



Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge

EASTER NEWSLETTER 2021

Update From Your Quartet

We want to thank everyone for your support since we began this role at the beginning of 2021. We acknowledge and appreciate the confidence, trust, and faith you have in asking us to take on the spiritual leadership of the SPPC.

So far, we have offered spiritual nourishment in the form of videos, podcasts, articles, images, music, information on local events as well as other important announcements to keep everyone informed during this challenging time of being physically distanced.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO THIS ON A WEEKLY BASIS.

We strongly encourage everyone to read your Saturday SPPC emails in order to stay informed. We understand that some people are not receiving the church emails or the emails are going into their junk mail folders. If this is happening to you, please email the Quartet at communications@shelburneprimrose.com.

IN ADDITION, WE RECENTLY created a Church Zoom schedule in our desire to continually meet the wide variety of needs within the church membership. Starting this month, two Sundays in each month there will be a Pulpit Supply minister following a more traditional order of service. The other two Sundays a month, we will be asking Innovative Christian Ministers/Teachers/Leaders/Change Makers to share their wisdom and insight on a particular Christian topic and then offer those present, if they wish, an opportunity to ask questions to further deepen their understanding and spiritual insight.

We look forward to seeing you Sunday mornings at 10:00 am!



“Easter is about the resurrection of not just the child of humanity, but of the community of humanity.”

MATTHEW MYER
BOULTON

Church on Zoom: Mathew Myer Boulton

- Sunday, April 11, 2021
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Guest Speaker Mathew Myer Boulton, author of the Strange New World Podcasts entitled *Understanding Easter*, will be joining us for Church on Zoom in the season of Eastertide. If you have missed Mathew’s wonderful podcasts throughout the Lenten season, you can catch up your listening on our ‘This Sunday’ feature. You won't want to miss this!

A Brief Memo from the Past Chair of Trinity Council

The new office furnishings are welcoming, the new environmentally efficient doors are installed and we look forward to a beautiful Spring as we pass by the one year anniversary of COVID. Let it be the last one of physical distancing! Trinity United Church hosted the 2020 Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 28 via Zoom. Twenty-one members and adherents attended to celebrate 2020 and plan for the future. A new governing structure was approved and will be shared with the Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge Council and later approved by our Region, the Western Ontario Waterways council. We are seeking a new Chair and 2

Ad Hoc representatives. Please inform Ann McAlpine if you are interested @ 519-925-5974.

Due to continued COVID restrictions and presently living in the Red Zone, we continue to follow the guidelines from the Wellington Dufferin Guelph Health Unit. Our re-opening committee is suggesting that until we have more of the population vaccinated, our church should remain closed until June.

New contracts with our Seventh Day Adventists and Catholic partners have been updated based on this timeline. They too are anxious to gather again in our church building for worship.

Easter blessings to all, keep well and stay safe!

Ann McAlpine

A Brief Memo from the Past Clerk of Session of Primrose Council

Primrose United Church held their Annual Meeting on Sun., Feb. 21st by zoom. It was great to see many faces we had not seen in a while.

All reports were approved from both our Primrose Annual and Financial reports as submitted, as well as the Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge Annual and Financial reports. There was discussion regarding rental possibilities, with more research being done and being brought back to the congregation for further discussion. We are still looking for a secretary and clerk, so will proceed with rotating secretary duties, unless someone kindly offers to take the position. It is important to the running of our church, as well as for the pastoral charge, to have someone take position as clerk of session, especially as we look forward to the possibility of welcoming new ministry. There was discussion about the roles of the quartet, as well as the work of the search committee. We appreciate all the representatives on all these committees, who are doing wonderful work on our behalf.

We realize the year ahead brings much uncertainty, but we look forward to what may come our way with hope and excitement.

The words that have been relayed many times this last year will remain important as we enter the next year --Stay safe. Stay well. Look after each other.

Gail Brown

Besley Country Market

will be opening around the 1st of June. The tomatoes were planted the last week of February and with all the sun we are enjoying they are growing quickly. We can see cherry tomatoes already. We look forward to seeing you soon.





It's Happening!

Are you eligible for your COVID 19 vaccination?

Check out this link for information about pre-registering with our WDGHU.
<https://register.wdgpublichealth.ca/node/8>

Discernment Committee Report

March 2021

Since our last report, the discernment committee is still hard at work. We meet every week - or very occasionally every 2nd week - and do lots of individual work in between our meetings- such as following up on emails, reviewing new candidates as they come up on ChurchHub - sending out invitations via emails to new candidates and taking phone calls from interested parties.

We have lately interviewed 2 very exciting candidates via zoom - one has taken another call. Fortunately, we are still continuing in-depth discussions with the other.

The ongoing process includes checking references of any candidate with whom we enter into serious conversation. We talk to both colleagues, supervisors and congregants of each candidate who holds our interest. We listen to as many of their services as possible that are being shown on YouTube - or presented as podcasts - or are being held interactively as zoom services or Facebook live. We have gained a "bird's eye view" into how other United Church Communities of Faith worship together during this time of COVID. This has been an inspirational part of our job.

In an effort to attract other candidates, the committee will review our Church profile on ChurchHub to make it a less overwhelming proposition for interested parties.

Finding a new minister during COVID is complicated! Encouraging anybody to move into our community at such a difficult time, while our house prices are skyrocketing in this area is proving to be quite a daunting task. We have had many bumps in the road, but we are determined to diligently continue this work despite its many challenges.

We appreciate our two congregations' prayers and support for us as we struggle onwards and upwards.

Karin Klouman
on behalf of
The Discernment Committee



Back to Church via Zoom

Sunday March 14th marked one year since the beginning of the pandemic and what a pleasure it was to go to virtual church! Zoom enabled folks from Trinity and Primrose to see each other and worship together. I want to commend all those involved with setting it all up. I am sure it involved time and patience and I believe it was a big success. Hopefully soon we can all be together again.

Submitted by Shirley Farnell

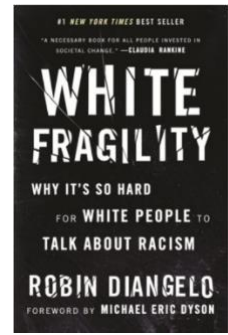


In the Bulb There is a Flower

Hymn 703 in Voices United

In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

We heard you singing!



White Fragility Book Study

We had our first book study session with LeeAnn McKenna on Robin DiAngelo's provocative book, *White Fragility*. LeeAnn got us started with some interesting exercises followed by discussion on what popped up for each of us. A very funny video was shared. It's a Great way to learn hard things. Of the twelve in the group, five are from the pastoral charge and two from Westminster United.

Submitted by Karin Klouman



**Come In!
Come in and sit down!
You are a part of our
Family!**

We invite you to come in
through our new front
doors at Trinity and hope
you will feel like a part of
our family!

**All are welcome when our
doors open again!**





Please join us for a Socially Distanced Fellowship
In the Trinity United Church parking lot the
First Sunday of the month.
April 4th
May 2nd
June 6th

The Offering will be received.



We have received sad news of the passing of Ruth Kidd and Lois Hills this winter. Both were dear friends of Trinity! Blessings to their families and friends!



Members of Trinity are sending Best Wishes to Peter and Arlene Markle as they begin the next chapter in their lives! They have been active and compassionate members of our church for 30 years and part of our community for 46 years! We wish them well in their move to Chelsea, Quebec, this month! They have mixed emotions as they leave their friends of many years, but look forward to being closer to their daughter, Joanne and son-in-law, Richard! Not to mention the many sleepovers their sweet granddaughter, P lagie, has planned with them! Be safe dear friends! Blessings and we will be in touch!

Mother's Day Plant and Bake Sale, 2021 Wonderful floral gifts for Mom and Grandma for Mother's Day, as well as beautiful additions to your own gardens!

Delicious home baked pies and tarts!

Complete attached forms and return by Sunday May 2nd.

Orders ready for pick up at the sale on

Saturday, May 8th, 8-11am,

Primrose United Church, 486281 30th Sideroad, Mono
(NE corner Hwy 10 & 30th Sideroad Mono).

Due to COVID health protocols, all items must be pre-ordered.

Mandatory masks and social distancing in place.

Free delivery upon request!

Any questions call Gail 519-925-2397 or Sharon 519-306-0669
or email orders to primrose.uc@gmail.com

Check out pictures and order forms on church website

www.shelburneprimrose.com

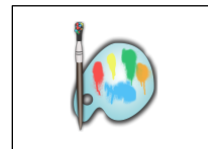


For the creators:

Calling all artists, crafter and "COVID creators"! Primrose U.C. is hosting "Art for the Garden Show and Sale", Sat., June 5th.

Birdhouses, windchimes, planters, whirligigs, stepping stones, sculptures, etc.! HANDCRAFTED ONE-OF-A-KIND ITEMS WANTED!

Outdoor table/space \$20. Single item \$10. For more information and to register (by May 29th) call Gwynn 519-925-9136.



For everyone else:

SAVE THE DATE! Primrose United Church ART FOR THE GARDEN SHOW AND SALE, Sat., June 5th, 1 to 4pm. Rain or shine!

Your chance to find a one-of-a-kind piece to enhance your garden!

Birdhouses, planters, windchimes, whirligigs, stepping stones, sculptures & more!



Greetings neighbours,

We are **First Line for Syria** - a small non-profit group of neighbours, all volunteers, who mostly live on the First Line of Mono. We are a refugee sponsorship group that offers comprehensive support and guidance for new-comer families.



In the fall of 2015, we decided to officially launch a campaign to sponsor a Syrian refugee family. The family arrived in February of 2016 and we are pleased to say that they are now successfully settled in London, Ontario. We are delighted to report the teenage daughter is in her first year of study at Western University.

While we are happy with the success of our first sponsorship, we recognize that there are still many who need help. We are aware of one such family, of two parents and six children, that have been living in a Jordanian refugee camp for the last eight years. Please take the time to read this family's harrowing story (see reverse). As you'll see, the family's need is great and they are living with no hope of ever returning to Syria. We are inspired by this family's resilience and are working hard to bring them to Canada so they can be reunited with their relatives here.

During our first sponsorship experience, we were astonished by the compassion and generosity of our community. Please consider donating to help this family of eight leave the refugee camp.

There are 3 easy ways to donate:

1. **Online** at canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/38297/donation
2. **E-transfer** to firstlineforsyria@gmail.com
3. **Cash or cheque** - please email firstlineforsyria@gmail.com to arrange

We are happy to offer **charitable tax receipts** for donations of \$25 or more. This is made possible through a partnership with our local United Church.

Thank you for your time, and stay safe!

First Line for Syria



Find us on Facebook!

Searching for Hope and a Home

This family of eight has been living for almost eight years in a 20 x 20' tent, which stands in a sea of similar tents.

Their journey to this cramped safe-haven was fraught in danger, hunger, fear and death.

Their own home in Damascus was destroyed by a bomb in 2012 as they huddled in fear with neighbours in a bomb shelter.

Having lost their home, they travelled to neighbouring villages where they were able to stay with relatives for a few months at a time. About ten months later, the UN discontinued support in their region, cutting off the food supply which had been feeding the family. At that point, the parents, along with some siblings and their spouses and children, decided the family should flee to Jordan. They were eight adults and seventeen children, many of them too small to walk for any length of time. To avoid military officials, bombing raids and snipers, they had to travel by night.



They stayed off of main roads, navigating dirt roads and relying on strangers for food and water. There were times when a vehicle would be approaching them, and they were forced to lie flat and silent in the ditch to avoid detection. The parents had very little to eat as they focused on keeping their children from starving. After five gruelling days of perpetual fear, hunger, and thirst, they arrived at the border where they waited with thousands of refugees to be allowed into the Jordanian camp.

They left family members behind who have since been killed by military forces, or by bombs. The father's youngest brother is one such individual who died under torture while in the custody of the Syrian military.

Although they are grateful to have a place where the children are not starving, or in danger of being killed, the parents are desperate to leave the camp. Their living conditions are extremely cramped, it is illegal for the parents to work and the children haven't had any form of schooling in eight years.

The father of this family has a brother and sister-in-law who also fled Syria with their children and entered Canada as refugees. The brother has since found full-time work, the children attend the local schools, and the sister-in-law is able to provide meals and support to her seven children.

Our goal is to see this family of eight leave the refugee camp behind and be reunited with their successfully settled relatives here in Canada. But we need your help!

Please consider contributing towards bringing this family of eight to Canada.

Visit www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/38297/donation to donate today.

Urgent and Good News! The family has had their interview with the Canadian Embassy in Amman, Jordan and was accepted **on the spot**. They are likely to arrive in a few weeks! Now we are launching a fundraising campaign because First Line for Syria will be covering all expenses in getting them safely to Canada. Our work with Shelburne Pace Credit Union makes it easy to donate via email transfers directly to the First Line for Syria account, which is held by Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge. Your support would be greatly appreciated!



Holy Week Events

Palm Sunday: 10.00 online service with Rev. LeeAnn McKenna speaking

- Please cut a branch of greenery to use in the service.

Maundy Thursday

- LeeAnn will be preparing a liturgy for household use for Palm Sunday—built around a meal and the washing of feet—either for acting out the drama of the Upper Room or just for reading.

Good Friday: 10.00 online service of worship

- with music by our pastoral charge choir.

Easter Sunday

- 7.00 Easter Sunrise service, socially - distanced and safe at the Primrose Quiet Garden. You can park at Gimme Shelter or on the road.
 - Please bring a flask of something hot; hot cross buns will be served.
 - Easter Online Service 10.00 a.m. He is risen!

Pastoral Charge Upcoming Events

Sunday March 28, Palm Sunday, Zoom service at 10am

Thursday April 1, Maundy Thursday

Friday April 2, Good Friday, Zoom service at 10am

Sunday April 4, Easter Sunday, 7am sunrise Service at the Primrose Quiet Garden

Saturday May 8, Mother's Day Plant & Bake Sale, Primrose United Church

Sunday May 9, Mother's Day

Sunday May 23, Pentecost Sunday

Saturday June 5, "Art for the Garden" Sale Primrose United Church

Sunday June 6, Trinity Anniversary Sunday

Sunday June 20, Father's Day



Fiddle Foot Farms. **Join our Summer CSA** If you are looking for the most *cost-effective* and *mutually beneficial* option for purchasing our vegetables, consider becoming a **Summer CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)** member! You will enjoy a *consistent, high-quality, diverse* selection of the *freshest* vegetables *grown close to home*. Weekly shares begin in the **3rd week of June** and continue until the **end of October**. We have been offering memberships for 12 years. Memberships will fill quickly, so *please don't delay* if you are interested.