



The Trinity Spirit

Editor - Mike Tanner

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TRINITY



ANGLICAN
CHURCH

Rector's Message

Recently a parishioner was explaining to me her call to intercessory prayer for her family. She had found great



meaning in the words of Ezekiel. As Ezekiel was prophesying a g a i n s t Jerusalem he spoke the word of the Lord saying: "I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found none." (Ezekiel 22:30 NIV) For some reason I had never heard (even though I am sure I have read) this passage of scripture before, but it struck me in a special way that day. I thought about them a great deal and recognize a powerful message in them. God is desirous of our asking for his intervention in the life of our families, our church and the world around. Not only is he desirous of our intervention but the passage

makes clear that our intervention can make a difference – sometimes even between life and death. It puts a powerful spin on the call to intercessory prayer. It says that our prayers do make a difference and that they are in fact a part of the plan God has for his work on the earth. It says that without them things that might have been

will not be, things that might have been made right will not be made right and things that were lost might never be found.

I am reminded of another situation in the scripture when someone did stand in the gap. In the desert venomous snakes came among the Israelites and bit the people and many of them died. Moses prayed for the people and the Lord commanded him to make a snake and put it on top of a pole so that anyone who had been bitten could look at it and live. The scripture says that anyone bitten by a snake who looked upon the pole lived. (Numbers 21)

The ministry of intercessory prayer is an important one. You may never know how important your prayers are, but that too is a part of the mystery. Won't you consider answering the call to intercessory prayer?

Prayer changes everything.

Richard Salt

Out of Africa

as told to Paul Witheridge by Riziki Mana Maua

Riziki Mana Maua was born and grew up in the city of Bukavu, the capital of her Congolese province of Sud-Kivu. She lived with her mother, father, four brothers and two sisters. Mom was a teacher and Dad was a pastor.

Riziki attended a Catholic elementary school, five years of secondary school and then technical college. The latter consisted of three years of theory and a year of practical training in order to obtain her diploma as a nurse/midwife. She then worked for a Co-operative in Bukavu and was sent to Israel for six months to explore women's rights and equality in a co-operative.

While on a work-term at a hospital in Uvira, a city some five hours travel by public transport away, she met her future husband, Esengi Songolo. Her father married them in Uvira on April 11, 1987.

Riziki worked in Bukavu while Esengi worked in Uvira until 1991 when Rehema was born. In 1989, Esengi was injured in a motorcycle accident. He was severely disabled for a year and still suffers from an incomplete repair of his shoulder and hip.

The genocide in Rwanda following the assassination of the Rwandan president resulted in a major influx of Rwandan refugees into the Congo. Tribal tensions grew and began to boil over with the 1990 Congo census. Following the Rwandan Genocide, Hutu refugees and many members of the former Hutu-led government fled as part of the Great Lakes¹ refugee crisis. The refugee camps around Goma and Bukavu became centers of the Hutu insurgency from the camps against the new Watutsi government of Rwanda. In the autumn of 1996 at the start of the First Congo War, Rwandan government forces consequently attacked the Hutu camps and forces of the then Zaire government which had allowed the insurgency.

By September, 1996, Riziki and family began to realize that their safety could no longer be assured in the Congo and the family had to flee with the clothes on their backs and what few documents they could gather. Newly pregnant, Riziki tied five-year-old Rehema and 18-month-old Loi to herself with a scarf. Esengi and three year old Abi were not at home when the girls had to run. Fortunately, they were reunited at Kamaniola on the way to Uvira.



The family made their way from Bukavu to Kamaniola to Uvira on foot and public transportation when they could get it. From Uvira, they boarded a boat to cross Lake Tanganyika to Mtanga where a second boat took them to a refugee shelter at Kigoma after traveling for four days. They spent a month at the shelter before being loaded onto a truck for another day's travel to take them to the refugee camp being created at Nyarugusu, Tanzania. The area was wilderness before being selected for the refugees. Arriving refugees were given just a plastic sheet and a machete with which to "construct" their new home. Poisonous snakes abounded and many people fell victim to them.



As time went on, a hospital was built at the camp and Riziki and Esengi went to work there, working alternate shifts and taking turns looking after their children. Riziki is reluctant to think of what the rest of her family endured back home in the Congo. She learned that most, if not all of them, had been killed while she and her children were in the refugee camp. (In 2009, she learned that one surviving sister with whom she had lost contact, had just been killed.)

Two more children were born to Riziki and Esengi in their early years at the refugee camp, Arthur in 1997 and Stella in 1999. In 2000, the family applied to UNCR in Nairobi to emigrate to a safe country — any safe country. More importantly, she prayed daily that this might come to pass. It would be five more years before God answered her prayers and the opportunity to come to Canada was finally presented. After a further year it became a reality.

In the meantime, in November 2003, Riziki was blessed with triplets. Unfortunately, Congolese superstitions are fierce and do not consider triplets a blessing but a curse! Mothers of triplets are ostracized, cannot be buried during daylight and their corpses are usually subjected to various indignities in support of black magic rites. Esengi, too, was fearful for his own safety as a result, and one day in December 2003, he simply vanished. The family had no idea whether he was alive or dead when it came time to emigrate in September, 2006.

Riziki and eight children (two-year-old triplets and the rest from 6 to 15 years old) were dressed in UN-supplied "uniforms" then loaded onto a plane for a four-hour flight from Tanzania to Nairobi and then another for eight hours from Nairobi to London, England. Aside from the strange experience of air travel and even stranger airplane food, these planes were filled with white people! The younger children especially were fearful to say the least! After a further eight hours flying from London to Toronto, they were in Canada at last. But their fears did not abate. They had been sponsored by six Sarnia Anglican churches but no one met them in Toronto and they could not speak any English at all!

Fortunately, Riziki was fluent in French but the officials who greeted them, learning that they were being sponsored by a London Diocese, wondered why they had left London (England) for Toronto. Once that confusion was sorted out, they boarded a bus for St. Joseph House in London, Ontario. There, they spent a week during which a home in Sarnia was sought and they received a crash course in 'Canadian living' which they had not had time to receive in Africa. Also during that week, they met a couple from the Sudan who had been at St. Joseph House for a **month** as well as several parishioners from Canon Davis Memorial and St. James who welcomed them to Canada with clothes and other personal items.

At last, a two bedroom townhouse was secured and furnished for their ultimate arrival in Sarnia. The Sarnia parishioners brought them to their new home and began the monumental task of establishing them with doctors, banks, etc. — all while the new family knew almost no English

and their sponsors knew no Swahili and precious little French!

Their acclimatization to Canada, many humorous missteps and later re-contact with husband and father Esengi will have to be told later in another chapter.



First picture in Sarnia

1. The **Great Lakes of Africa** are a series of lakes in and around the geographic Great Rift Valley formed by the action of the tectonic East African Rift. They include Lake Victoria, the second largest fresh water lake in the world in terms of surface area, and Lake Tanganyika, the world's second largest in volume as well as the second deepest. The term Greater Lakes is also used, less commonly, for some of them.

Trinity Spirit 2010

Trinity Spirit is published 3 times a year, Spring, Fall and Christmas. It is the story of the people of Trinity church and their journey. The people behind it are:

Editor: Mike Tanner

Composers: Kathy & Paul Witheridge

Board Members: Shirley Petit, Sheila Hewitt

Contributors: The entire congregation

ESTHER Revisited: THE REAL STORY!



"Where's Ron?"

"Oh, he's gone to Florida for 6 weeks, but don't worry, he'll be back for opening night!"

"What about Sandy?"

"In the washroom – be back soon."

"Carolyn?"

"Timmies".

First Law of Theatre: Everything will take longer than it really should.

"Why isn't the queen singing THIS time?"

"Sorry to have to tell you but she still has laryngitis. The doctor says she'll be OK in a month."

"I meant the OTHER queen."

"Yes, well, she has the flu."

"Now what?"

"Well we have 4 dancers and only 3 costumes".

"It's 2 days to opening! – call Magy!"

"For heaven's sake we should have done the NEXT book! Why did we pick ESTHER? Why not JOB?"

Second Law of Theatre: If it weren't for the last minute, nothing would get done.

"Oh, dear! We've forgotten to cast someone as the official for the wedding ceremony! Let's grab Richard!"

"Hmm, Richard did OK in practice, but perhaps he doesn't have enough experience with this 'wedding thing'.....what about John Damoiseaux? – he's really tall and the audience would be able to see him."

"Sounds good to me."

"What about Graham Blenkhorn for the drum line?"

–"No, he just doesn't cut it."

"OK then, demote him to flags."

"What about Armen Dermentjian?"

"No, I don't think so. We don't need a "Jesus" in the ESTHER play."

"OK – put him on flags".

Third Law of Theatre: Glory may be fleeting but obscurity lasts forever.

Richard Teskey to his advisors! "Well, I've been talking about myself for quite a while now.....why don't *you* talk about me now."

"Don't worry – he's just getting into character. King Xerxes was really something!"

"But he's rewriting the script"!!

The Golden Rule: Whosoever has the gold makes the rules.

Wendy: "What happened?"

Sue: "Things went from bad to worse"

Wendy: "Then what?"

Sue: "History repeated itself"

AND I QUOTE:

Pete: Well, I have a safety chain and a wingnut left over. Can anyone see a problem here?

Brian: Be kind to your techies, or they will turn out the lights and go home!

Dave: You remember that key for the light dimmers that we were going to duplicate? Well it's too late now!

Sue: Wendy, the whole cast just left for Timmies!

Wendy: I'm NEVER going to direct another play with actors in it!

Joy: I'm never writing another play!



Of course the production of Esther had its problems! However, and on the other hand...

THE TRUE STORY

I just want you to know that we had a WONDERFUL group of actors and crew, techies

and musicians. And we are very thankful for each one of them. And the spiritual implications in the cast and crew were amazing. When we do a production like this we tend to focus on the final outcome and how it is received. But what we saw were many wonderful things happening all through the process. Every time we got together for practices we had a devotional time and prayer. Sometimes we asked members of the cast to pray and it was wonderful to see the impact of these times in people's lives. People were asking for prayer and receiving love and companionship in a way that they hadn't experienced before. Some said it was unlike any other "shows" they had been in.

I would like to thank the Lord for working in and around us in the development of this production. Even though we had the normal amount of things to deal with, the Lord helped us to always keep our priorities straight. The process was more important than the product in that our prayers were always with the people involved and their spiritual development more than what we could "get out of them". Rene Taylor reports that being in this production has totally changed her life and revitalized her Christian walk. Many others have reported the same.

We thank God for his love and faithfulness. Our prayers were not for a "successful show" in the normal sense of the term. Our prayers were that ESTHER would have a spiritual impact in every one that saw it. Our hope was that people would get the message: God cares about his people and works behind the scenes to save us, help us, and bring us into a deeper relationship with Him. We pray that the message of ESTHER will continue reverberating in our lives and in this community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for supporting the ESTHER project. It could not have been done without all the help from our Trinity church family. It was truly a blessing to the community and we pray that it will continue to have spiritual implications in the lives of those who saw it. Thank you!

Joy Cafazzo

Esther, another view

"All aspects of the production excellent. A thoroughly enjoyable evening! Bravo!"

"Very well produced, it must have taken lots of work. The costumes were fantastic, exceeded our expectations."

"Well done and energetic production!"

These are a few comments from the audience in the sellout performance for the 4 shows at the Imperial Theatre. Words can barely express the joy at witnessing this miracle of this performance. Strong words, but well deserved from a little church that could. From Joy's empathetic story and catchy music, to the splendid costumes and the amazing performances by Esther, Xerxes and Mordecai well supported by a huge cast of singers and dancers, the performance mesmerized the audience.



As the cast mingled in the foyer after the show, the rush of adrenalin was palpable. The story of Esther pleading for the lives of her Jewish people



is well told, and whilst not being preachy or sentimental, the evidence of God intervening on behalf of His people and engineering the downfall of Haamen, much as he does today for those who call on His name, is the sublime message behind the show.



The buzz amongst the playgoers indicates that they know they have witnessed a miracle. When people fork over Twelve bucks to see a church play at a theatre, expectations are generally set low. Instead, the performance was of professional quality, and I heard the term 'Broadway' used frequently.



The pre show concern was that enough tickets would be sold to cover costs, with the balance donated to the Inn. Instead, tickets became a hot item, and the Inn will benefit several thousand dollars. Well done to all involved!

Mike Tanner

Vestry 2010

Vestry is a word that fills many with a sense of foreboding, yet it was a lively crowd that comfortably filled the chapel to close off the books on 2009 and consider plans for the year to come. The head table of Richard, Graham, Bonnie and newly elected vestry clerk Karen held court, and the first order of business had Scott review the 2009 numbers, preceded by an uncharacteristic joke. To paraphrase Mr Micawber's observation of financial affairs: Income \$497,098 expenditure \$496,729..result: happiness. Scott emphasized that we have paid all our bills, met apportionment, financed the Outreach initiatives and swelled the Building Fund. God is indeed good! Richard thanked Scott, as well as Marion, Shirley and auditor Noel for managing our financial affairs, but to God give the Glory! The Mission chairs mentioned the ongoing work of our church; Bonnie talked of neighbourlink, our 20 Haiti children, the foodbank amongst others. Scott thanked the diligent crew who keep our aging facilities in good shape, and also the roof which needed repair on a couple of occasions. Richard mentioned the many unsung ministries that keep our church life functioning behind the scenes: sound crew, projectionist, Sunday School teachers, Youth Ministry helpers, the altar guild and the helper who drives a school bus every Friday to move the Youth Group around (now is that not a witness!).

The slate of candidates for the council, synod delegates and lay administrators was approved, and Richard thanked those who were stepping down from their roles: Carolyn, Nancy, Megan and Pat. The new budget was presented with a zero increase in salaries and an overall modest 2.8% increase. This must have been acceptable, for it was approved with little comment from the appreciative crowd. The reports are generally accepted without a formal reading, but Richard took the unusual step of personally reading his report. In it, he stated

unequivocally, that he would be staying within the Anglican Church, unless forced to act against his conscience. He feels that the presence of churches such as Trinity can 'present a moderating influence in the life of the church', and ended with an entreaty to 'get on with the ministry the Lord has called us to. Let's take the Promised Land'. This set the tone for the remainder of the meeting about facilities and the Parish Conversation. Vestry first approved a letter, or 'memorial' to be issued to the powers in the church, stating Trinity's opposition to same sex blessings. It was made clear, in response to a question from Marilyn, that Trinity welcomed all people, regardless of their orientation, but anyone in a position to teach would have views consistent with the orthodox theology.

Chris presented the results of the Conversation, which involved 134 people and showed remarkable confluence of thought. As to the three questions, there was agreement that the additions of 2000 have greatly enhanced our ministry, in that we can hold large outreach events, run simultaneous worship services and enjoy better technical support. Secondly, there was agreement that present facilities are inadequate; the ladies washroom is 'totally unsatisfactory', the entrance is medieval, the kitchen is ancient, the Sunday School is dispersed and the nursery is unfriendly to moms. Not least, the gym is not reverent enough. What to do? There was deep concern about Trinity's position should it be faced with separating from the ACC, and subsequent tug of war over the buildings. In light of Richard's statement, the vestry showed confidence to approve \$7,500 for the evaluation of needs, and 'developing a conceptual design for enhanced facilities, as well as a financial plan'.

The meeting ended a little after 2pm with a spirited chorus of "Bind us Together", and eager anticipation of changes ahead.

Mike Tanner

Christmas Party

The Sunday before Christmas was the setting for the annual 9 lessons and carols followed by lunch and Christmas party. Joy and Grace led the mixture of traditional carols interspersed with praise songs whilst Tara, the choir, the Praise singers and the packed congregation were on vocals. A nice touch was to have the readings shared by parent and son or daughter, (it took me a while to realize this was no coincidence). Gathered Mission, ably led by Kate Allison, coordinated lunch; a cheer went up from the younger people when pizza appeared as well as soup & sandwiches. Jesus may have fed 5000 with loaves and fishes, but there always seems just enough when we gather for lunch.

Kate and Sheila Hewett emceed the party, with a mixture of singing, skits and trivia. But, next time, ladies, get serious. Who is up to date on Ukrainian traditions, or cares about the British habit of throwing loose change in the Christmas pud, (now if I'd surfed on my blackberry, our table would have won hands down...). The choir performed a lively skit, discarding robes and revealing their true career aspirations. Sandy made a charming Christmas tree, Armen was all over the place as a jumping jack, Mary will make a perfect angel someday, Pat won hands down as a bell ringer, Don was a fearless skier, Pete a fearsome soldier, and Barry, well, was fuzzy. My advice though: stick to your day jobs.



The Youth performed a multi part skit about preparing for a skit on the Christmas story. For a generation raised on twitter and texting, short, sharp narrative comes naturally, but I don't think

I've ever heard the Christmas story move so quickly. The special effect were amazing, especially around the actual birth. Congratulations to our youth for a story well told.



Memo to self, when Pete Emmons approaches with a winsome smile, and asks you to pick a number, run the other way! Otherwise you might end up on stage playing one of the twelve days of Christmas. It is said that the greatest fear of many is speaking in public, but I have discovered a greater dread, singing. In the moment, I guess we all croaked our way through the allotted verse. Scott had trouble with the deceitful geese but Robert handled the anchor verse in fine fashion.

The finale for the day was the arrival of the three kings, played by our trio of comical clerics bringing, gifts of candy and goodwill. At any rate the Grade 4 and under were happy with their haul; and the rest of us were, well, just happy.

Trinity Smiles!

A little boy was waiting for his mother to come out of the grocery store. As he waited, he was approached by a man who asked, "Son, can you tell me where the Post Office is?"

The little boy replied, "Sure! Just go straight down this street a coupla blocks and turn to your right."

The man thanked the boy kindly and said, "I'm the new pastor in town. I'd like for you to come to church on Sunday. I'll show you how to get to Heaven."

The little boy replied with a chuckle. "Awww, come on... You don't even know the way to the Post Office."

Trinity Men's Retreat Day 2010

- † 'I came to have fellowship'
- † 'I needed a change of perspective'
- † 'I wanted to improve my relationship with God'

'In the hands of the Carpenter'. What were the 50 men who attended the third annual retreat day expecting? Mike Holmes? Instead, Rev Gary Parker gave an inspired course on making it right with God, by distinguishing between fact, feelings and faith.



Men are by nature 'fixers': we see a problem and jump into solution mode; but that is not necessarily productive, especially when it comes to relationships. The theme of 'Let go and let God' surfaced regularly, yet we find it difficult to surrender to Him who has infinitely more tools and expertise than we can ever hope to possess. There is no problem too big for God to solve, or

too small for Him to be concerned. We stumble through life oblivious to this truth, until the moment that we accept Jesus in faith. Lives do not necessarily become easier, but the carpenter is always ready to strip away the ugly baggage that has accumulated, and restore the person we were meant to be.

The day ran smoothly, thanks to the work behind the scenes of Martha and her helpers, and the excellent lunch catered by Sue Collins. Kyler, Glyn Dave, Carlo, Darwin and Brian led spirited praise, and Ric provided the steady hand of the emcee. Thanks to Armen, Carman and Pete for sharing their stories, and the Carpenter for providing the inspiration and resource for our theme, and The Home Depot who donated an LED lamp to each man to light the way.

In the nature of busy lives, men seldom take the time to talk about things that really matter. The burdens of disappointment, hurt, broken relationships, lost dreams, regret. The truth is that, there is seldom the opportunity to share in confidence the joys and sorrows that are scattered along our life's journey. The men's day is an opportunity to experience a different reality, where shields come down and the truth can set you free. What did we learn?

- † 'It is important to share your feelings and be honest'
- † 'I do not have to fix everything'
- † 'We are not alone in our struggles to follow Jesus, we can learn from each other'

Mike Tanner



Where are they now?

As our children grow and move away from Sarnia and Trinity, their lives take many different paths. Here is the story of two alumni who have made their mark on the world.

Colin Hill is the son Joan and Foster Hill and was recently cited by Black Enterprise Magazine as one of the top 25 most influential African Americans outside the White House. He is President, Chairman and CEO of Gene Network Sciences, a boutique biotech firm that uses chemical and biological information to create computer models of human cells and organs to rapidly discover how a specific drug will affect a patient. In 2002, GNS created the largest known data-driven simulated model of a human cancer cell, allowing for quicker drug development. Hill, 36, wants to develop treatments and cures for cancer, heart disease and sickle cell anaemia. He earned a bachelor's degree in physics from Virginia Tech and a Masters from McGill and Cornell University. He cofounded GNS with fellow Cornell alum Iyal Khalil in 2000.

Jeff Biggs writes...

Most of the last 13 years I spent at the University of Toronto, eventually emerging this past October with a Ph.D. in Forestry, specializing in Economics. More significantly, Erin and my 10th anniversary is coming up this May. Instead of investing our love in children, we've done it in pets: we have a three-legged cat, two finches, two love birds and a cockatoo named Lester. Though we spent 8 very happy years as leaders (Erin as Youth Minister, and me as a bible study leader, guest preacher, and warden) at St. John the Evangelist Anglican church in Hamilton, we recently moved to Ottawa so that I could take a position as an Economist working for the federal Ministry of Natural Resources. Here in Ottawa we've become members of the Meeting House (www.themeetinghouse.ca) and are happy continuing to live the gospel in our community. I hope the last 13 years have been just as blessed for Trinity as they have been for me!

If you would like to update us on a member of your family, the next issue will be this Fall

Trinity Smiles

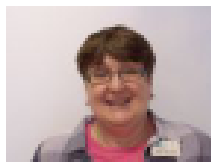
After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"

* * * * *

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 62. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

A long moment in the life of our Office Administrator

by Sheila Hewitt



(The scene: Trinity Church office, sometime in March...)

R-r-r-ring.... R-r-r-ring....

Shirley: "Good Morning, Trinity Church. Shirley Pettit speaking."

Caller: "Hello, I'd like some prayer."

Shirley: "I'm sorry but all our clergy are away at the moment. Can I put you on their voice mail so they can get back to you?"

Caller: "Well, no, actually it's you, REV. PETTIT, that I called to talk to."

Shirley (flustered): "I'm sorry, but I'm not a Reverend."

Caller: "Oh yes you are... you have even counselled me last year. I'm sure it was you!"

Shirley: "I'm sorry, but maybe you have the wrong church."

Caller: "I'm positive this is the place and you are the minister."

Shirley: "Well, in that case I will take your name and number and have one of our clergy call you as soon as they can."

Caller: "Well, if you think that is best..."

When Shirley got off the phone she worried that Richard had had her ordained secretly, but NO... that couldn't be...???

Special Vestries, May 30, 2010

On May 30th, following the regular morning services at Trinity and St. James the Apostle Anglican Churches, concurrent Vestry meetings were held. The purpose of these meetings was to put before the congregations the amalgamation proposal of the two parishes.

As you know, Trinity and St. James have been engaged in a 'pairing' process for approximately one year. This pairing most recently included the sharing of the Trinity ministry team with St. James, after the departure of the Reverend Bill Graham in January 2010. There has been significant work completed by many at both parishes with the pairing and potential amalgamation planning process.

The motion brought before each parish was as follows. "Subject to the approval of the Diocesan Council and the Diocesan Bishop, the Parish of Trinity Anglican Church, Sarnia shall amalgamate with the Parish of St. James the Apostle Church, Sarnia, effective July 1, 2010." The motion was passed at both meetings. Richard Salt recently posted his thoughts on Facebook and I believe this expresses the feelings of many who have been working through the process. He believes this to be a step forward for the Anglican community in Sarnia and he congratulates everyone who has worked so hard to make this possible. Richard expressed his admiration to those who have made sacrifices to make this amalgamation possible, especially the congregation of St. James.

We thank Richard for his excellent leadership and vision throughout this process and we look forward to very exciting times ahead.

Praise God!!

Graham Blenkhorn

The Parishioners of Trinity Anglican Church

warmly welcome the Parishioners of

St. James The Apostle Church!

Let's Grow Together!

Youth Ministry!

As the end of school quickly approaches, we are looking forward to another summer full of fun and excitement for our youth. Summer is a busy time for us as we hold three camps during the month of July. But for those who do not attend the camps (And for those who do!) we have even more to do on Wednesday nights throughout the summer. Some of the things that we have done over the past year have included snow tubing, laser tag, bowling, swimming, ice skating, and the list goes on.

This summer we hope to do even more as we look forward to swimming, Wonderland, the annual overnight camping at Dave's, beach volleyball, Bluewater Fun Park, and more! Come out if you want to have a fun time and bring your friends! Starting in July and going until the end of August, youth will be gathering Wednesday nights at Trinity starting at 6:30. We look forward to seeing you there!

CANADA'S WONDERLAND TRIP 2010

Wednesday, July 28th

Cost per person including HST: \$60.00

Cost for adult chaperones is slightly lower. Want more info about this? Please ask. Elementary aged students will require an adult chaperone.

Cost includes bus transportation, entrance ticket for the water park & most rides.

Bring spending money for meals and/or a "bagged" lunch and supper.

Registration forms are available at the church office OR ask via email at youth@trinity.sarnia.net

Final registration deadline: Wednesday, July 14, 2010.

If you have questions about prohibited items into Canada's Wonderland OR other FAQs, go to their web site at: www.canadaswonderland.com and click "Plan A Visit"

The Journey

Life is a journey; where we live, work and worship are markers on the road of life. As Christians, we believe that God is actively involved in our lives, and that all things happen for a greater purpose. We asked Dave and Brenda Bandy to reflect on three questions and share the story of what brought them to Trinity.

1. How did God bring you to Trinity?

We relocated to Sarnia two years ago. We mostly attended Baptist and Christian & Missionary Alliance churches over the past thirty years. We had the opportunity to attend St. Thomas', our first Anglican church ever, while living in St. John's, NL during the previous eighteen months. In many ways this is how God prepared us for making Trinity our church home.

2. What have you found at Trinity that excites you?

The main things that make Trinity stand out from other churches are the spirit filled preaching, the style of worship in the Worship Centre and the quality of the fellowship among those who attend. What is really exciting is the willingness of the leadership to try new things and the extent to which the members readily get on board with these initiatives.

3. How has your spiritual journey changed?

What has really drawn us into the body of believers here and has strengthened our faith are the men's and women's fellowship groups. These special times of fellowship, encouragement, sharing of burdens, prayer and discussion of God's teaching are something we look forward to every week. We serve God more boldly and care for one another more genuinely as a result.

I invite you to submit your story of how you came to worship at Trinity. - Mike

Transformational Leadership

The Rev Canon George Kovoor



Perhaps it was the title of the talk, because heaven knows our church needs leadership, or perhaps it was the tag line 'chaplain to HM the Queen', but the thirty who turned

out on a muggy May evening will long remember the passionate message of the Indian who went from a 'hero to zero', when he encountered God.

George shared a little of his story, raised in a distinguished family in India (he could trace 44 generations of priests in his lineage) his father was a fighter pilot in WW2. However, his immediate family was not religious, and he missed the experience of church in his youth. Destined for a career in the diplomatic service, God had other plans, and George, in dramatic fashion, explained that when he discovered that God existed he was humbled beyond measure; all the wealth and worldly pride he accumulated counted for nothing with God. He read the bible cover to cover, changed direction and at 27 became the Dean of the Cathedral in Delhi. Under his tenure, the congregation grew from 30 to 27,000 (not a typo). While living in the US, he taught at Princeton and he is now Principal at Trinity College Bristol, which he charmingly referred to as 'the largest Vicar factory in Europe'.

He was touring Canada courtesy of the Anglican Communion Alliance (which is itself a successor to the Anglican Essentials Movement), as a build up to garner support for their lobby at General Synod in June. I do not think that I have heard the term 'muttonhead' and 'church leadership' used in the same sentence before, but George castigated the leadership that has strayed from Biblical truth and is leading the church astray. George quoted freely from scripture to emphasize

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his points. We are commanded to be joyful always (1 Thess 5, 15-17); instead joy evaporates in church and many sit as though they are constipated. We should pray, but remember that God gave us two ears and one mouth, often we tell God instead of listening for His voice. He used the example of a mustard seed (or canola seed) to illustrate that we have a great God and need only a small Faith. He cited the 4p's as a way to encourage change: Pay, Pray, Participate, Promote, with the emphasis on the first P. The term 'chill pill' was mentioned, which in the UK means to lighten up and take it easy.

George's style was lighthearted, but thought provoking. Consider Mt 7:21. Anglicanism is not heaven. Many say they know Jesus, but will Jesus recognize them on the final day? Be faithful and obedient to the word of God. George was asked about his role as chaplain to the Queen, but was coy about his relationship with her Majesty. He admitted that one of the Queen's courtiers had referred to him as a 'breath of fresh air'. All those who heard George that evening will certainly agree. And for those who were not able to attend, several DVD's of his talks were purchased which will be circulated, and he can also be found on the internet. He also runs a company that manufactures clerical garb made from the finest Egyptian cotton; in any colour but black. I imagine that George will cause quite a stir when he promotes the cause of ACA at synod.

Mike Tanner

Trinitykes

On Palm Sunday after going up for communion, our five-year old granddaughter, Paige Vidler, said:

"Grandma, when I grow up to be a big girl, can I have some of those chips, too?"

Editorial

One Minute



In the 12 years that I have worshipped at Trinity there have been many changes. The buildings have changed for the better, the congregation has grown considerably, despite losing many people as they moved away or passed on. We have been truly blessed with generous financial support and meaningful outreach and mission projects. The nature of worship has changed significantly as well. Years ago people seemed more spontaneous and willing to express themselves in worship. We held Healing services and Prayer and Praise time on Sunday evenings, where members were encouraged to give testimony. It was one of the aspects that made Trinity different. The Prayer time in particular became an opportunity for people to share their needs with the community or give Praise reports. It was sometimes lengthy, but I really felt the witness stories shared were a blessing. Latterly, prayer requests are written out and read by the clergy. There is still an opportunity for those who wish to take a minute for testimony after the Morning Prayer service. In my experience, this is rarely used. We have been encouraged to tell our story, to engage with God in 'The Unexpected Adventure', and it seems to me that a good place to start would be in that one minute set aside. Are you excited about the way God is working in your life? Were you thrilled by the performance of Esther? Has God solved a problem or answered a prayer? Use the minute to tell others. Or lose it.

Mike Tanner

Trinity Smiles

When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6."

Analyst Report, Anglican Church of Canada

If the Anglican Church was a stock listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, an analyst's report might read like this....

The Anglican Church of Canada (TSX Listing ACC), is a venerable dowager of the index, and indeed predates the modern stock listings. It operates a Franchise of the Christian religion with branches coast to coast, and along with weekly worship (mostly traditional, but with a little contemporary), offers a product line, which includes forgiveness, peace, spiritual comfort and eternal life. It also has popular service packages; marriage is on the decline, but funerals are holding up well. The business model is not-for-profit, and ACC has a mandate to serve the needy and poor in spirit.

The organization has seen a steady slide in market share over the last forty years, and in keeping with similar large organizations with a storied past, (Eatons, General Motors), seems to have lost touch with the public it is trying to serve. The problem is compounded with internal dissension over the role of women, liturgy, language, music and latterly same sex blessings. Potential clients are understandably deterred from trying the service, and the problem is compounded by high profile court cases over native schools, disputes over church ownership and the occasional sexual abuse case.

The main assets are real estate in prime city locations, and the generous and loyal support of its remaining supporters, both in cash and kind. There is also untapped energy available in units of Holy Spirit for renewal and outreach, but the marketing programme (evangelism) is weak. This non-polluting, freely available spirit is the fuel of the future, but demands a change of heart to be fully utilized. The marketplace for purveyors of Christian religion is increasingly crowded, and other traditional competitors, Presbyterian, United, and Lutheran are also struggling to maintain their position. Nimble newcomers, Pentecostal, Baptist and Gospel have been quicker to sense the needs of the public and use the power of the Word to

rapidly grow their business. Alternative religious products -- Islam, Buddhist, New Age -- are also vying for attention, and many people are just confused and opting to go it alone, or settle for the life-until-death option.

Senior Management of ACC must accept some responsibility for the decline. Starting in New Westminster, regional branches have been allowed to set policies which have compelled some congregations to separate, leading to adverse publicity and loss of revenue. This has been allowed to spread across the country; currently ACC is faced with censure by some branches of the Anglican Communion, and suspension of its full privileges of association. Budget cuts have been implemented to compensate for reduced revenue, but the viability of ACC in some parts of the country is questionable.

All the indicators -- negative growth, aging clientele, venerable technology -- would justify a sell position. However, the fundamental business model is sound, demand for religion is strong and the distribution structure is bruised, but intact. If management can get back to basics (the Word), resolve its internal conflicts and focus on evangelism, this old lady could emerge as a spiritual superstar in the 21st century. Recommendation: HOLD

Disclaimer: The writer may hold an interest in this venture.

HELP WANTED!!!

Can you set a table? Can you wash dishes by hand (in a very cramped area)? How about polishing brass? Do you have some spare time? If the answer to any of these questions is "YES", then, we have the job for **YOU!** Immediate openings are available with the Altar Guild.

It's another one of those jobs with out-of-this-world benefits. See Sheila Hewett today for further details.

Holiday Church

Imagine a church where the congregation assemble outside on Palm Sunday before processing in, each grasping a fresh plucked palm frond. This was the pleasant reality we experienced at St Michael all Angels on Sanibel Island, Florida, this year. Sanibel is a genteel resort island, linked by causeway to Fort Myers. On this day, the 200-seat church was packed, and the overflow shared the service in an adjacent room. This was high church, robed choir in a loft, bells tinkling, and the joyous pageantry uplifted our worship. The message, delivered by the rector, Rev Ellen Sloan, was thoughtful, how the Way and the World collided headlong in Jerusalem on Easter week.

The residents of Sanibel are in large part retired Northerners, Snowbirds or tourists. This was reflected in the congregation; mostly seniors, ageless in the graceful style of Floridians. We were warmly welcomed, both during the service and at coffee hour (with treats). The measure of a church is not just found in the service, but in all the ways that an active Christian life is witnessed. We were eagerly told of the Noah's Ark thrift shop, which operates from a building behind the church, and recycles clothing and furniture to the disadvantaged. The proceeds go to outreach, both local Food Pantry and beyond. Sanibel is an affluent enclave, the church budget is over \$500k; but in addition they raised \$17k in a free will offering for Haitian relief. Bible Studies, Socials, Fellowship events all speak of an active and alive church. I was impressed with the prolific artwork on the walls, especially when I was told that it was all the work of Parishioners.

There were few children, but that is not their demographic. I was also disappointed that for a church with constant visitors, there was no explanation of, or invitation to the communion, which I greatly admire in our own practice. It was an uplifting experience on our vacation, and as we left, a lady asked whether we realised that we had sat next to Scott Willard of NBC fame! We hadn't.

Mike Tanner

Share your Holiday Church experience as you vacation this summer. Whether Cathedral or

cottage church, Anglican, Baptist or open field, the way we worship is always different. Tell us your church adventures, what impressed you, what moved you, what disappointed you, (in 300 words) It is by sharing that we learn and enrich our own experience.

Trinity People

We celebrate the baptisms of these people into the Christian Faith:

Rehema Esengi, Abi Songolo Esengi, Loi Mariette Esengi, Arthur Esengi, Stella Esengi, Ungwa Esengi, Eto Esengi, Mkanya Esengi, Brian Raymond Anderson, Annabelle Elizabeth Holland, Alexis Taylor-Marie Laur, Armenia Dermentjian.

On March 28th, Bishop Terry Dance confirmed the Faith Commitment of these people: **Brian Raymond Anderson, Shirley Ann Dempsey, Sally Doris Moran, Madelyn Marie Hinds, Rehema Esengi, Abi Songolo Esengi, Loi Mariette Esengi, Arthur Esengi, Stella Esengi, Tristan Hollis Liam Brown, Frederick Keith Ritchie, Alexis Taylor-Marie Laur.** We congratulate them on this important step in their faith journey.

The Skam and Lawson families celebrated the wedding of **Brooke Brianne** and **Bradley John Lee** on May 22, 2010; may their lives together be blessed. We rejoice in the birth of daughter **Armenia** to the Dermentjian family on Oct 8, 2009; and twins **Claire Kathleen** and **Emma Lauren** to the Kelly family on March 15.

We mourn the passing from life to life of these people in our Parish, and offer condolences to their families:

Pamela Louise Walker, Eunice Edna Maxine Cooknell, Victoria Emily Johnston, Antoine Hamelin, John Robert Vince.

Shirley Pettit

Scavenger Hunt for Trinity members
- from 6 to 96 years

—PRIZES—PRIZES—**for the TOP 3**—PRIZES—PRIZES—

1. Who was the last minister & family to live in the house (manse) located on Trinity property?
2. Get a signature of one of the wardens.
3. How many handicapped spaces are on our parking lot?
4. Who was a minister at Trinity during the 1940's?
5. What date is stated as the first year we built a church on this property?
6. How many windows at Trinity are facing the south?
7. What does the abbreviation 'BAS' stand for?
8. How many stained glass windows are at Trinity?
9. What colour do we use on the altar hangings on July 1, 2010?
10. Which minister has his father's first name as his middle name?

Place this sheet complete with your answers & your name in the box at the Welcome Centre.

DEADLINE: 30 June 2010