



Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge

JUNE
NEWSLETTER
2021

News from the Quartet

Since March, we have enjoyed hosting church services on zoom. It has been an incredible experience for so many people on how to use technology to come together for fellowship and spiritual nourishment. While not everything in our traditional order of service transfers well onto zoom, much of it has, resulting in some incredible church services.

One thing is for sure, we all miss our church buildings. However, we are focusing on the blessings in these unusual times. Because of technology we have had the privilege of hosting guest ministers from extensive educational backgrounds and enriching life experiences. Zoom eliminates geographical distances, so we have had the advantage of listening to ministers we would normally be unable to hear speak when we gathered in a building. We have also had visitors in our “zoom congregations”, family and friends of our members who, otherwise, would not be able to join us.

Zoom also has offered many various ways to experience church. Some choose to join us with their cameras on, joining in on the social time prior to the service, some choose to ask questions or share their personal insight during our contemporary Q & A worship service, while others enjoy listening, keeping their mics and videos off the entire time. Everyone can choose the level of participation and interaction that works for them.

Another option individuals can choose is to watch the recordings when the time is most ideal. Every Sunday the SPPC services are recorded and put on the website the following day. You can see them by going to www.shelburneprimrose.com and scrolling down on the TODAY home page and clicking on the title “Last Sunday’s Service”.

There were concerns expressed that people without technology might be feeling left out. So, Jill has also been reaching out by phone to various members to offer any support they might need in order to read the SPPC Saturday email, navigate the website and/or join us on zoom. It has been lovely to assist people in finding ways to connect and discover new ways to experience church until a new minister is found and COVID restrictions are lifted.

The United Church Council in Toronto is reaching out to churches to offer ideas on ways congregations can move back into their buildings, once the government allows, with their technology. Jill will be attending an online workshop series hosted by the United Church Council of Toronto to become more educated in the various ways churches can continue to integrate technology and church life post COVID.

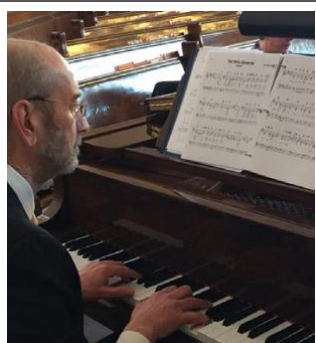
We hope this paper copy newsletter is helpful in keeping members informed who, for whatever reason, are not able to receive emails or access technology at this time. If there is anyone out there wishing to know more on how to join us and are uncertain how to navigate technology, please call Jill McPherson 519 940-2332. She will do whatever she can to assist you.

The Quartet is grateful for entrusting this vital component of church life to them. Thank you for your kind words of appreciation, as well as informative feedback, during this challenging and enlightening time. Wishing you all great revelations...

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." Romans 8:18

Sabine, Darlene, Jill & Bruce

Meet the Quartet



Bruce Ley



Jill (Ireland) McPherson



Darlene Morrow



Sabine Rohner-Tensee

News From Your Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Council

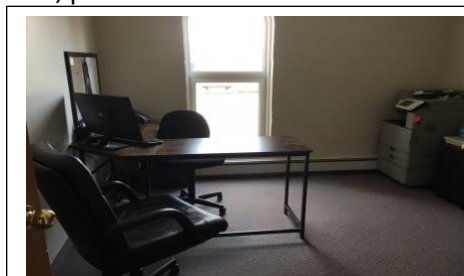
Technology and Communications Coordinator

The Ministry and Personnel Committee drafted a position description for a Technology and Communications Coordinator.

The 5 tasks are:

1. Co-ordinates Zoom Services and assists Minister in preparing slide and images for Sunday Services.
2. Loads recordings of Sunday Services on website.
3. Loads materials on website.
4. Answers phone calls and emails as directed by Minister 2 mornings for 3 hours, per week.
5. Prepares bulletins and newsletters as required by Minister.

Now, they will recruit a suitable person to fill this contract position for 12 hours per week.



Who is Colin?

Many of you may have heard the name Colin mentioned whenever the church website or our church Facebook page is mentioned. Who is Colin? Colin is the website designer who spent a great deal of time working with Candice to create our beautiful and highly purposeful website. Thanks to Candice's foresight and Colin's talent, they left us well equipped with an "online church." This communication tool has helped many of us to discover new ways of experiencing church and staying connected while temporarily without a minister as well as within the overwhelming challenges of a pandemic.

Colin Simmons is an actor, singer, and creator currently based in Toronto, originally from East Garafraxa. At the age of 11, he landed the role of Ralphie in *A Christmas Story* at Theatre Orangeville and has never looked back. Most recently, he performed in Theatre Orangeville's main-stage production of *Little Women* and directed their production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which was the crown jewel of their 25th season. This summer, he's returning to teach a two-week intensive musical theatre program for youth and to direct the Young Company production.

Colin studied piano and composition from our own renowned Musical Director, Bruce Ley for seven years and recorded a demo album with Bruce in 2013. Bruce and Candice nurtured his love of music, spirituality, and homemade ice cream.

A professional actor for six years, Colin's other passion—web & graphic design—has helped to balance the roller-coaster career of acting, directing, and writing. Over the years, Colin has designed, developed, and maintained over 25 websites with a variety of clients. When COVID-19 shuttered the theatre industry, web & graphic design functioned as a creative outlet.



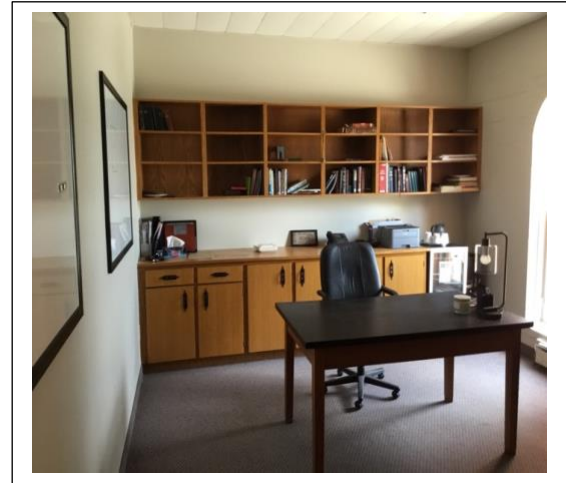
Updating and Creating a Welcoming Feel for Our Minister's Office



All Are Welcome!

All are welcome!
All are welcome!
All are welcome!
In this place!

#1 – More Voices United



News From Trinity United Church

Trinity Council Brief with Gratitude

Your *Trinity United Church Council* met via Zoom on April 27th. It was an uplifting and supportive meeting, with most welcomed love and laughter, especially in such difficult times found during COVID. We do miss meeting together face to face at the church! Officially, this was our first meeting since the Annual Meeting in late Feb.'21.

However, emails are ongoing as we regularly communicate -the business of our church and the pastoral charge. Several reports were shared, and we reviewed the budget. Members and adherents are maintaining their regular tithes and offerings, and additionally, a few generous gifts have been bestowed upon us. On May 13, the Western Ontario Waterways, WOW Region approved our new governing structure. This was outlined in detail on pages 23 & 24 in the Annual Report. We're blessed with 9 supportive and compassionate people who love their church and God and continue to seek to make a positive difference in the Shelburne community. Additionally, we've added Susan Boon as an ad hoc member, and Linda Moore has assisted in stepping in for Jean Cheyne at recent Pastoral Charge meetings. Thank you to Susan and Linda for their care and assistance.

You may have read on our weekly mail-outs, that the *Search Committee* has worked diligently for the past 17 months to find a new minister. Our sincerest gratitude is extended to: Jennifer Crewson, Faye Ferguson, Whitney Hofman, Diane Irwin, Karin Klouman and LeeAnn McKenna. An unbelievable number of hours of reading, discussion, meeting, and interviewing have been expended on this difficult task. The committee will continue their search for a permanent minister. Simultaneously, another small group will search for a half time supply minister. We look forward to hopefully gathering for worship in the fall. More news to follow, as the province slowly opens in a safe manner.

In the meantime, you will have enjoyed and participated in worship services offered online- both contemporary and traditional- via Zoom. They are our technical *Worship Committee*. This is being accomplished by having guest ministers and inspiring speakers each week. We thank members of *The Quartet*: Jill McPherson, Darlene Morrow, Bruce Ley and Sabine Rohner-Tensee. They creatively manage the technology to help us worship together staying connected in this manner.

It is my request that you keep all members of the Trinity and Pastoral Charge Councils in your prayers. Pray for strength and wisdom to continue to lead the church. We are grateful to be blessed by the ongoing guidance of Rev. Ann Harbridge. Recently, Rev. John Neff has assisted us from our Western Ontario Waterways (WOW) Region, serving as Congregational support.

Prayerfully submitted,
Past Chair of Trinity council
Ann McAlpine



Happy 150th Anniversary Trinity

On Sunday, June 6th, we are celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Trinity United Church. May you take time to remember the beginning of your faith community here in Shelburne. It all began in 1871 with a Methodist congregation meeting for services in the E. F. Bowes building on the south side of Main Street at Victoria. And as well the Presbyterians who held their first services in a wood working shop located on the west side of Owen Sound Street in 1872. Yes, the background of Trinity was Methodist and Presbyterian. Both congregations experienced growth and built churches and became known as Wesley Methodist and Knox Presbyterian. In 1878, another branch of Methodists, The Methodist Episcopal, built a brick church. By 1902, the Presbyterians were ready for church expansion and the cornerstone for the present building that we now worship in was laid in 1902 and became known as Knox Presbyterian Church with a seating capacity of 404.

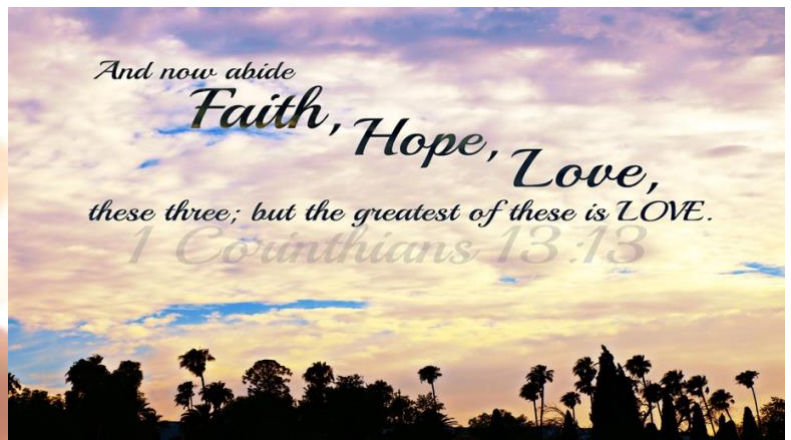
1925, brought change to church life in Shelburne with Church Union and the establishment of the United Church of Canada. Some congregations decided to join, others did not. The new faith communities became known as Wesley United, Knox United and the 'Continuing Presbyterians'. In 1939, the two United Church communities decided to amalgamate and become one. For a year services were held alternately in the two buildings when a decision was made to select the present building that we now worship in and to name the new congregation, Trinity United Church. According to historical records, this decision was 'received with no show of bitterness or disappointment.'

The faith of our forebears is used to change and change never came easy. The faith communities of the past have struggled with tremendous change. The church is always experiencing change and it is how we deal with that change that matters. Our forebears entered the journey with a tremendous sense of unity, being a united whole, a church united in faith, yet recognizing, struggling, and respecting diversity which gives this United Church of ours its richness. As you enter your 150th year as a faith community here in Shelburne, may you enter it with a deep sense of unity respecting your diversity of gifts, and with a deep sense of purpose knowing that you are continuing to do the work of Jesus the Christ, and with a deep sense of knowing that you are not alone in any task that you may have chosen to take part in.

In Ephesians 4 the apostle Paul writes to the church in Ephesus: 'I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.'

We thank Rev. Johanna Vanderspek for these wise respectful words from our Church History in 2005.

Historical information taken from the booklet titled, '100th Anniversary History Trinity United Church', written by one of our faithful congregants Grant Bell.



News from Primrose United Church

After a long, quiet winter around Primrose, it was an active, busy spot on the Mother's Day weekend, as flowers, pies and tarts went in one door and out the other! Thanks to all the hard work and support of those at Primrose, our friends at Trinity, and people from all the surrounding area, it was a wonderful success. The smiles, the laughs, the enjoyment of participation, amidst the necessary public health protocols put in place, was all a thrill to be a part of! After, while delivering to those who cannot, and should not, be out in public, there were more smiles of enjoyment as they accepted their purchases. What a wonderful start to spring!

It is with mixed emotions that we are saying farewell to a few of our long-time members at Primrose.

Sharon Holmes has been an active part of our church for many years, being past treasurer (as well as treasurer for First Line for Syria when it was beginning), active garden committee member, original organizer of our Mother's Day Plant Sale and active member throughout all the years it has continued, and organizer of several catering events, and, most recently, has been our WOW representative (previously known as presbytery rep), only to name a few. She has sold her home in Shelburne and is heading out to the east coast to visit with her brother and family for the summer, and to see what life is like out there. By fall she will decide whether she will stay there or return to Ontario. We may have a special interest in which she decides, but we wish her all the best in whichever place she calls home.

Linda and Larry Andrew have sold their home in Mono and are moving close to their family (should I say grandchildren) in Port Elgin. Linda was raised and confirmed at Primrose church, as were their children, and later their grandchildren baptized at Primrose. Linda has participated in many fundraising events over the years and will be missed by all. Best wishes to the family as they start the new chapter of their lives.

Last, but definitely not least, our dear friend, Beverly Parker. She has been the "keeper of the garden" for us at Primrose since it was started, and her shoes will be hard to fill. She has participated in our many fundraising events, has been past presbytery rep for our church, and has been a regular and active member since arriving at Primrose with her husband, Merv. Beverly is moving to Hamilton to be with her daughter. Again, we will miss her but want to wish her all the best in her next adventure.

To these close friends and members of Primrose, we want them to know they will always be in our hearts and in our thoughts. Although we will miss them all, we hope they will pop by whenever they are in the area and keep us informed on their new lives. As my grandmother would have said, it is not goodbye but "Cheerio for now"!

Take care. Stay well.

Your friends and extended family at Primrose United Church.

Primrose Meditation Garden

A garden can be strong medicine to nurture and shape the soul. Gardens have a way of seeping into your soul and you find yourself enjoying the air and watching for miracles. In a hurried and distracted world, we need garden sanctuaries, places that ground us. We need quiet gardens. Please feel free to visit the garden at Primrose.

Thank you, Shirley Farnell
for Sharing this joy of Nature!





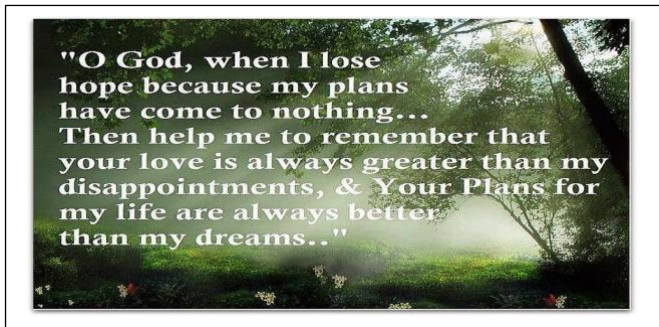
Plant and Bake Sale Success

Thank you to our amazing baking crew – especially Beth and Faye who organized and ran the bake sale, and who, between them, baked at least 30 pies and 10 dozen tarts, along with their crew of Sabine, Taylor, Dianne, Fran, Shirley, Norma, Kathy, Jeff C., Gwynn, Alice, Annie: making a total of 83 pies and 33 dozen tarts! That means there are a lot of happy smiles and content tummies in the community today! Also, we had over 80 plant orders: the largest order ever! Special thanks to Faye, Sharon, Shirley, and Les for unloading the truck, and for sorting the plants into individual orders. Also, to Faye, Beth, Sharon, Shirley, and Beverly, for their order running and money taking on Saturday. Fran has done her magic with the numbers, and still continues as final payments come in, but looks like we will have made a profit of approximately \$3500! Great job one and all! Thank you!

Submitted by Gail Brown



With the necessary COVID restrictions still in place the "Art for the Garden Show and Sale", scheduled for Sat., June 5th has had to be postponed. Fingers crossed for a later date, hopefully in July.



News About the People in Our Congregations!

Trinity

Good Luck Jennifer Shaver

Our friend at Trinity, Jennifer Shaver, is moving back to St. Catharines this weekend to reunite with long time church friends and neighbours. Best wishes to you dear Jennifer, on this next adventure in your life. Remember to visit your friends in Shelburne, often. Until that time, we will miss you!



Primrose

Good Luck Sharon Holmes

We wish Sharon Holmes the safest of travels as she heads out to the east coast to visit with her brother and family for the summer, and to see what life is like out there! Enjoy the adventure and best wishes to wherever you decide to call home!



Thank you, Erma Lepard

Thank you, Erma Lepard for reaching out with love and kindness to so many last weekend. Your light continues to shine so brightly throughout the years. It is received with tremendous gratitude and provides inspiration for all of us.



Good Luck Linda and Larry Andrew

We wish Linda and Larry Andrew good luck as they move to Port Elgin to be closer to their family (should we say Grandchildren)! Best wishes to the family as they start this new chapter of their lives!



Our Sympathies to the Mountford Family

Muriel Eldene Mountford, beloved wife of 75 years to Edward, passed away peacefully in her 95th year at Headwaters Health Care Centre on May 16th. Your friends at Trinity over the years will miss you!



Good Luck Beverly Parker

Every time we look at our Meditation Garden, you will be remembered! We wish you well as you move to Hamilton to be with your daughter! All the best with your next adventure!



Greetings, Primrose and Trinity United Churches!

First Line for Syria is still working hard at preparing for the arrival of the Al Diri family from Jordan. In the last report we shared that the family had passed the interview process and were waiting for their wellness checks. Unfortunately, that is currently still the situation. The Canadian government assures us that the refugee sponsorship process is ongoing, despite the COVID 19 pandemic. It is, however, responsible for slowing the entire process down. As impatient and frustrated we may feel, it is of course the family themselves who suffer at the mercy of this delay. Patience, hope, and prayer are our best tools at this moment. One positive move forward is that the parents have both received their first COVID 19 vaccinations.



We are currently building up our supply of furniture and will soon be collecting clothing for the family. Several people within our two churches have donated furniture, and we thank you very much! We have acquired enough beds, as well as an assortment of other pieces that will help make their home comfortable.

As we get closer to their arrival and find we are missing certain items, we will put the word out, should anyone like to help fill in any gaps. When we sponsored Sabah, Khalil and Helin the donations were generous and plentiful. In fact, we ended up with much more than one family of three could possibly use. This time we are collecting items according to a list, concentrating on covering all bases.

Several of you have contributed financially to this cause already, Thank You!

Should anyone else like more information, or like to donate:

There are 3 easy ways to do so:

1. Online at canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/38297/donation
2. E-transfer to firstlineforsyria@gmail.com
3. Cash/cheque -please email firstlineforsyria@gmail.com to arrange

We are happy to offer charitable tax receipts for donations of \$25.00 or more.

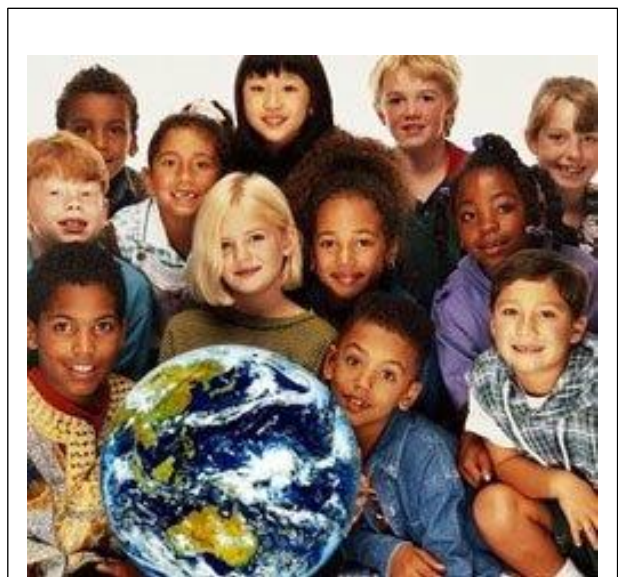
Thank you for your time and interest, and please stay safe!

First Line for Syria

Community Multicultural Event

Sunday, June 27 at 1pm

In recognition of Canadian Multicultural Day there will be a flag raising ceremony and on June 27th a virtual award ceremony. The Shelburne Multicultural Event would like to recognize residents, businesses, and organizations with a proven track record in promoting diversity, inclusion and equity!



Pastoral Charge Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 30th, Church on Zoom with Rev. Paul Scott Wilson, retired Professor Emeritus of Homiletics at Emmanuel College, University of Toronto.

Sunday, June 6th, Trinity will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary on Zoom. *Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat* who is the Adjunct Professor of biblical studies at Trinity College will be our guest minister.

In the parking lot at Trinity on June 6, between 11 and 12, we are kindly asking for donations of Annuals such as geraniums, petunias, marigolds to plant in our gardens and planters at the church. If you would like to make a donation and cannot attend at that time, please call Darlene at 519-217-0157 to make other arrangements. She is looking for some volunteers to take turns to water the flowers during the summer. Please let her know if you can help, even if it is just 1 week.

The monthly offering will gratefully be received at this time!



Sunday, June 13th, Church on Zoom with Shelburne's Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson.

Sunday, June 20th, Happy Father's Day! Church on Zoom with Rev. Cameron Trimble who is the CEO of Convergence (formerly the Centre for Progressive Renewal).

Fingers crossed for upcoming dates to be determined for **Trinity's Strawberry Take Out** and **Primrose's Art in the Garden Show and Sale**.

Save the Date - Friday, September 17th, Bruce Ley Concert at Trinity



While Partera International's work remains mostly in extended hiatus, LeeAnn continues to consult remotely with project partners in Uganda and Ecuador. You can read more about these projects on the website at

www.partera.ca.



**Just to be clear,
the Church has not been closed,
so it doesn't need to be re-opened.
We have simply stopped worshipping
in our buildings for a time
to protect the health & well-being
of our people & our communities.
The Church does not require a building
in order to be the Church.
What is required is love, compassion,
& the presence of God.**