

# Trinity Connected

## *Mark Your Calendars*

### *We Are Re-Opening!*

The reopening committee met on Monday July 26th and it was decided that with the Covid-19 restrictions eased, we could resume in-church services. Plans are now underway to reopen on **Sunday September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Here are some details you may want to know:

- You won't be required to call ahead to reserve your seat anymore
- We will have no attendance restrictions (no number restrictions)
- If our sanctuary is full, you will be seated in the hall to watch and participate in the service
- We can sing with our masks on
- We still must physical distance ourselves
- We still must refrain from hugging and shaking hands
- We will continue to do contact tracing
- You will screen yourself for any symptoms at the door before entering (a list will be posted as you enter)
- You will sanitize your hands with the provided hand sanitizer upon entering and receiving your bulletin
- If you feel unwell, please do not attend church service
- We will continue to broadcast via video, zoom or audio for those who are unable to attend
- And most importantly, please enjoy yourself!

Every single day do at least one thing you really like. Do you like to be alone? Say so and do it. Do you like to read or play the piano or paint? Say so and do it. Do you like to spend time with friends? Call them up. Plan it. Don't simply let *"all your days pass away..."*

From Psalm 103

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## Trinity Says Farewell

By John McDougall

It is with heavy (and reluctant) hearts, that we say goodbye to Carl and Glenda Turner. They made the difficult decision to sell their home, and were unsuccessful in finding a house that suited their needs close to Trinity.

The outdoor service on August 8th marked the realization that Glenda and Carl Turner will no longer be regular members of our church community. Although they must know that their return visits will be greeted with joy and excitement, we must now prepare ourselves to fill the vacancy that will be made by these two amazing friends.

Both Carl and Glenda have been essential members of our church committees in major leadership roles.

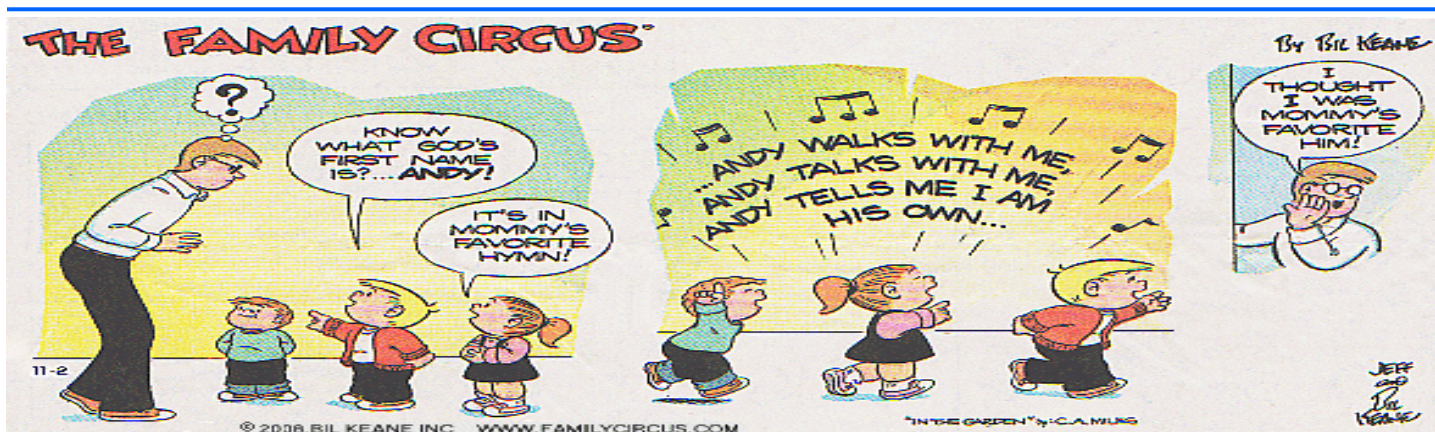
In many ways, the physical care that Carl gave to our building was irreplaceable. From accessibility ramps to sound systems, air conditioning and heating, storage shelving, painting and carpentry, he has done it all through his leadership. All this was accomplished with good humour and companionship. Not only that, but he sang in the choir, played the banjo, read the scripture and cooked breakfasts.

Glenda likewise played major and challenging roles in the Session, the Ministry and Personnel Committee and the UCW. She was also a force to be reckoned with in the kitchen and volunteered for almost any need that arose. She will perhaps be most celebrated and admired through the loving visitations that she and Carl made to shut ins and long term care home residents.

They have both personified the intent of the The Servant Song.

**We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travellers on the road;  
We are here to help each other, walk the mile and bear the load.**

We have been so blessed to have had them on our journey and wish them God Speed as they make this change in their life.



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

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

Ardith Wolsey

August 14th



## ***The Bloody Truth and What is Holy***

***By Catherine Oxenford-Grant***

Jesus told the people that his flesh was real food and that his blood was true drink—and to eat his flesh and drink his blood meant eternal life. And people stopped following him. The disciples grumbled about how hard a teaching this was. Jesus had to ask the disciples if they wanted to walk away too.

So, what was the big deal? The answer (to their disgust), and the point Jesus was making, lies deep in the Book of Leviticus. Leviticus chapter seventeen contains a forceful and simple law about how the People of God were to handle blood: *If anyone of the house of Israel or of the aliens who reside among them eats any blood, I will set my face against that person who eats blood, and will cut that person off from the people. For the life of the flesh is in the blood; [Lev. 17: 10-11b]*

Do you notice that when God lays down this law there is no wiggle room whatsoever? You don't eat blood. No arguments...End of discussion. There was no circumstance where that law could be broken or swept aside. To ignore this law means that you are cut off from God forever...a terrifying prospect.

This divine commandment was deeply ingrained in the daily life of the Israelite. In fact, this commandment governed what was possible for lunch, and what wasn't, for every day of their lives. It was such a basic law, and so much a part of the ancient Jewish people, that it's still a cornerstone of modern Jewish eating. A slaughterhouse in Canada that produces meat that bears the identification as "kosher" still follows the basic laws of Leviticus 17.

So, when Jesus said that in order to inherit eternal life you must drink his blood, he was using fiery language that seemed to go against a millennium of biblical teaching. In their minds it would have put Jesus' religious credentials into serious question. It would have made some of them question whether they could still follow him. Could they subject their children to this blasphemous, anti-biblical teaching? And so many turned away from Jesus. Even Jesus' closest followers did a double-take. However, today, for most Christians, these words don't have the same sting.

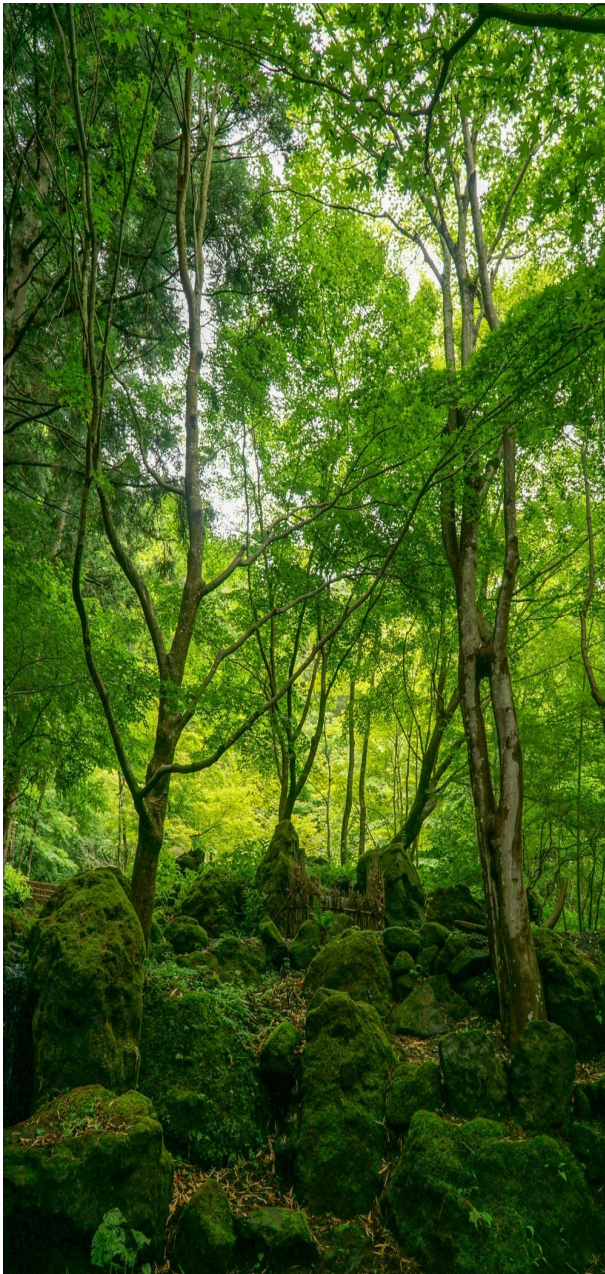
*(Continued on page 6)*



## ***SFCS Foodbank Needs***

Food donation items that we are in need of currently include:

- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Tomatoes
- Canned Fruit
- Cereal
- Juice Boxes
- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Soap
- Jams and Spreads
- Pasta Sauce
- Cheese
- Coffee and Tea
- Salad Dressing



### **In the Green Forest**

by Joyce Rupp

**Here in the green forest  
I know a presence  
bigger than myself,  
stronger than the ponderosa pines.**

**Here in the whispering forest  
I hear a voice softer than the  
sighing of swaying branches.**

**Here in the dark forest I see a truth  
shining through the boughs,  
telling me  
I am not alone.**

## Slow Cooker Ribs

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups BBQ sauce
- 1/4 cup Brown Sugar
- 4 tbsp Apple Cider Vinegar
- 3 tsp Oregano
- 1 tsp Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 tbsp Cayenne Pepper (optional)
- 1 tbsp Chilli Powder
- 3 lbs Baby Back Pork Ribs
- Salt and Pepper to taste

### Preparation:

1. Combine BBQ sauce, brown sugar, cider vinegar, oregano, Worcestershire sauce, cayenne pepper and chilli powder in a small bowl.
2. Salt and pepper the ribs . Place in slow cooker and cover with sauce.
3. Cook on low for 8 hours, or on high for 4 hours.
4. After the ribs are finished cooking, spoon the bbq sauce over the ribs before removing from slow cooker.
5. Cut the ribs and serve with the bbq sauce.
6. Enjoy!



## Church Finances

By Don Coleman

Our Local Expense givings for the month of July was **\$5,992.87**. Our expenses for the same period was **\$6,593.54** leaving us with a shortfall for the month of **\$591.07** This leaves us with a deficit of \$12,597.31 in this fund.

Mission and Service givings to the end of July were **\$4,367.50**.

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.



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



## *The Bloody Truth and What is Holy*

*(Continued from page 3)*

Some Christians, and especially those from the more “Sacramental” and liturgical denominations (Catholic, Anglican, United Church, Lutheran, Orthodox, etc), hear in Jesus’ words a direct reference to the Eucharist, the Lord’s Supper, or Holy Communion. For Christians who participate in the breaking of bread and sharing of a cup of wine/grape juice, this teaching from the sixth chapter of John is an obvious reference to the Sacrament they know so well. As a United Church minister myself who stands at a table celebrating Holy Communion, this teaching strikes a deep chord. And yet, I seriously doubt that what Jesus is saying is ‘receive Holy Communion and you receive eternal life’.

Mostly because of this passage, many scholars and theologians identify the Gospel of John as the “most Eucharistic” of the four gospels. Between the Bread of Life speech and the feedings of the multitudes, there’s enough evidence here to make their claim ring true. However, it is helpful to know that there is no story of the Last Supper in John. On the night before Jesus’ death, he gets up from the table to wash his disciples’ feet. We might expect that the table Jesus got up from had the remains of the Last Supper on it, but John doesn’t say anything about it.

And, with all the emphasis on faith and belief in the Gospel of John, I have a hard time believing that Jesus is saying that participating in a liturgical action is the doorway to Heaven here. The source of disgust in Jesus’ listeners is God’s clear prohibition of consuming blood in Leviticus 17. And I believe that Leviticus 17 is exactly what Jesus was getting at, just by a different way. *For the life of every creature—its blood is its life; therefore I have said to the people of Israel: You shall not eat the blood of any creature, for the life of every creature is its blood; whoever eats it shall be cut off.* [Leviticus 17:14]

Blood wasn’t forbidden territory for being dirty, but for being holy.

A good portion of the Book of Leviticus concerns itself with what to do with the blood and body parts of sacrificial animals. When animals were sacrificed to God in the rituals that are carefully laid out in Leviticus, various portions of the carcass were given back to the person making the offering, given to the priests to consume, or burned on the Altar and totally given over to God.

But, the same thing always happened with the blood: it was always given to God. Usually it was poured onto the Altar directly. Why? Because God considered it holy. And God considered it holy because it was the blood of the animal that embodied its very life. The life force of the creature is its blood.

Because God is the giver of all life, life is holy. Life is sacred. And it’s not to be misused or mistreated—and certainly not consumed. It belongs to God, and God alone. So, when Jesus says that his followers are to drink his blood, what he’s saying in the ancient biblical language of Leviticus is: ‘take my life, and pour it into your bodies, your lives, your souls’. And by pouring his eternal-life-blood into our life, we are the receivers of eternal life ourselves.