenge) that the Pritchard's moved into Kingston for 5 years. They then built a house off Stagecoach Road in Sydenham and began attending Grace United, which they enjoyed until the Sydenham church was being decommissioned. Thankfully the church agreed to hold off for a bit so that Jean and Carl could have their 50th wedding anniversary celebration (which had already been booked). The church was decommissioned the very next day!



So what to do next? Jean says they took a few months - kind of in a state of suspended animation - to mourn the loss of a beloved church before heading back to St. Paul's where they already knew some people like Ardith and Don Wolsey. There they got busy. Jean sang in the choir. She says, "Carl was the better singer though." We'd have to ask Carolyn Brown the Music Director of the day for her opinion on that matter. Both Jean and Carl became the custodians of the property, which seems to have started out with Carl volunteering to cut the grass around the church. Like many other committed United Church people, they went the extra mile as care takers, fixing all the myriads of things that need fixing in a small rural church building so says Nancy Moore-Carr who was also of St. Pauls. Sheila Anthony reports that the Pritchards helped out at dinners; worked at the Tuesday community luncheons (Carl on dishes, Jean prepping sandwiches with Hilda Warren), and volunteered for Christmas hampers, pie sales and yard sales. "It was all a lot of fun" says Jean. A special memory from St. Pauls is the plant sale and fiesta, including a street dance on the side road of the church. A band sitting on a hay wagon, struck up tunes and Jean and Carl joined in the dancing out on the street (they had been square dancing in a Kingston group during their time there). The Pritchards must have felt they didn't have enough to do because in addition to these more physical activities, Jean served on the Board of Stewards for 5 years, and Carl was the church treasurer. The word tireless comes to mind.

Two very gratifying rites took place during their time at St. Pauls. Daughter Sandra (though living at the time in Yellowknife) came home to be married by Reverend Earl Taft. At a later time daughter Carolyn also got married at St. Paul's by Reverend John Young. But then sadly, another closure as the congregation of St. Pauls amalgamated with the congregation of Trinity in Verona. Jean and Carl didn't hesitate. The following Sunday found them sitting in a pew at Trinity, not far from Carl's old elementary school chum Ed Asselstine. And here the Pritchards still are - at least, they will be back in the pew as soon as we safely can be. "There's no other church" says Jean. We leave the last word on this dynamic couple to Sheila who offered, "Jean and Carl are a great couple who are obviously devoted to each other and to helping others!" Let's commit to ensuring that they are not going to witness another church closure, by giving the kind of generous support of time, energy and finances that this committed couple has give to all of us!

Very Interesting Story

Over eighty years ago, in Greece sixty thousand Jews lived peacefully in Thessaloniki. It was a valued and vibrant community. Most of these Jews worked in the port so much so that the port of Thessaloniki was even closed on Saturday, Shabbat. Great emeritus rabbis also lived and studied there. Everyone rubbed shoulders and appreciated each other. But on September 2nd, 1939, on the eve of the outbreak of World War II, it is on this great community that the Nazi terror will suddenly rise.

On April 6th, 1941 Hitler invaded Greece in order to secure its southern front before launching the famous Operation Barbarossa and its great offensive against Russia. Of the 60,000 Jews in Thessaloniki, around 50,000 will be exterminated at the Birkenau concentration camp, in record time! The massacre of the Jews of Greece was brief but intense; very few will have the chance to make it but among the survivors there was a family known as Bourla.

After the war in 1961, a son was born into this miraculous family in the camps. His parents called him

Israel – Abraham. He grew up and studied veterinary medicine in Greece. A brilliant student, Abraham will get his doctorate in reproductive biotechnology at the veterinary school of Aristotle University in Salonika. At the age of 34, he decided to move to the United States. He changes his first name Abraham, to Albert.

Albert was integrated into the medical industry. He progressed quickly and joined a pharmaceutical company where he became “Head manager.” Abraham (Albert) rose through the ranks and got his appointment as CEO of this company in 2019.

Throughout the year Albert decides to direct the efforts of the company to try to find a vaccine against a new virus (Covid) which has just struck the world. He expends great financial and technological efforts to achieve his goal.

A year later the WHO (World Health Organization) validates his company to produce the long-awaited vaccine. His vaccine will be distributed in several countries including Germany, which counts thousands of dead from the pandemic.

Ironically, this vaccine which will save the lives of millions of people around the world including many Germans, was led and pushed by a little Jew from Thessaloniki, son of Holocaust survivors from whom most of his people were exterminated by Nazi Germany.

And that is why Israel became the first country to receive the vaccine. In memory of his grandparents and his parents, who gave birth to Israel-Abraham Bourla, known today as Albert Bourla: CEO of Pfizer.



If you have an idea for the newsletter or would like something published, please submit to the church office by email or call to make arrangements for pick-up or drop off

(613-374-2777)

In the Stillness

In the stillness,
In the silence,
We feel your presence, O God.

And we feel you filling us from within;
Illuminating our minds, warming our hearts, stirring our spirits,
Strengthening our hands outstretched, transforming
Our lives... energizing our lives.
Until every fibre of our being is filled with your presence,
And we leap up crying!

Blessed are you, our God;
Whose name is love,
Whose presence is light,
Whose heart is justice,
Whose gift is grace,
Whose life is hope.

Amen



Church Finances

Our Local Expense givings for the month of May was **\$5,126.00**. Our expenses for the same period was **\$7,221.08** leaving us with a shortfall for the month of \$2,095.08 This leaves us with a deficit of **\$9,153.03** in this fund.

Mission and Service givings for the same period were **\$3,175.00**.

We welcome all donations either by cheque or by Etransfer to don@donaldcoleman.com. We express thanks to all who have continued to support us either through PAR other donations.



Local Excitement - Verona the Movie

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and the Kingston Film Office for their help, "The involvement of the community has been such a big part of us getting to a spot where we're fully ready to go, ready to shoot and feel so welcome there. I think all of our locations have been so gracious and all the community members have gone above and beyond what could even be expected of people being involved in a film project. So that's been pretty crazy, and pretty overwhelming. People are so generous. It's pretty cool."

Trinity Anniversary - 135 Years

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was a major refurbishment of the sanctuary. The beige fiberboard paneling was removed and was replaced with drywall. When the fiberboard was removed, it was discovered that the walls and ceiling in entire sanctuary had been covered in an embossed rolled metal sheeting. There was some discussion regarding retaining the original covering. However, it was felt that having all that metal would create an echo chamber so it was decided to retain only the section in the choir loft.

In 1992, a decision was made to purchase the Freeman property behind the church. The property was leveled and became our parking lot.

In 2006, work was done to refurbish the hall. The stage and side rooms were removed. The kitchen was expanded. The two small bathrooms were made into a larger single accessible bathroom. Another bathroom was installed in the basement.

During the last 50 years there have been many events such as the Christmas Choir concerts, fashion shows, dinners (steak, roast beef, fish and spaghetti) and winter breakfasts. Sadly, during the last year and a half, such events as well as Sunday School and most of our worship services have been curtailed because of the pandemic. Hopefully, in a few months we can resume normal activities.

Trinity has been an important part of the Verona community for the last 135 years and I have been proud to have been associated with Trinity for 50 of those years. We look forward to be able to continue our mission in the future.

It is interesting to note that prior to 1968 there were 8 United Churches serving this area (Godfrey, Bellrock, Trinity, Holleford, Hartington, St. Paul's in Harrowsmith, Murvale, and Grace in Sydenham). Of these 8 churches, only Trinity remains.

Broccoli Cauliflower Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 head broccoli, chopped
- 1 head cauliflower, chopped
- 1/2lb bacon, cooked
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup sugar (or Stevia)

Directions:

Mix broccoli, cauliflower, bacon and shredded cheese in a large bowl. In a small bowl mix mayonnaise, sour cream, and sugar until well combined. Pour mayonnaise mixture over broccoli mixture and stir until well incorporated. Eat immediately or chill until ready to serve.



A Short Bible Study for June

Let's talk about the Gospel of Mark, or perhaps I should say the Gospel of John Mark. The Book of Acts [Acts 12: 12, 25; 15: 37] as well as the Letters of Peter [1 Peter 5: 13] are specific as to the person of whom we speak.

Mark was a close associate of Peter, from whom he received the traditions of things said and done by Jesus. These things didn't come in a tidy package, told in sequence, but rather as the preaching of Peter – preaching that was directed to the needs of the early Christian communities. Mark wrote mostly in the regions of Italy and accurately preserved this material, meaning that the Gospel of Mark largely consists of the preaching of Peter arranged and shaped by Mark. Mark's Gospel is quite simple, straight-forward and without much glossy language. It emphasizes more about what Jesus did than what he said, although Mark was clear when Jesus said something important! *"Quiet! Be still!"* [4: 39a] This Gospel could be considered the *"beginning of the good news"*. [Mark 1: 1] It moves quickly from one episode to another in Jesus' life and ministry, and the verb *"immediately"* is often used. The story I will focus on is the story of Jesus calming the storm which appears at the end of Mark Chapter 4, verses 35 to 41.



The Sea of Galilee is situated in a basin, surrounded by mountains and is particularly susceptible to sudden, violent storms. *"A furious squall came up"* [4: 37] Cool air from the Mediterranean comes down through the narrow mountain passes and clashes with the hot, humid air hanging over the lake. On the occasion of this particular storm, Jesus had left the territory of Galilee to go to the *"region of the Gerasenes"*, *"let us go over to the other side"* [4: 35; 5: 1]. This is also known as the Greek city of Gerasa, probably founded by Alexander or one of his generals.

Mark wants his listeners and readers to know how very human Jesus was and so he presents Jesus, exhausted and *"sleeping on a cushion."* [4: 38] Jesus liked to teach by a lake so that people could gather all around to see and hear him. And while he used parables to illustrate truth, stimulate thinking and wake up the spiritual perception of his listeners, in this case, at the end of a long day a storm was really happening. Jesus was really tired and his disciples, mostly fishermen used to working on and around water, were terrified of what lay below and would not have known how to swim. Mark tells this story as a clear illustration of how disciples could hear and see without understanding. These twelve had been chosen as Jesus' closest followers and yet, when confronted with a very real hazard and probable drowning, they had not yet taken into their hearts that this man, their teacher/Rabbi was the real son of God. *"Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"* [4: 41b]

In view of what Jesus had just done, the only answer to this rhetorical question is he was the very Son of God. God's presence, as well as God's power, was demonstrated (see Ps 65: 6-7; 107: 25-30). Indeed, Mark indicates his own answer to this question in the opening line of his Gospel – *"The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God..."* [1: 1] By such miracles Jesus sought to establish and increase the disciples' faith in his deity and Godliness.

**BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER,
TENDERHEARTED,
FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER,
as God in Christ
FORGAVE YOU.**
EPHESIANS 4:32

**If you know of someone who could
benefit from a card being sent to
them, please call Diane Revill
(613-384-4415 or
613-328-7491)**