



Holy Trinity Church, Thornhill 1830 - 2015

Celebrating Our Past, Embracing Our Future

Trinity Mail



OCTOBER 2015

"Something good is happening here!!"

SEASON OF THANKSGIVING



Thanksgiving is the Anglican way of life, *Eucharist*. Our Harvest Festival and National Thanksgiving are two of the practical ways by which Canadians engage in what

is, essentially, a season of prayer. **Come celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving on October 3 and National Thanksgiving on October 10.**

SENIORS' LUNCHEON

Wednesday October 7

We invite mature adults to join Eucharist at **11:00 am** followed by fellowship/luncheon. Please let us know if you are coming (for logistic purposes) by calling Jean Challoner 905 889 1413 or the church office 905 889 5931 ext. 21.

RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday October 24

The ACW greatly appreciate donation of **gently used & clean items** for our sale. Items are accepted between 9:30 - 3:00 on Monday - Friday October 19-23.

We accept: clothing & accessories including jewelry, footwear, linens, kitchen & household items, books, CD/DVD, toys, small appliances (in working order & less than 10 years old)

Non-saleable items: furniture, infant crib/car-seat/playpen, encyclopedia/magazine, computer & related accessories, cassette tapes, large sport equipment.

We **NEED YOUR HELP**

- Thursday & Friday (Oct 22-23) for unpacking, sorting, displaying and pricing goods. Any time that works for you between 9:00 am - 3:30 pm.
- Saturday (Oct 24) during the sale and packing after the sale.

BACK FROM SABBATH

Canon Stephen returns from his Sabbath Leave on October 1. Thanks to Fr. Paul Walker for his priestly over the past four months. We are also thankful to the Wardens' team and all who exercised leadership roles in our shared ministry.

HEALING SERVICE

Sunday October 18

Usually the 3rd Sunday/month at HTC is a time when we offer prayers/anointing for healing. Our annual healing service is held on the Sunday closest to St. Luke's Day (October 17). The same is true this year. We will pray for healing of body and for all situations of brokenness. Our duly licensed lay anointers will join the clergy in this important ministry on that day.

185TH CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, October 25

Two special events await us on October 25. Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate of The Anglican Church of Canada, will be the celebrant and preacher on that day. Following the service all are invited to journey to Holy Trinity School for the Anniversary Luncheon. The guest speaker will be The Rt. Rev. George Elliott. Luncheon Tickets are on sale at Sunday Coffee Hours. See posters for details.

Current members are urged to invite members of their family and past members, with whom they are in contact, to share in this historic gathering.

TRINITY NEWS

Deadline October 25

Please submit your items on or before Sunday Oct. 25. This winter will cover mid-Nov. - mid Feb 2016 activities.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Saturday October 31

The Book of Alternative Services states that *a deacon or lay member of community leads the Prayers of the People*. In other words, offering "The Prayers of the People" is not an exclusively priestly function. It's a ministry for any member of the Body of Christ. Persons interested in sharing in this ministry are invited to a workshop on Saturday, October 31, at **9:30-11:30 am**. Please register at sign-up sheet by the auditorium or at www.holytrinity-thornhill.ca/registration.

Please join us for the
185th Anniversary Luncheon
Sunday October 25, 2015

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist at HTC
Celebrant & Preacher: **The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz**

1:00 p.m. Luncheon
Guest Speaker: **The Rt. Rev. George Elliott**
at
Holy Trinity School
11300 Bayview Avenue, Richmond Hill

12:30 p.m. wine bar opens 1:00 p.m. seating
Tickets available in September
\$30 Adults \$15 Children (10 years & younger)

CHAPEL ALTAR

The June Trinity Mail indicated that the Advisory Board supported a proposal to move the chapel altar off the wall to allow the celebrant to stand behind it, facing the people, rather than standing between the people and altar. The change will also make the altar portable so that it can be used for the seniors' Eucharistic celebrations and even at some celebrations on Sunday mornings.

If there are any objections to this proposal, please share your reasons with the Wardens or Canon Stephen.

STEWARDSHIP 2016

An important ministry for the Wardens is that of making financial provision for the exercise of our ministry as we share in the Mission of God. One way we assist them is by considering what will be our individual share in that ministry. Over the next few weeks, sermons, stories, notes, and printed material will seek to engage our thinking and praying about our response to God's call upon us to share this work.

HOLY BAPTISM

Holy Baptism will be administered on All Saints' Day, November 1.

LUNCH and LEARN

Wednesday November 4

'Foot Care and Feet Health' is the topic for our next session. Please plan to attend this informative session. Sign-up sheet will be available in the near future. If you have any questions please call Susan Rodgers 905 889 5931 ext. 29.

REFUGEE FAMILY

CORRECTION. The family members of Linda Aslan that the churches are sponsoring consists of: Linda's parents, Linda's brother with his wife and their toddler son (not 3 sons as printed in the Trinity News).

SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR - SURVEY RESULTS/ACTION

Background

Coffee hour after the main Sunday service has been a facet of life at Holy Trinity, off and on, for many years. Under the guidance of Advisory Board and in response to some of the early NCD surveys, starting in 2011, various groups within the life of the Church were assigned "coffee duty" for 2 or 3 Sundays from September to June. This had several benefits:

1. it relieved the ACW from duty every Sunday
2. it made the various groups/committees somewhat more visible to the congregation
3. it established "coffee hour" not only as a community social time but also as a topic of interest, conversation and ministry for Advisory Board, the Groups and increasingly, the congregation.

Notwithstanding all of the above, some issues were raised, including the number of times any individual is on duty (many are members of more than one group), how newcomers are

welcomed, how to minimize the work involved, and 8am attendees are missed among others. As a result, a survey was conducted in the Fall of 2014.

The Survey

We received 65 survey responses from the congregation; 53 of which attended coffee hour on a somewhat regular basis and 12 who did not. Most of the latter indicated that they normally attend the 8am service. There were also several comments received from the Groups.

There were 2 responses to the "liked Most" question that were the most common (47 combined), i.e. "fellowship" and "meeting people". Much fewer number of entries for the "Liked Least" question and as a result, the themes weren't as strong but there were a couple of notes:

- People stay in groups and don't mingle or talk to strangers
- The number of times on duty for many individuals can be overwhelming

With "suggestions for Improvement", here you put on your thinking caps and provided an interesting range of ideas/suggestions. Not surprisingly, some of these dealt with the issues mentioned above. What follows is a brief summary of the suggestions:

- Cut down on sweets, more cheese & crackers, just cookies, fruit (grapes), snacks aren't always necessary.
- Ask for more helpers.
- Integrate – youngsters/oldsters, 8am/10am, coffee at 9am
- Name tags, musical chairs, greeters at the door, encourage more to attend.

Analysis & Proposals

1. We do combine smaller groups and this year even more so (example NCD & Advisory Board).
2. Consider not having scheduled coffee on those Sundays with smaller attendance such as National Thanksgiving, Victoria Day, Sunday following Christmas.
3. Consider combining 8am and 10am services several times a year where it makes sense such as Vestry Sunday. Utilize Advisory Board and Liturgy Committee to help identify the Sundays.
4. Assign Groups as usual but also put up a sign-up sheet for those members who are not in any of the identified groups.

Decisions To Date

1. Go with no coffee on the Sundays noted above and add Anniversary Sunday.
2. For one year try a combined service each quarter. Vestry Sunday and the Bishop's visit in 2016 would be 2 and the others to be determined within the next few weeks.
3. Post a sign-up sheet near the auditorium.
4. Continue to seek comments and suggestions.