

TRINITY TIMES

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Editors: Pat Bradley and Jo-Ann Dahms



Hello from your Newly Recycled....

Co-Chairs of Governance!

Jo-Ann Dahms and Betty McLean are back as Co-chairs of Trinity's governing body (now known as the Governance Team). Much has happened in the world, the wider community, and the congregation in the past three years.

What hasn't changed, here at Trinity, is our individual and corporate need for, and embracement of, community. Coming together, especially in a small group, can help build community and a true sense of belonging and purpose.

Trinity offers many opportunities to connect with others in a small group (with an average of 8-10 participants) such as:

United Church Women groups - Deborahs, Rachels, Sarahs; TUMS—Trinity United Men; Monday morning study group, Tuesdays at 2211, Wednesday morning Zoom coffee chats, choir, Friday morning "strolling" group (doesn't involve baby strollers), planning groups for fundraising events, Doers groups - Pastoral Care, Property, UCW, Worship and Music, the "techie" team, the "zoomers" team, Thrift sorting teams and sellers...and more. Wow! For a small and aging congregation, we are still active and definitely alive!

Some of the groups are service/task orientated, some are spiritual, some are social, and some are a combination.

If you are interested in joining a group, check Trinity's website www.ucpoco.ca or approach an approachable person such as Jo-Ann or Betty:).

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CHANGES....



Trinity is back with no restrictions on how we meet, how many meet, where we meet and the decision to wear a mask is a personal choice. Although we are facing some challenging times ahead and difficult decisions will have to be made; other congregations were not as fortunate to survive the worst of the Covid pandemic world. One of the reasons we have been able to survive the last two years was our ability to adapt. One of the adaptations that was critical was the adoption of Zoom and YouTube. This was accomplished thanks to the many volunteers and staff willing to learn a great deal of new technology (being seniors, this was a extra hill to climb).

And now moving forward...

On September 25th, Trinity hosted a Welcome Back Sunday with a cake and somewhat damaged, but delicious, cupcakes which followed the service. The service and celebration were well attended and everyone agreed how wonderful it was to be all together again. There was such a positive energy!



Trinity is in the process of initiating a new Development Steering Team to move ahead with the work started by the Strategic Planning Team.

Trinity is again a very busy place, a hub of activity. Many of our own groups are back to meeting in person as well as the community groups. We are sure that many in the community welcome back "Paul's Place", a free lunch most Wednesdays.

As December approaches, we will be happy to see the usual Christmas services and events beginning with the Bazaar on Saturday November 26th from 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Pat & Jo-Ann, Co-Editors

"I would like to thank the U.C.W. at Trinity for the lovely cards I have received—sent by Betty McLean and Joy Galea. As I don't attend the church services, we are lucky to have Zoom and YouTube. I am now blind in one eye and my other eye has deteriorated so that print on my computer is quite blurry. But I can still hear the church service! I have a soft spot in my heart for the UCW as years ago, in Paris ON I was the president of the only UCW group.

Keep up the good work ladies!"

Lavina Shaw

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During good times and struggling times, Trinity people are encouraged by their faith and the love and support of their Trinity family.

Gratefully,

Betty and Jo-Ann
Governance Co-Chairs
October 2022



L-R Betty McLean, Syd Sawyer, Rev. David Cathcart, Judi Carroll and Jo-Ann Dahms

Kim and George survive Hurricane Fiona !

Fortunately for them, the more severe winds were a distance away. However their area did not escape damage as you can see from the picture taken not far from their home.



A Haida Gwaii Adventure

By Judy Johnson, Syd & Wayne Sawyer



On July 27 in Daajing Giids (formerly called Queen Charlotte City) we boarded the MV Island Bay, a converted fishing boat, with owner Captain Simon Huval, first mate Jared and two other guests. It was very close quarters but good direction was given on how to be on a boat with each other respectfully and safely.

The purpose of our boat tour was to experience Gwaii Hannas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area and World Heritage Site located on the southernmost islands, 130 kms west of Prince Rupert.

As we motored out of Daajing Giids, Simon stopped to pull up his crab trap with numerous giant crabs. First dinner already caught! Wayne hoped there would be good fishing. He wasn't disappointed. Any time the captain thought we were in a good spot he'd stop everything, run to the back of the boat, shoot out a few orders for those interested in catching dinner and before we knew it there were fish aplenty flopping on the deck! This was Syd's type of fishing.... stop the boat, line in, fish out and off we go again. Not boring at all! We caught a good variety too - keeping the big Lingcod as well as Quillback and Copper Rockfish. Throughout the trip the food was fabulous! (Simon and Jared are both excellent cooks). We had fresh seafood every day - with an alternative always available.

MV Island Bay took us to four historic villages. Our visits were prearranged to limit numbers on each site. A Watchman always met us, leading the way through the historic site, along pathways dotted with white shells. They spoke of Haida traditions and culture, stopping to answer questions, making us very welcome to the property on which they live only for the short tourist season.

The Haida have populated this archipelago for over 10,000

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(Haida Gwaii adventure continued from page 2)

years. It is a moist and rugged place, isolated by weather and distance from other indigenous peoples. They are indeed determined, creative and resourceful survivors.

As often happened, the first Europeans misunderstood, thinking one village we visited was called "Skedans". But that was the chief's name. Haida name for the village was K'uuna. Watchman Dotsie, a young woman still in high school, met us as we climbed out of the zodiac onto a low sandy isthmus. The bay formed a perfect horseshoe shape. We wondered, "What was it like 200 years ago?"

"1822: The bay was surrounded by almost 30 houses, with 500-600 people living there. The buildings were large, embellished with carvings, and painted with clan emblems. Fifty totem poles stood along the shore, some marking a building entrance, some over 60 feet tall, outlining past achievements. Another 20-30 poles bear bent-wood boxes at their tops. A few immense houses, dug down below ground level, indicate a chief's home. Children, young people and elders performed daily activities along the sandy bar. It was a busy, vibrant place, with the population engaged in hunting, fishing and trade. Most of their food came from the sea. This was indeed a rich and bountiful place. The diverse culture and monumental works of art of the Haida were on a par with the most original the world has ever known."

So, what happened? Disease decimated the population in the 1870s. In 1880, a Haida Chief invited the remaining few to live in Skidegate. Gradually, nature warped carved faces into distorted shadows of their previous selves. Around 1920, Government agencies, photographers and museums came to take inventory of the remains, and to transport the best bits to be displayed across the world.

Today, nature has reclaimed these monuments, buildings have collapsed into themselves, growing plush and soft moss a foot thick. The few poles remaining lean at garish angles. Haida traditions and their meanings have a vague and uncertain future.

The tour ended August 2 with a 20' Zodiac carrying us 150 kms back to Moresby Camp. Then we rode down logging roads, through second growth forest and our beings were gradually transported back into today's Haida Gwaii. This is a place where life carries on, where island people work at respecting one another's culture, protecting the land and all that lives on it. The three of us feel very blessed to have had the opportunity to see the Haida Gwaii of yesterday and today.



a little bit about..... **Maureen Adams, The “thrifty” co-ordinator.**

Maureen was born in Powell River in 1946 but moved to East Vancouver at a very young age. Living so close to Empire Stadium was instrumental in Maureen’s life-long relationship with football, and in particular, the BC Lions.

Maureen’s immediate family consisted of her parents and one brother. She attended the North Burnaby Baptist Church, influenced by her grandmother whose home church was First Baptist. However, Maureen was not confirmed at the Baptist Church. The reason? She was terrified of being dunked in the tank of water!!

A young Maureen was a member of baseball’s Knothole Club and also football’s Quarterback Club, where for 50 cents per year, she could attend every football game. She remembers Dal Richard’s Band playing at all the games. She has some special memories of the times her Dad would wake her up at night, and off they would go to see the last quarter of the game.

Maureen attended Templeton for most of high school, but Templeton did not go as high as Grade 12, so Maureen graduated from Vancouver Tech. After high school, Maureen had a few jobs before settling in at MacIntosh Supply in the Accounts Receivable Dept. for many years and then worked in the credit dept at Canadian Kenworth truck builders from 1973 to 1976.

Maureen and Tom were married 1966 and bought their house in Port Coquitlam on Sawyer Place in 1971, where she still resides. Before they bought in Poco, Maureen remembers thinking that driving out to Poco was so far out she felt that they were on a vacation road trip!

Tom completed the apprenticeship program and became a pattern maker in 1966, until the company folded in 1982. He was then hired as a casting salesman at another foundry.

In 1976, Tom and Maureen became first time parents with the birth of Alisia, followed by Greg in 1979 and Jonathan in 1981.

In September 1978, six months pregnant, Maureen began teaching the 3-year old Sunday School class at Trinity. She continued this until 1986. Maureen remembers clearly the day she was “ambushed” into becoming the Thrift Coordinator at Trinity. Is that the correct word, Pat McCann? 36 years later, we still call Maureen “that Thrift lady!”

When he was 43 years old in 1985, Tom had quadruple bypass heart surgery, and then in 1999, he was diagnosed with cancer. Even though Tom went through many surgeries and many radiation and chemo treatments over the years, he always returned to work! He was 68 when he chose to retire.

Maureen has been a BC Lions season’s ticket holder since 1994. In 2012, she and Jonathan were flying to Regina to attend a Lions game. The flight had a stopover in Calgary, where most of the people deplaned. Since the plane seemed quite empty, Jonathan and Maureen thought they might change seats to sit together, however, the steward advised them to stay where they were. A few minutes later, Wally Buono came on board and he was then followed by the players. What a surprise for Maureen and Jonathan to be seated amongst all the Lions ...Angus Reid sat right beside Jonathan!

About that time, the Lions were running a “Game Changer” Contest. The applicants not only had to be fans of the Lions, but also active in community volunteerism. Unbeknownst to Maureen, Jonathan entered Maureen and...of course, she won! She got to flip the coin at the beginning of the game, was given a football and a jersey, and \$1000 to donate to the charity of her choice. Maureen chose the Canadian Cancer Society.

Maureen is a majority member of Job’s Daughters. She was the Honoured Queen as a teenager; then she was away from the organization for a number of years....until daughter Alisia joined in 1992. Later, Maureen was elected Grand Guardian of British Columbia and has continued her involvement and was recently given the honour of becoming a LIFE member.

Maureen has been a blood donor since she was 18 years old. On her 100th donation, (amazing!) she received a certificate of honour.

Tom passed away in August 2014 after a short stay in hospice. He is still sorely missed by his family. Youngest son, Jonathan, is celebrating his eighth year of participation in the BC Cancer Foundation fundraiser “Tour de Cure” cycling tour and has personally raised over \$75,000. Quite a tribute to his Dad!



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Mr. & Mrs. Iain and Irene MacIver

.....At Last!

Iain and I met 49 years ago in Glasgow when he and his family visited his relatives. My best friend at the time was Iain's cousin and she invited me to meet them. That evening Iain walked me to the bus stop and we shared our first kiss (first for both of us) and that began a long connection. We wrote to each other for many years and he came to Scotland again when he was 19 and then 20. In our mid twenties we each thought the other was not interested and life intervened. Around 2010 we connected on Facebook and occasionally send messages asking about families, work, etc. I was watching the curling at the Vancouver Olympics on television and the camera went onto Iain. He phoned me on my birthday in 2011 and came to visit me in October 2011. A spark flew between us (he is an electrician) and he asked me that day to come and live with him in Port Coquitlam. I agreed straight away. However, I then developed cancer and so that was delayed until October 2013. We had already decided to get married but an obstacle stopped us at that point. This April the obstacle was cleared and we got engaged. We decided not to wait any longer and so our wedding took place on August 22nd, 2022.

The wedding ceremony, the meal and the reception all took place in the Scottish Cultural Centre in Vancouver. It was a wonderful and emotional day. We have always been soulmates. There were hitches on the day, the piper got stuck in traffic for an hour and then broke down. (Ed Note: Hopefully the vehicle broke down, not the piper!) He was eventually delivered to the wedding inside a tow truck. Thankfully another friend of ours from Seattle who is a world class harpist was at the wedding and he 'harped' me down the aisle with a very good friend of ours giving me away. Myself and Eliena were going to be taken to the venue by a friend but he developed Covid. Thankfully another friend stepped in. Unfortunately none of my family could attend the wedding due to various reasons. My best maid was my best friend and her husband was the MC. Bets were taken at \$1 a time for charity to guess how long Iain's speech would be. That was amusing. It was wonderful to see so many good friends and many of Iain's family at the wedding. They all helped us celebrate. Iain even got a number of them on the dance floor to dance Scottish dances.

We are very happy and I am getting used to being Irene MacIver now!



(Maureen continued from page 4)

When Maureen makes a commitment, it never ends. Look at this.....

- 43 years canvassing and organizing canvassers for the Canadian Cancer Society
- Over 40 years canvassing and organizing canvassers for the Heart & Stroke Foundation of BC
- Highly involved with her children's schooling from Montessori pre-school in 1979 to PAC groups and classroom volunteering, continuing with PAC groups until 2000
- 44 years at Trinity United Church
- 36 years as Trinity's Thrift Coordinator
- 57 years as a Blood Donor
- 33 years as a volunteer receptionist with Simon Fraser Health Unit's Infant Immunization Clinic in Port Coquitlam and Port Moody, and finally....
- A lifetime of Being a Lions Superfan!

In 2000, Maureen was awarded a well-deserved Port Coquitlam Volunteer of the Year Award.

2022 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Date: Saturday, November 26, 2022

Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Lunch: 11:00 am – 1:30 pm

For the Bazaar to be a success HELPERS are needed! Please consider how you might offer your time. Could you help with setup on Friday, wash dishes on Saturday, help serve at the luncheon, help with our Covid protocols like hand sanitizer stations or ticket sales and last but not least the hero of the day...Cleanup! All of these tasks are even more fun with a partner like grandma/grandchild team or quality time with someone close to you.

Please consider a place for your Helping Selves to be a part of our Renewed Christmas Bazaar.

There are several ways to say yes:

- A sign-up poster on the bulletin outside kitchen.
- Call the church office 604-942-0022, or
- Contact Joy Galea or Jo-Ann Dahms

Come one come all, whether a volunteer, a shopper or in many cases both, to share in the renewal of Trinity's Bazaar.



Thursdays in Black: Working together to End Gender-Based Violence in Canada and Around the World

Gender-based violence is a critical issue affecting our communities. Thursdays in Black is a worldwide movement, which has been around for many years.

In Canada, the Women’s Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC) is taking a leadership role in Thursdays in Black. Ideas and programs and action plans are being shared. The World Council of Churches is also a partner. Our United Church of Canada is part of WICC.

Did you know?

- 6.3 million women and girls in Canada will experience sexual violence or intimate partner violence in their lifetime.
- Every 2.5 days, a woman or girl is killed in Canada.
- 6X – that’s how many times more likely Indigenous women are to be killed than non-Indigenous women.

These are Canadian statistics. In some reports, the word change is “women and children” to reflect that boys are also at risk.

“The simple act of wearing black on Thursdays is a protest against (i) societies that encourage violence in any forms, (ii) mourns those who have been harmed or killed in sexual violence, and (iii) raises awareness and hopes that a different reality is possible.

Check the “Thursdays in Black Action Sheet” for steps that each of us can take to effect change.

Submitted by Joy Galea



“Continuing in Hope” 60th Anniversary of UCW Conference July 5 – 11, 2022

This was the seventh National UCW gathering to take place, the first was at 25 years young, then 35, then every five years until now.... the 60th! 60 years since the UCW began in 1962.

It has been my privilege to attend six of the seven conferences. The 60th gathering of UCW women was held at Membertou, Nova Scotia. Membertou is an urban and progressive Mi'kmaq community located on Unama'ki (aka Cape Breton Island) next door to Sydney, NS. 230 women gathered for the full schedule of events of the week. Three women from Trinity attended: Joan Leston, Sandra Dunning and myself, Joy Galea.

I am invigorated by these gatherings and was pleased to be able to attend. (Tony had travelled with me to the 45th In Newfoundland and was again with me in Membertou, in spirit.) It was wonderful to reconnect with friends. Each day brought new information, fun and fellowship. There were several women present who were Charter Members of the UCW (since

1962!). Trinity’s Marie Coulter, Ruth MacDonald, and Elaine Stead are included in the list of Charter Members. of the UCW (since 1962!). Trinity’s Marie Coulter, Ruth MacDonald, and Elaine Stead are included in the list of Charter Members.

For me, the highlight was Sally Armstrong, the plenary theme speaker. I have now read her book “The Ascent of Women”. Sally is a force to be heard! She calls us to action – wherever and however we are. “If you can’t talk about it, you can’t change it” is a call to action in no uncertain terms. The worldwide movement – Thursdays in Black – fits well into the action that Sally shared. We are challenged to stand up to say that rape, sexual violence, and violence of any kind is wrong, and we must do whatever we can to make change happen.

The new “initiative” just reinforces Thursdays in Black: Working Together to end Gender-Based Violence in Canada. The simple act of wearing black on Thursdays is a protest against (i) societies that encourage violence in any forms, (ii) mourns those who have been harmed or killed in sexual violence, and (iii) raises awareness and hopes that a different reality is possible. (I have been wearing black on Thursdays for several years now.)

The music at the 60th was wonderful. I don’t think I have ever experienced such care taken to identify the songs and hymns used: a very wide-ranging variety! The Men of the Deeps, a male choral ensemble composed of former coal miners from Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, was a special treat. I never thought I would hear and see this group in person. Their performance was just “wow!”

Those who take on the organizing of these events are wonderful in the extreme. This time, that gets multiplied ten-fold. These “Angels in Training” had so much more to contend with because of Covid-19 and all the restrictions, which makes their success even more special. This group of women (and some men) deserve our thanks for their fine example of staying power and faith – Continuing in Hope.

Submitted by Joy Galea



Joy



Sandra & Joan



The Teapot