



Holy Trinity Anglican Church
8140 Victoria Street
Metcalf

www.holytrinitymetcalfe.com

September 4, 2020

Hi all

We wanted to update you on the things that have been happening behind the scenes at Holy Trinity this summer as well as the plans for reopening on September 6.

First we want to thank Rev. Paul for all of his work over the past months. Along with the extra work of a video and written service and managing the music with Helen so that we are meeting our licensing requirements, he has also been helping council and your wardens with many issues. We also want to thank our council members who have been willing to meet via Zoom over the past months to get a lot done even though we can't meet and a special thanks to Meredith for doing the extra financial work that has been needed for the diocese due to the pandemic.

We want to thank all of you who have been able to continue to support the church financially. Considering the circumstances in the world right now, Holy Trinity is doing ok. Thank you for this. It makes our work easier.

Thanks also to all who continue to perform their assorted roles while we can not gather together. We are fortunate to have such a great group of parishioners/volunteers who have worked to keep everything running smoothly. We will need more help as we prepare to return to church. Much work has to be done to clean and sanitize the church and hall before we can use them as well as more help will be required on Sunday mornings for the services as well as for cleaning after the service and then again the following week for setting up again.

Council has been busy this summer with a few issues that have needed to be looked after. We have had a pest service company in to deal with the bats. Thank you to Wilton for looking after this.

We have also been working on addressing some of the safety issues with our steps and sidewalks. Over the years, things have shifted and we were concerned about the safety of anyone entering our building. Initially council had hoped to be able to keep the steps as they are with the repairs that had been done by Larry and Wilton but were still trying to get quotes from companies for the other safety issues. However it has been decided that the steps must be replaced in order to be safe. This work is scheduled to be done this fall. We ask that you be aware of the tripping hazards and use extra caution when entering the building until the repairs have been completed. Many thanks to Larry Corlyon and Wilton Thompson for all of their repair work over the years.

We have been working with All Saints, Greely to finalize arrangements that were put in place when we joined the Area Parish. At that time it was suggested that Holy Trinity receive the dividends from the Rectory Trust Fund as we were paying housing and All Saints was not. Now that neither parish is paying housing, we need to form a new arrangement. At the time a split of 68% for Holy Trinity and 32% for All Saints was agreed to. We are now taking steps to finalize this arrangement where the Rectory Trust Fund will be split into two at the diocese so that each church has control over their own Fund and receives their own dividends. We are planning to finalize this agreement the week of September 21. If anyone has any questions or concerns about this please contact Rev. Paul (613-614-7440 or pdblunt@gmail.com) or Kay (613-821-2150 or kestanley@sympatico.ca) or Karen (613-445-1135 or etalgoy@gmail.com) before September 21.

Rev. Paul and Kay have also been working with the diocese and the Area Parish of South Carleton to solve a financial issue arising from discrepancies in our 2019 assessment amounts. Hopefully this will be resolved soon.

Rev. Paul has been working on getting everyone who needs to have a police check done, relicensing our lay readers and sorting our paperwork to get the office organized. If you were asked to have a police check done but haven't had the chance yet, please do so as soon as possible.

We are also working on a new sign for the front door of the church (the frame on our current one is rotting) as well as updating the lawn sign. Hopefully these projects will both be completed this fall.

The Metcalfe Co-operative Nursery School will be opening up again this fall. They will be working within the guidelines set out for them by Ottawa Public Health, the Ministry of Education as well as the Diocesan Pandemic Plan. The nursery school has not been in operation since March so we have received less rent from this year. We agreed to give them a break and didn't receive rent for the months of July and August. Hopefully all will go smoothly for them as they return this fall.

Weight Watchers will not be returning to our hall in the near future. A.A. may be returning this fall. While we are holding church services in the hall, we will be responsible for sanitizing what we use and A.A. will sanitize what they use. We will all be using the wooden chairs as they are easier to sanitize and we don't want to damage our good folding chairs. Our church service and each renter will have their own stack of chairs to use.

Return to Church Plans:

Our return to church team of Rev. Paul, Kay, Karen, Meredith and Erik have been hard at work determine what we hope will be our best options for returning to church in September. The plans are as follows:

We will be having our services in the hall in September. We will be able to open doors, windows and run the fans to provide good air circulation.

Please stay home if you are feeling unwell.

If you are coming to church we will be entering through the side door.

You must wear a mask and it must remain over your nose, mouth and chin at all times, other than being quickly removed for the Eucharist.

If you are in a line waiting to enter, we ask that you maintain a distance of two metres from others. We will ask you to sanitize your hands at the door. You will be registered for contact tracing and then you will be directed to a seat. You will need to take your coat to your seat as we will not be using the coat racks at this time.

An offering plate will be set inside the hall door. We encourage cheques if possible.

The service will be projected onto a screen. There will be no bulletins.

Rev. Paul will be doing all of the readings and prayers for the first few weeks. This may change over time depending on how things go but for now we will be limiting movement.

During the exchange of the peace, you will be asked to remain at your seat and exchange the peace from a distance with the people who are around you, without physical contact.

Rev. Paul will be bringing the Eucharist bread to you and will be using tongs so that no physical contact is made. You can stand or remain seated for communion. If you don't want to receive communion yet, please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that to Rev. Paul.

The first Sunday (September 6) we will have no music. Helen will be back playing for us starting September 13 but there will be no singing.

If you must use the washroom there will be wipes just outside the washroom door. Please use the wipes provided to sanitize the door handle, light switch, taps, and toilet flush handle before you use the washroom. To limit the amount of cleaning after the service, we will be using only one washroom. The wipes must go in the garbage, not the toilet please.

After the service ends, the people closest to the doors will leave first in order to maintain physical distancing and you should sanitize their hands on the way out.

We will be recording the service each Sunday. Once it is available on the website we will send you an email with the link. It may take us some time to complete this so you will have to watch it a bit later each week. We have decided that we will not be using Facebook to livestream it at this time.

We are following the requirements of the Diocese in all of our planning for how our service will operate. We expect that change may be necessary as we proceed, so please bear with us as we work our way through. We will welcome any suggestions as we proceed.

Kay and Karen

