

# CROSSROADS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 2011

Prepared by Sheila Warren and Janet Moffatt  
(Special "Thank You" to Linda Kay, Suzanne Bishop, and  
Rev. Helene Burns)

## "THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

Song Title by Bob Dylan



When I think back to my earliest memory of going to church, I can't recall my age, but I can remember wearing a dress to church every Sunday and taking giant steps up the concrete church stairs holding my mother's hand....**I wonder if you can get that warm memory from Google.** I can remember the same Elder (who greeted us every Sunday for years after that) greeting my mother, sisters, aunt, and me by name at the front door of the church. (Back then to me an Elder was someone really old---"**I am now an Elder---No comments please.**")....**I wonder if you can gain that appreciation for devotion from Google.** I can remember my little sister and I being very vocal on our ride to

church, asking, "How long is this going to take? Why do I have to go?" My mother would just look at us and smile or chuckle, probably because she knew once we were there we would be content....**I wonder if you can gain that wisdom from Google.** I can remember being very quiet once I entered the church, accepting everyone's "good mornings" with a smile hidden in my mother's dress....**I wonder if you can get that innocence from Google** ..... I can remember being in awe that my mother seemed to know everyone in the church by name, even though it seemed she never left our house during the week. But my mother would always volunteer to bake or go to church functions.

During the visitations at my mother's wake, I had the opportunity to see a few of these people I only knew from my youth, and they were now in their late 70's and 80's. I can remember the feeling it gave me to realize my mother had so many friends who would miss her as I would... **I wonder if my family would get this sense of peacefulness from Google after I am gone.....** I can still remember my first Sunday school teacher, Myrtle, a very sweet lady who would provide us with coloring pages from the Bible. We would color while she read us a Bible Story. The coloring pages always matched the story she would tell. After church one of my sisters would come and get my sister and me and we would compare what we did (as we were not in the same class). But we were always mindful to say thank you to our teachers....**I wonder if you could get these manners from Google.** Even years after my Sunday school days, my mother often commented that Myrtle asked how I was doing. Myrtle was a very crafty person and her specialty was embroidery. In my 20's and when I was out on my own I would occasionally ask mom about Myrtle and sometimes get an opportunity to buy one of her famous tablecloths....**I**

**this kind of love from Google.** I can remember waiting in the church entrance for our mother to move to the sanctuary to be seated (we always waited for mom to choose the pew, even though we knew it was the same one we sat in last Sunday and every Sunday before it, because the person already sitting there seemed to be waiting for her to chat before the service)....**Do you think you are missed when you do not Google?** You can Google the Bible, but is it really the same as **experiencing** it?

Submitted by Sheila Warren

### I SAID A PRAYER FOR YOU TODAY

I said a prayer for you today  
And know God must have heard.  
I felt the answer in my heart  
Although He spoke not a word.  
I didn't ask for wealth or fame  
(I knew you wouldn't mind).  
I asked for priceless treasure rare  
of a more lasting kind.  
I prayed that He'd be near you  
At the start of each new day  
To grant you health and blessings  
fair,  
And friends to share your way.  
I asked for happiness for you  
In all things great and small  
But that you'd know His loving  
care  
I prayed the most of all.

## **FROM THE DESK OF REV. HELENE BURNS**

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“Stewardship” is the work we do as Christians to further God’s kingdom in the world. It’s our effort to help others, in ways big and small.



*“Rekindle the gift of God within you...” 2 Timothy 1:6*

After summer break the energy level at Crossroads is rising as people return to church and we start our fall programs. In the crispness of autumn, so many things seem possible.

It’s a good time to listen to Paul and “rekindle” the gifts that God has given. To make something begin burning again is the meaning of the word. It’s done gradually by stoking the embers, creating a space for the fire to breathe, feeding the growing flames until they blaze into warmth and energy and light.

This is our life together in the service of Christ. We rekindle the gift of God within us individually and also in our community of faith, and we ask: What does our church need in order to really take fire? What gifts does each

one have that can fuel it? Could you encourage someone with gifts to share to step up to the fire? What spark will you strike this fall?

At the Sunday worship on October 16<sup>th</sup> in both St. James and Trinity United Churches, “Stewardship 2011” forms were given to each household. People of our churches are invited to complete these forms and indicate how they would like to share their interests and abilities - gifts from God - and stoke the fire of the Gospel!

May the peace of Christ be yours.

*Rev. Helene*

## **WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH YOUR “GIFTS FROM GOD”?**



The biggest help from volunteers at Trinity has been the continual reconstruction of our church. From 1953 to present day it has been our volunteers that have built this church from the building itself to the items in it. The latest big construction job was the expansion of the building being added to the back of the church.

Submitted by  
Ellen McLaughlin

### **PRE-ADVENT PARTY**

Mark November 20th on your calendar for the St. James and Trinity pre-Advent congregational activity.

Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, of anticipation, of preparation, of longing... Join us for a time of learning and laughing, fun and friendship and food!

We'll start right after Church with a potluck lunch, followed by activities, crafts, and discussions-

something for ALL AGES.

This is a chance to pause and remember that the main purpose of Advent is to prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus. For more information contact (St. James) Maia 852-3247) / (Trinity) Natalie at 876-8831 or [natalie-hagerty@eastlink.ca](mailto:natalie-hagerty@eastlink.ca)



## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES “GIFTS FROM GOD?”

### Thanks from Camp Kidston

Crossroads congregation members have always done a great job supporting Camp Kidston. There are enthusiastic young campers in our churches, and their families and friends help in many ways. Every spring the “Buckets O’ Money” campaign collects Canadian Tire money – several hundred dollars’ worth, to spend on camp supplies. Our flea markets and yard sales turn up dozens of useful items that are sent to camp. And when money is short to sponsor needy campers, donations are made swiftly. A special mention must be made of Trinity members Michelle Pottie and Cindy Penney, who not only volunteered at camp as first-

aiders this summer, but also initiated new fundraising projects for the camp. (Look elsewhere in this newsletter for a poster promoting a craft sale at Bedford United on Oct. 29.)

From your Crossroads friends on the Camp Kidston board of directors – John Connely, Mike Pottie and Janet Moffatt – “Thanks a bunch!”

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A special thank you at Trinity goes to Wilson Reinhardt. Cleaning up after ourselves is the responsibility of everyone using/renting the church facilities. But for the past year Wilson has been going behind us to ensure the church is kept

spotless. Thank you, Wilson; we will strive to do better.

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**The Trustees Committee** at St. James has been busy with a number of items around the church building. A new toilet has been installed in the downstairs washroom. Many thanks to Mel Carlton and Donny Bishop for their attention to the many issues that arise when maintaining an aging building.

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Thank you, Gary Jones, for preparing the hot coffee/tea every Sunday morning before the service at Trinity United.

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### It's great to Volunteer!!

Making a difference can be simple and clear:

Why don't you offer to help someone old and dear?

Help someone young who may need an ear

And teach them how to be a good peer!

Help a stranger without any fear

Organizations need help with their cheer-

Charitable work boosts your career

Do it all with God's Grace and be sincere!

Make this your year- y'all hear?

Help a friend in need-

Go ahead, do a good deed!

Everywhere you turn there's work to be done-

Go on, try something new - you're sure to have fun!

Written by Lesley Morin



## WHAT HAVE OUR “GIFTS FROM GOD” DONE FOR OTHERS?

**CANADIAN BIBLE SOCIETY** Many thousands of used postage stamps saved by St. James and Trinity United congregations are given to the society to help purchase Bibles. One pound of used stamps buys one Bible. (Please leave at least a ¼-inch border around each stamp.) The Canadian

Bible Society’s vision is to reach every person with the life-giving word of God, and to encourage its use. With some seven billion people inhabiting the earth that is no small vision. Promoted by Outreach

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**BRUNSWICK STREET** The United Churches of Halifax Presbytery fund and support the Brun-

wick Street Mission. This mission provides support to those in need within the downtown area. St. James provides support to the mission at Christmas through the donation of new or gently used items and clothing. We would be happy to collect and deliver items throughout the year. If you have things

to donate to the Brunswick Street Mission, you can either take them there yourself or contact Valli Huck at 852-2030. Trinity United also supports Brunswick Street by donating items at various times of the year and in December through the Mitten Tree Program. They are now asking the congregation for slightly-used mugs for this organization. Contact Ray Steele at 876-7806. Promoted by Outreach

## WHAT HAVE OUR "GIFTS FROM GOD" DONE FOR OTHERS?

### OUR FOSTER CHILD

Crossroads Pastoral Charge is a Foster Parent to Betty Nangobi, a 7-year-old girl from Uganda. The charge began this mission with Plan Canada in November 2010.

Crossroads Pastoral Charge is receiving coin donations from both Sunday Schools and the congregation to support Betty.

Donations need to be steady to sufficiently cover the monthly costs. If you have any questions, please feel free to call

([slh@eastlink.ca](mailto:slh@eastlink.ca))  
Sandra Hennigar.

### BLT ELEMENTARY

Last year and this year, BLT Elementary School in Timberlea is providing a mini-breakfast program on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Volunteers hand out granola bars (peanut free), juice packs, cut-up bananas and apples. Trinity's Outreach Committee collects donations of these items on Food Bank Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month). Promoted by Outreach

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### Reaching Out to

**Maplestone...** Did you know that Crossroads is a Christian presence at Maplestone Enhanced Care in

Fairview? We are part of a group of churches that provides pastoral care visitation and regular Sunday worship at this special care facility. A team made up of representatives from each local church - Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Salvation Army and the United Church of Canada - meets at Maplestone every other month. The team is kept informed about Maplestone activities and policies, and together they arrange a schedule of worship. The United Church of Canada - through the congregations of Crossroads Pastoral Charge, Edgwood-Oxford United, Bethany United and Fairview United - provides Sunday afternoon worship on the third Sunday of each month at Maplestone. Rev. Helene has been ably assisted by Trinity

organist, Pam Henley, and people from St. James in leading Crossroads worship services, as we encourage the residents to sing, help them with their hymn books, and offer words of love and encouragement. The Trinity pastoral care team will be organizing regular visitation at Maplestone in the coming months. Our work at Maplestone is a special ministry that is very meaningful to the residents we serve in Christ's name. Promoted by Pastoral Care \*\*\*\*\*

### CNIB—VISION AID

**OVERSEAS** Trinity United collects used eyeglasses for CNIB to distribute to under-privileged countries. Did you know 10% of the world's population is disabled because they cannot afford eyeglasses.

## BECOMING A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER IS A REWARDING EXPERIENCE. TRY IT---YOU WILL LIKE IT.



Again this year our curriculum will be *Rock Solid*. Like the wise man who built his house on rock, the curriculum uses activities, crafts and stories to build a firm foundation.

The Fall session is broken down as follows:

**Unit 1:** God Calls a People  
**Unit 2:** God's Family Grows and  
**Unit 3:** Jesus and His Ministry.

Each week your child will bring home Bible stories and activities based on the day's lesson to share with you.

At this time we are still in need of a teacher to co-

teach the grade 1-3 class and four volunteers to supervise the Nursery. If you think you might be interested, please email me or give me a call at 876-8831. Natalie

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*As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen*

Peter 4:10-11

**you got SKILLS**  
discovering your spiritual giftedness

Trinity's regular classes began September 25th. The classes this year will be arranged into five groupings:  
Supervised Nursery - Aged 3 and under  
Preschool & Primary Class  
Grades 1-3  
Grades 4-6  
Youth

# Crossroads Council Chair Update

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Crossroads Council met twice since last June. On September 18<sup>th</sup> discussions centered around regular business items, including Reverend Helene's work activities, updates about Halifax Presbytery, Crossroads Pastoral Charge, our communications and website, planning for worship in the coming few months, upcoming fundraisers and finances. A special meeting of Crossroads Council was held on September 25<sup>th</sup> at the request of Reverend Helene to consider a matter that required immediate attention. Lauren King has requested that Crossroads Council recognize her as an Inquirer as a candidate for ministry in the United

Church of Canada.

Although Lauren has been attending McGill University for the past several years and her family has relocated to Fredericton, NB, Lauren has remained as a member of Trinity since she considers her deepest church roots to be here at Crossroads. The natural progression is to begin the inquiry process through her friendships and base of support at her home church.

I am pleased to tell you that Crossroads Council was honored (on your behalf), and wasted no time to officially agree to Lauren's request. Lauren's quest continues through the guidance of pres-

bytery's Education and Students Committee with an imminent formal involvement in her discernment process by some of our members. I am certain you will all join with me in wishing Lauren every success and all of God's blessings as this phase of her life's journey unfolds! Finally, let me say that Crossroads Pastoral Charge remains in good hands through the steady dedication of the members of Crossroads Council, and thanks to the hard work of many good folks at St. James and Trinity.

Peace to All!  
John M. Connelly, Chair  
Crossroads Council

One day God was looking down at Earth and saw a lot of wicked behavior... He sent one of his angels to Earth to look into it. When the angel returned, he told God, "Yes, it is bad on Earth; 95% are misbehaving and only 5% are not."

God was not pleased so he decided to e-mail the 5% that were good, because he wanted to encourage them. Do you know what the e-mail said? NO? Okay, I was just wondering because I didn't get one either.

DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO THE CHARGE SECRETARY, Linda Kay (lkay@crossroads-ucc.ca)

## WHAT'S A DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE?

**GOOD NEWS!** A Discernment committee has been formed at Crossroads for Lauren King (Lauren is the younger daughter of Rev. Kelly Burke). Lauren is considering becoming a United Church Minister and has asked Crossroads to sponsor/support her in her journey.

Sheila Warren (Trinity United), Barb Baker (Presbytery Rep), and Cheryl Settle (Presbytery Rep). What an exciting honor they have been given. Please say a little prayer to God to guide Lauren and her Discernment Committee through this journey.

**WHAT'S A DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE?** When a person is thinking of a designated ministry within The United Church of Canada (be it lay, diaconal or ordained), they are invited to become "Inquirers" in their home congregation. The congregation and presbytery establishes a Discernment Committee (made up of people from the congregation and presbytery), who meet with the Inquirer over the course of a year to aid that person in discerning their call to ministry. At the end of the year recommendations and decisions will be made jointly regarding whether or not to take the next step in the process.

Lauren's Discernment Committee will consist of Suzanne Bishop (St. James), Barb Shanks (Trinity United),



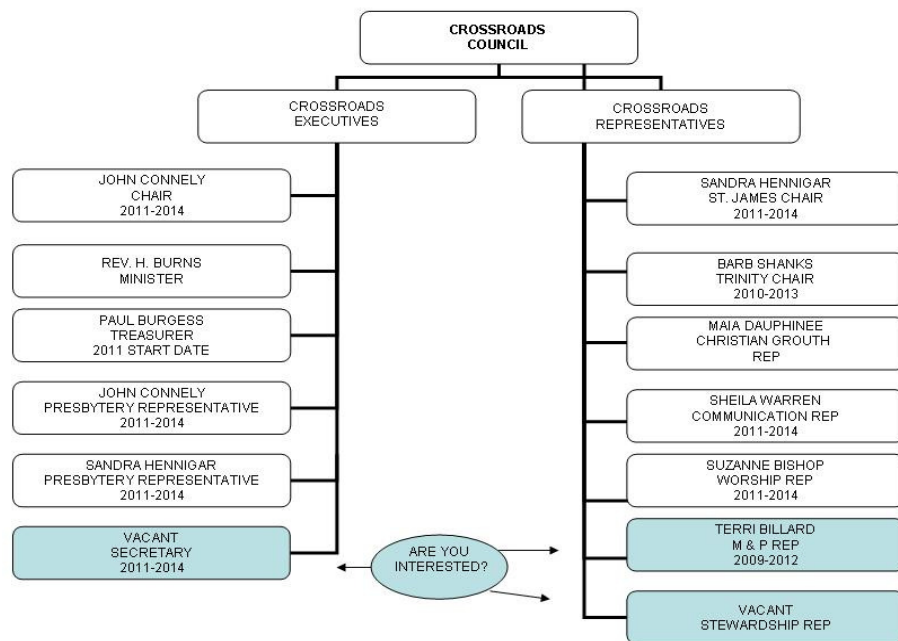
## WHY HAS TRINITY UNITED JOINED FACEBOOK?

What you say and do online is visible to your contacts. Likewise, what they say and do online is visible to you. What this means is we can easily introduce ideas, appropriate sites, and co-discover (learn) about one another as we keep each other informed!

A new Facebook site, "Trinity United Church, Timberlea" has been created and would welcome you as a "friend". Scott Patterson (446-9230) has volunteered to set up and administer the page. Check it out on Facebook.

(Promoted by Pastoral Care)

CHECK OUT OUR  
WEBSITE  
[www.crossroads-ucc.ca](http://www.crossroads-ucc.ca)



UPDATED: OCTOBER 1, 2011

**Crossroads Council** meets approximately 4 times a year. Currently there are two vacant positions available and one position becoming vacant at the end of December, 2011. Please take a moment to read the Covenants on these positions and contact John Connelly or Paul Burgess if you are interested or need more information.

#### **The Duty of the Secretary:**

- To keep the record of Crossroads Council proceedings.
- to preserve all documents, and to transmit the records annually to the Presbytery for review, and to keep in close communication with the Communication Committee.
- To act as “Clerk of Session”. This duty includes signing baptism and confirmation certificates.
- To compile annual statistics on behalf of the charge and forward them to head office.

#### **The Duty of the Stewardship Rep and its Committee:**

- To oversee on all Pastoral Charge financial responsibilities, including Mission and Service contributions, salaries and benefits of all paid staff, receiving allocations from each congregation and annually reviewing the formula for allocations, loans and grants for pastoral charge work, and all other pastoral charge expenses.

#### **The Duties of the Ministry and Personnel Committee:**

- To provide the staff of the pastoral charge and its members a consultative and supportive avenue.
- To review working conditions and remuneration for the staff of the pastoral charge and make appropriate recommendations to Crossroads Council.
- To oversee the relationship of the staff of the pastoral charge to the members of the congregations and others.
- To oversee the relationship between and among different members of the staff of the pastoral charge with respect to their responsibilities and authority.
- To consult with all members of the staff of the pastoral charge about their plans for continuing education and ensure that those eligible avail themselves of the provisions for continuing education and that money and time are made available.
- To review and evaluate annually the effectiveness of the staff of the pastoral charge as those persons and positions relate to the mission of the pastoral charge as defined by Crossroads Council.
- To maintain close liaison with the presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee.
- To review regularly the responsibilities of all staff of the pastoral charge and revise position descriptions when required or requested .
- To receive from each ministry personnel settled in or appointed to the pastoral charge, a current police records check, at the expense of the ministry personnel, no later than the completion of each three (3) year period of the pastoral relationship.

## EVENTS / DATES TO REMEMBER!

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

A lovely set of Christmas cards is being sold at Trinity United as a fundraiser. All the artistic work – poetry, photography and design – is done by Trinity members. Check out the samples on display and place your order – a pack of 10 cards is \$10. Gary Jones (876-2415) has all the information.

### SINGING FOR

**CHRISTMAS** If you like to sing but don't want to make "the big commitment", why not consider joining the Trinity choir for a short time, to learn new music for the Christmas season? Join us in November, when we set aside an extra half-hour on Sunday mornings before church to learn Christmas anthems, both for the special concert at St. James in the evening of December 4<sup>th</sup> and for the regular services. For details, call 876-7718 and leave a message for Pam Henley.

- ◆ Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> Craft Sale for Camp Kidston at Bedford United.
- ◆ Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>, Trinity Outreach Committee will be holding a book sale in the Coffee Room. Donations of good used books by Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> would be appreciated.
- ◆ Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – Turkey Charge Supper at Trinity United. From 4pm – 6pm.
- ◆ November 19<sup>th</sup> – Trinity United Ways and Means will be hosting a Big Breakfast, 8:30am – 11am. Come with a "big" appetite.
- ◆ Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> – Advent begins. St. James and Trinity United will be holding their annual Mitten and Gift Tree. Gifts for all ages are greatly appreciated. P.S. urgently needed – men's wear (winter socks, thermal undergarments---size M&L---T-shirts, etc.)
- ◆ Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Trinity UCW's Annual Christmas House Tour & Tea. (Anyone interested in volunteering their home for this event, please contact Cindy Penney at 876-0161.)
- ◆ Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> – St. James United Christmas Concert @ 7pm.
- ◆ Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> – Communion Services at both locations.
- ◆ Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – The annual outdoor Christmas Tree Lighting will be held at Trinity United at 6:30pm. Carol singing, cookies, hot chocolate, and a visit from Santa. Come along and bring your neighbor.
- ◆ Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Presentation by the Sunday School at St. James followed by social time in the church hall.
- ◆ Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Presentation by Sunday School at Trinity followed by a social time in the church hall.
- ◆ Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Children's Service @ 4pm, Trinity United.
- ◆ Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Family Service @ 6pm, St. James United Church and 7:30pm at Trinity United
- ◆ Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Communion Service @ 11pm, Trinity United.
- ◆ Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Day Service @ 10am, Trinity
- ◆ Watch for more events in our December flyer.

### Are you a Regal Consumer?

Now there may be more than one way to answer that question. St. James will be taking orders from the Regal catalogue over the fall and Christmas period. Members of the congregation will have books within a few weeks and will be inviting you to shop with us. This is yet another creative way to help sustain the work of the church while supporting the consuming needs of our congregations and community. Stay tuned or feel free to contact Sandra Hennigar, Chair of St. James Council at [slh@eastlink.ca](mailto:slh@eastlink.ca).



## TRINITY UNITED CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

**Friday**  
December 9, 2011  
Starts at 6:30pm

**Bring your family and friends!**

## CRAFT SHOW

SATURDAY, October  
29, 2011  
9am – 2pm  
Bedford United Church  
1200 Bedford Highway  
Admission: \$2.00

**An interview with the Trinity UCW President, Barb Shanks:**

Q. Who are the UCW?  
 A. We are a vibrant group of 20+ women -- all under 49, of course!  
 Q. What does the UCW in the church do?  
 A. We help out with events, catering, socials, fund raising, bake sales, church service, cleaning and most of all sharing our caring ears, warm hands and welcoming arms.  
 Q. Does the UCW meet regularly and if so what happens at a meeting?  
 A. Yes, we meet the third Wednesday of each month from September to May in the Trinity Gathering Room. In December we have our Christmas party and in June we have a closing party/special event. At each meeting we talk, listen, share a devotional reading, share what we are thankful for as we put a coin or two in the Crossroads Betty jar, talk, laugh, eat, may have a guest speaker, do a craft, talk, plan for events, keep up on what is happening in the church, eat, laugh, talk and thoroughly enjoy each other's company.  
 Q. Does the UCW have an executive?  
 A. Yes, we are all CEOs and carry a million dollars worth of smiles. Some of us share leadership roles. Yvonne is our devoted treasurer, Faye is our great secretary and Janet is our fun Vice Pres. We also have a Good Will committee, photographers, card sender and program planners. We contribute to the laughing, talking and sharing committee.  
 Q. What does UCW mean to you?  
 A. UCW is one of the high-

lights of my month. It is a pleasure each month to meet with such a dynamic and diverse group of women who have become dear friends. This group of women lives the UCW Vision Statement:  
 that as Christian women of faith, we nurture spirituality by reaching out with commitment and devotion to all God's people;  
 in promoting truth, justice, peace, caring and sharing with respect for all in the community and wider world;  
 in loving God and others by living generously and giving joyfully; and,  
 in affirming and strengthening ourselves creatively in study and witness through music, laughter and solitude. I am very honored and proud to be a UCW member.  
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**St. James U.C.W.:**

The U.C.W. (United Church Women) is a small but active group of 9 members within St. James. We meet on a Monday or Wednesday of each month from September to June. Ruth Bevis is our Secretary/Treasurer and Brenda Croft is our President. We begin our meetings with devotion, a reading from the bible and reflection, followed by business and a light lunch. Sometimes we may have a special program. Our main focus is to take on tasks that reflect the life and work of the church. In May we conducted the service in the absence of Rev. Helene who was away at Maritime Conference. Our June closing was held in the church hall. We invited Trinity U.C.W. members for a pot luck supper along with skits and songs. It was a wonderful night of fellowship and fun. Our September got off to a busy start with hosting the beautiful Hennigar wedding.

Plans are underway for making apple pies the first weekend in November. We usually fund-raise twice a year and are happy to enlist the services from other members of the church to help carry out special events. We would like to invite the women of our congregation to join us in our fun and fellowship. It's a great way to be involved in the work of the church.

(Submitted by: Ruth Bevis and Brenda Croft)

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**Christine Haas of St. James** recently returned from a relaxing vacation with her daughter, Julie, in Las Vegas. Julie, who lives in Ottawa, met up with her mother and they headed on a great mother/daughter get away!!!! How great was that!??  
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**Christmas House Tour and Tea**

Mark Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> on your calendar and make it a date for a delightful afternoon. Trinity UCW will hold their third "Christmas House Tour and Tea" – an opportunity to visit some local homes, beautifully decorated for the season, and stop in at Trinity for a lovely tea, a craft table and draw prizes. Why not get a group together? Watch the bulletins for more information or contact Cindy Penney (876-0161).

If you have any china teapots you'd be willing to donate (yes, give away – you won't get them back!) please let Cindy know.  
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**The Tea Cup** There was a couple who took a trip to England to shop in a beautiful antique store to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary.

They both liked antiques and pottery, and especially teacups. Spotting an exceptional cup, they asked "May we see that? We've never seen a cup quite so beautiful." As the lady handed it to them, suddenly the teacup spoke: "You don't understand. I have not always been a teacup. There was a time when I was just a lump of red clay. My master took me and rolled me, pounded and patted me over and over and I yelled out, "Don't do that. I don't like it! Let me alone," but he only smiled, and gently said, "Not yet."  
 Then WHAM! I was placed on a spinning wheel and suddenly I was made to suit himself and then he put me in the oven. I never felt such heat. I yelled and knocked and pounded at the door. "Help! Get me out of here!" I could see him through the opening and I could read his lips as he shook his head from side to side, "Not yet."  
 When I thought I couldn't bear it another minute, the door opened. He carefully took me out and put me on the shelf, and I began to cool. Oh, that felt so good! "Ah, this is much better," I thought. But, after I cooled he picked me up and he brushed and painted me all over. The fumes were horrible. I thought I would gag. "Oh, please, stop it, stop," I cried. He only shook his head and said, "Not yet."  
 Then suddenly he put me back in to the oven -- only it was not like the first one. This was twice as hot and I just knew I would suffocate. I begged. I pleaded. I screamed. I cried. I was convinced I would never make it. I was ready to give up. Just then the door opened and he took me out and again placed me on the shelf, where I cooled and

waited and waited, wondering, "What's he going to do to me next?"

An hour later he handed me a mirror and said, "Look at yourself." And I did. I said, "That's not me. That couldn't be me. It's beautiful. I'm beautiful!"

Quietly he spoke: "I want you to remember. I know it hurt to be rolled and pounded and patted, but had I just left you alone, you'd have dried up. I know it made you dizzy to spin around on the wheel, but if I had stopped, you would have crumbled. I know it hurt and it was hot and disagreeable in the oven, but if I hadn't put you there, you would have cracked. I know the fumes were bad when I brushed and painted you all over, but if I hadn't done that, you never would have hardened. You would not have had any color in your life. If I hadn't put you back in that second oven, you wouldn't have survived for long because the hardness would not have held. Now you are a finished product. You are what I had in mind when I began with you."

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### **Congratulations to Jason and Trish!**

Jason Hennigar, son of Sandra and Stephen Hennigar, married Patricia Cochrane on September 10th. The outside wedding ceremony took place at their home on Youth Camp Road in Bayside. It was a beautiful summer afternoon, with a gentle breeze and bright clear skies. The reception was held at the White's Lake legion. The St. James UCW assisted with plating and serving the meal for approximately 140 guests. Dancing and celebratory festivities continued throughout the evening and all had a great time.

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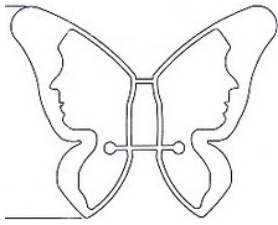
**Mark 10:6-9**  
*"But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."*

### **Congratulations to Dan and Tara!**

The Connely Family is very pleased to welcome our new daughter-in-law to our midst. Dan and Tara were married in Charlottetown, PEI on June 18, 2011 in the presence of friends and relatives from across Canada. Parents of the groom were also proud of Charlie, Miles and Brenna who participated as members of the Bride's & Groom's party. Charlie and Miles kept guests well entertained as they presided over the wedding reception and dinner as co-emcees.

The Connely & MacDonald Clans "hamming it up in happiness" following Tara's & Dan's wedding ceremony!





### Gary - It's about smiling, strength

December 18, 1997, I had surgical treatment of thyroid disease and half of the thyroid was removed. It was discovered that I had Follicular Carcinoma of Thyroid. I was called in for further surgery to remove the remaining thyroid. I have done radioactive iodine therapy and take replacement pills for the thyroid. May, 2010, was designated the starting of my mission. It was my dream and purpose to bike from the west coast of Canada to my home province of Nova Scotia. I dipped my bike in the water at the Pacific Ocean, Mile Zero, Victoria, BC and began biking solo to arrive back in Halifax in June, 2010. Raising funds for the Cancer Society was my ultimate goal.



**Gary Jones of Trinity shares this story of the last day of his cross-Canada bike ride in the summer of 2010 to raise funds and awareness for thyroid cancer.**

### The Journey of the Red Daisy

I was with my hosts, Barb and Gordie, gearing up my bike for the day. Unknown to me, Barb picked a gerbera daisy from her flower pot and poked it down the handlebars of my bike. Barb said, "This is for Lindsay; she will be riding with you today. Lindsay was a very dear friend of our son and daughter-in-law. She passed away in February with cancer."

"That's quite a responsibility," I said. "What if it falls off?"

Barb and Gordie replied: "Where the spirit lies."

When I arrived in Halifax that day, my two grandsons joined me in the final few metres at Point Pleasant Park, where we dipped our bicycle wheels in the Atlantic Ocean. Lindsay was still with me – and I released the red daisy into the water.

Thanks, Lindsay, for sharing "where the spirit lies", and for hauling Hope, Faith and Attitude on two wheels!

Folks in the congregation at Trinity know that Gary Jones is never shy when it comes to making announcements and spreading the news about the coming events of the Trinity Ways and Means committee. Gary has written a heartfelt prayer that he'd like to share:

### A Prayer from Gary

Lord God,  
You are everywhere, at any time, any year.  
We are trying to do all your duties heartily, even those duties which seem to be most tiresome.

Grant us courage with our new ideas and thoughts.  
Guide us to please you and work together, making ends meet in the house of the Lord.  
We're working, sharing and laughing with our congregational family. Amen

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**Observer:** Many of us who care about our church and also the world outside our church doors appreciate our subscriptions to **The United Church Observer**. If you are not familiar with it, take a look at its website, [www.ucobserver.org](http://www.ucobserver.org). This award-winning monthly magazine explores the "big" issues, such as faith, justice and ethics, and also the "everyday" ones, answering readers' questions, profiling people and congregations, offering reviews of books and movies, etc. The cost is very reasonable: \$25 for a year, or even less if you join the Crossroads group plan. Our **Observer** representative is Brenda MacDonald (852-1165).

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### Today I Will Make a Difference

Today I will make a difference. I will begin by controlling my thoughts. A person is the product of his thoughts. I want to be happy and hopeful. Therefore, I will have thoughts

that are happy and hopeful. I refuse to be victimized by my circumstances. I will not let petty inconveniences such as stoplights, long lines, and traffic jams be my masters. I will avoid negativism and gossip. Optimism will be my companion, and victory will be my hallmark. Today I will make a difference.

I will be grateful for the twenty-four hours that are before me. Time is a precious commodity. I refuse to allow what little time I have to be contaminated by self-pity, anxiety, or boredom. I will face this day with the joy of a child and the courage of a giant. I will drink each minute as though it is my last. When tomorrow comes, today will be gone forever. While it is here, I will use it for loving and giving. Today I will make a difference.

I will not let past failures haunt me. Even though my life is scarred with mistakes, I refuse to rummage through my trash heap of failures. I will admit them. I will correct them. I will press on victoriously. No failure is fatal. It's OK to stumble... I will get up. It's OK to fail... I will rise again. Today I will make a difference.

I will spend time with those I love---My spouse, my children, my family. A man can own the world but be poor for the lack of love. A man can own nothing and yet be wealthy in relationships. Today I will spend at least five minutes with the significant people in my world. Five quality minutes of talking or hugging or thanking or listening. Five undiluted minutes with my mate, children, and friends.

Today I will make a difference..

From **Shaped by God** (original title: **On the Anvil**)  
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We hope you have enjoyed reading our October issue of the Crossroads Newsletter. Before you know it, we will be preparing for our December flyer! We would like to hear how we are doing. Please send an email with your comments to our Church Secretary at [lkay@crossroads-ucc.ca](mailto:lkay@crossroads-ucc.ca). All comments are welcomed and confidential.