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September 2011

The Grapewine

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter to you the temperature is in the mid-20s and the forecast for the rest of the week calls for temperatures inching closer to 30 for more than a day. Joel was telling me the other day that he can't wait for snowboard season to begin – me, well... I think I can wait. I think having days like today for the next three months or so would be fine for me; however, I'd say that Joel is going to be finding his wish come true much more likely than I'm going to be finding mine come true.



It seems hard to believe that we are already into September and that the fall season at Holy Trinity is about to get started. It seems to have come upon us quickly and yet as I think about things revving up again, I find myself getting excited. I am looking forward to this fall season in the life of our church. I believe that God is going to be working amongst us and I am excited to see how all that unfolds. I am looking forward to taking some new steps in my discipleship. I am looking forward to seeing you take some new steps as well.

One of the things that I am looking forward to the most, is once again seeing people at church on a Sunday morning. The summer months are needed for rest and relaxation and it is important for people to find some time to get away, but I do find that over the course of eight to ten weeks, I miss not seeing everybody in church. I'm looking forward to our numbers increasing in the coming weeks and I'm looking forward to worshipping with more of our people once again. Please be sure to join us this Sunday, September 11th for our Welcome Back BBQ – if weather stays like it has been forecast, it will be great to have our BBQ out on the deck overlooking the wider community.

One of the big things that is going to be happening this fall is the parish mission called *40 Days of Community*. Similar to *40 Days of Purpose* that our church participated in back in 2006, I'm calling this a mission because I believe that through our participation we will find ourselves discovering more about the heart of God, we will find ourselves growing in our discipleship of Jesus and we will be growing closer together as the people of God. This initiative stems from the Vision Day that we held at Holy Trinity early in the year where we heard people say that they wanted to go deeper in community. I believe *40 Days of Community* will indeed help this. One of the ways in which we will be able to engage more fully in this mission will be through the participation in our small group ministry. I am really hoping that everybody in our church will choose to become actively involved so that we can grow in this together.

There are some new opportunities for our children and young people this fall. Kidz Zone is adding another class to help keep class sizes down to a manageable size and our team of youth leaders have decided that it is time to have youth group every week now instead of every other week. During *40 Days of Community*, both ministries will be focusing on the same themes as the rest of the church so that we can be journeying through the parish mission together. In addition to the weekly lessons, the Youth Group will also be making some plans for some special events that will be held at various times throughout the year.

Another thing that we'll be exploring in the coming weeks is the possibility of another mission to Sierra Leone. So far we have had thirteen people from our church travel to Sierra Leone. These people have experienced God in new ways and have had their eyes opened regarding some of the needs of people in the world. Relationships have been built with some people in that country and the need for people to reach out in service continues. It is my hope that over the coming years many more people from Holy Trinity might experience a short-term mission such as this as we continue to put into practice God's call to reach out to those who are in need.

As I think about some of the things that we're going to be looking at in the coming months, it has dawned on me that we're going to be continuing to work on the five purposes of our church. As a church we are to:

- Give God Glory
- Get on Track with Jesus
- Grow the Kingdom
- Gather in Community
- Galvanize Gifts for Ministry

All the things that I have outlined above seem to fit nicely into one or more of these five purposes. Please keep our church in your prayers in the coming months as we continue to learn what it means to live these five purposes. Pray that we might grow closer to our Lord, to each other, and pray that we might bring glory to God in all that we do.

Yours in Christ,

Stephen

Sierra Leone Mission 2012



For the past two years Holy Trinity has sent a team from our church on a short-term mission to the West African country of Sierra Leone. The team partnered with the ministry of the mission organization *Mission Direct* and participated in the ongoing construction of The City of Rest—a drug and psychiatric rehabilitation centre in Grafton on the outskirts of Freetown. After a discussion at our latest Vestry (aka Board) meeting, and after conversation with our *Mission Direct* contacts, there is the possibility that Holy Trinity will be sending another team to Sierra Leone in 2012 and the likelihood is that the project that we will be involved in will be a different one to what we have previously participated. To gauge interest within our congregation and to discuss the possibilities of such a trip next spring, an information meeting will be held at Holy Trinity on Wednesday, October 5th at 7pm. Please sign up on the sheet provided in the foyer if you plan on joining us for this meeting.





As was mentioned in the last issue of *The Grapevine*, *40 Days of Community* will be coming to Holy Trinity this fall. Similar to the series entitled 40 Days of Purpose which the congregation participated in in 2006, *40 Days of Community* is a six-week series that aims to help congregations grow in their understanding of what our purpose is on earth. As the banner above states, "We're Better Together." Deep down we know this, and yet so often our society seems to push individuality to the forefront. *40 Days of Community* will help us to see where we belong and help us to explore how we can make a difference together.

The series will consist of a three-pronged approach. The first one will be through our Sunday services where the themes for the weeks will be explored. Then on an individual basis people will be encouraged to read a short daily devotional guide exploring topics further and finally people will be encouraged to gather in small groups to dig a bit deeper at the themes. Through this three-pronged approach, we will find ourselves growing in our relationship with God and our relationship with others in our congregation.

40 Days of Community will be starting on Sunday, October 16th and will run until the last Sunday in November, when we will have a lunch after church celebrating the conclusion of the series and celebrating how God has been with us through it.

40 Days of Community is a response to a call within our church at our Vision Day for opportunities to grow deeper in community. Together, let's partner with God to see that vision become a reality.

To hear more about *40 Days of Community*, please join us next Sunday, September 18th as Pastor Stephen will be talking about it more fully in his Sunday sermon.

Youth Group



Search

News Feed

We are excited to report that youth group will be starting up again September 11. Jenn, Erica and Mandy are looking forward to hearing everybody's updates. We would love for any youth who are attending junior high or senior high to come out and join us for our welcome back breakfast - muffins and smoothies.

Youth leaders have a few updates themselves. This year we will be meeting every Sunday, and once a month for an additional activity. It is our hope that this change will help to further develop a youth community at Holy Trinity. We long to see our youth walk closely with the Lord. Please join us in prayer, and make every effort to greet the youth of our church.

A NEW YEAR FOR KIDZ ZONE!

This year looks to be an exciting year for Kidz Zone. We're kicking things off with a Welcome Back Breakfast for the children this coming Sunday and our regular classes will begin on Sunday, September 18th. Registration will begin on Sunday.

Because of growing numbers and to keep our classes below double-digits, we have decided to start an additional Kidz Zone Class—now we will have classes for the following age groups:

Ages 2 to 3
Age 4 to Kindergarten
Grades 1 and 2
Grades 3 and 4
Grades 5 and 6

If you aren't familiar with the way Kidz Zone works, children start off in church with their parents and then leave for Kidz Zone following the Children's Talk with Pastor Stephen. At the time of the Exchange of the Peace, children will return to the service so that they can join their family for communion time.

Parents of younger children are asked to go to the Kidz Zone classrooms to collect their children.



Kidz Zone is currently looking for more teachers and aides. This is a vital ministry of our church and the more we can spread around the responsibility, the easier it is on everyone.

If you have any questions regarding Kidz Zone or you would like to help out in some way, please contact Karen Petkau at kidzzone@holyltrinitycalgary.org

PUTTING THE BIBLE IN ITS PLACE

Find out how learning about the culture and geography of the land of Israel can deepen your Bible reading ***today*** by attending a one-day workshop with Dr. Jack Beck. Jack is probably the closest you'll come to a real-life Indiana-Jones!



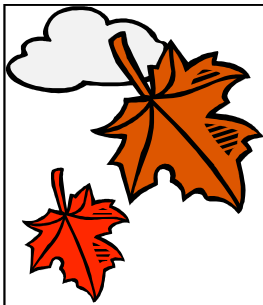
Glen and Emily Ager took a two-week study tour with Jack in April and highly recommend this workshop.

Date: October 1, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: Lutheran Church of our Saviour, 8831 Fairmount Dr. SE

Tickets: \$20. for the day, including lunch

(To reserve your ticket call: 403-253-1453)



Some Recent Sermons on our Website

June 26: Testing, Testing 1, 2, 3—a look at Abraham's call to faithfulness by
Pastor Stephen

July 3: Service Among Uncertainty—Dave Matthews looks at the call to ministry when the
future is unknown

July 10: God Must Be Crazy!—Pastor Stephen looks at the Parable of the Sower with new eyes

July 17: Parables for Today—Bishop Gary Woolsey

July 24: The Feeding of the 5000—Cyril Haynes

July 31: Parables of the Kingdom—Cyril Haynes

Aug 7: Jesus Walks on Water—Cyril Haynes

Aug 14: The faith of the Canaanite Woman—Cyril Haynes

Aug 21: God, Where Have You Been?—when it feels as though God is nowhere to be found—Pastor Stephen

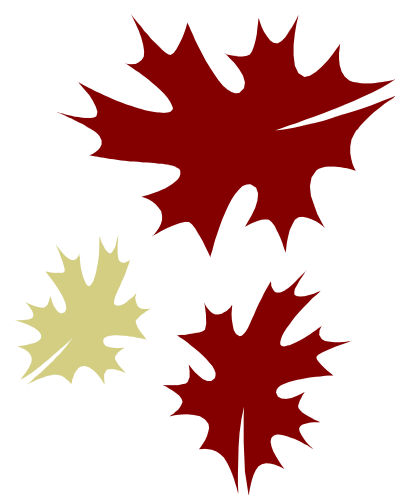
Aug 28: Just Another Ordinary Day—an exploration of Holy Ground places in our everyday lives—Pastor Stephen

Sept 4: Time for a Heart Check-Up—Pastor Stephen looks at the heart of God and the call to reflect God's heart
to those in need

To download and listen to any of these sermons, go to www.holytrinitycalgary.org and click on the
“Downloads” link.

Holy Trinity Web Survey-We Value Your Input

As part of the first phase of the current Holy Trinity vision, "Strive to develop a culture where we welcome and interact with others", Vestry is seeking your input in the planning process for possible events and activities. Please help us by completing a very brief survey that will be sent by email in early September. If you are not on the email list, did not receive the survey, or are having troubles completing the survey, please contact Chris Siegle at 403-202-2433.

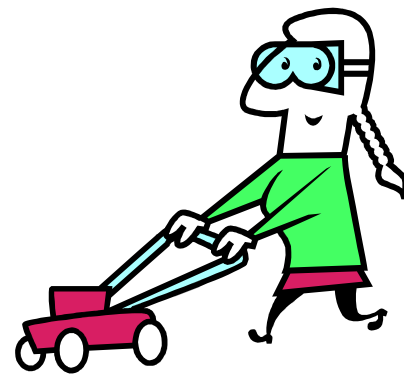


Holy Trinity Job Board

I Have... I Need... I Know...

Have you ever been looking for a babysitter, someone to help you with computer problems, or even someone to help you with a conflict, but not sure where to turn? Do you have skills to offer that you're looking to share with those who need it? Do you know a tradesperson that you'd like to recommend to others? Look no further!

The Vestry Team at Holy Trinity has created the use of a Job Board for all parishioners. The Job Board is located in the Hallway between the foyer and the KidZone Classrooms. The intent of the board is to facilitate networking and community among our congregation. Feel free to post a business card, note, or flyer (no larger than a 3x5 index card) on the board under the column which is appropriate for you. Be sure to include your name and contact information on your posting. There will be three categories that you will be able to post under:



"I Have..." - Post here services/skills that you are willing to offer. Perhaps you are a youth member of our congregation and would like to offer babysitting skills, lawn mowing services, or snow shoveling. Are you a teacher that would be willing to offer tutoring services to those in our congregation that are looking for extra help? Post here!

"I Need..." - Post here things that you are looking for. Are you trying to finish odd jobs around the house that you don't know how to complete on your own? Request the help from the congregation to enlist the services of a contractor!

"I Know..." - Post here opportunities of those people you'd be willing to recommend to help others in our community. Do you know a Real Estate Agent that you'd like to recommend to those in your community? Post their information in this column!



The Job Board will be the responsibility of the Vestry; however, we are requesting that everyone who posts an opportunity on the board be responsible for removing the post when the opportunity is no longer viable or the contact information is out of date. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Vestry at vestry@holytrinitycalgary.org or ask any Vestry member the next time you see them!



Pre-Authorized Donations Authorization for Bank Withdrawal



Please check one:

- I hereby authorize The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada (the "Diocese") to start withdrawing the amount indicated below from my bank account and transfer it to my congregation (which is registered with the Diocese to use this service) on or about the 16th day of each month beginning with the month shown below until I cancel or change my instructions in writing.
- I hereby authorize The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada (the "Diocese") to change the monthly withdrawal from my bank account in accordance with the information provided below.
- I hereby cancel my authorization for The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada to withdraw a monthly amount from my bank account on behalf of my congregation.

Please return the completed form (signed and dated) and any subsequent instructions to the parish official that is administering this program (usually the Envelope Secretary or Parish Treasurer).

Donor Information:

Name	E-mail Address		
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Address	Telephone Number		
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City	Province	Postal Code	
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Bank Information:

Name	Address		
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City	Province	Postal Code	
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Account No.	Branch No.	Institution No.	
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For verification, please attach a blank cheque, marked "VOID", to the completed Authorization. Thank you.

Withdrawal Information:

Monthly Amount	Starting Month	Starting Year
<hr/>		
Parish	Location	
<hr/>		
Authorized Signature(s) of Account Holder		Date

NOTE: 30 days' notice required for changes to the Pre-Authorized Donation service.

For Parish Use:

Donor Code:			
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