

Annual Report **2019**



Trinity United Church


3030 Rosemont Blvd

Montreal, Quebec

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In Memoriam

Ike Amromin

Catherine Bray

Denise Brosseau

Nolande Yvonne Braithwaite Callendar

Patricia Farrow

Gerald Garceau

Ruth Garland

Glen Graves

Jain Knapman

Frank Massarelli

Lillian Hurdle Merritt

Mrs. Peppy

Nick Palumbo

Angela Silver

Albert Taylor

Gary Troope



A Message from Our Minister



A windstorm arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but Jesus was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. They were amazed, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?" - Matthew 8:23-27

Dear Friends:

"What sort of man is this?," the disciples keep asking themselves. "What sort of man is this?," we likely keep asking ourselves too, if we're honest.

Someone who was human, yet at the same time, a mystery, embodiment of the divine. Someone who could pull off miracles, yet remain so unassuming and approachable. Someone whose love was so natural, so inclusive, even when to be inclusive turned off many of the respectable religious folk of his day. *Asking such questions* - who? what? why? how? - of him and of ourselves is the very stuff of Christian faith. *Acting out of that faith* - getting in the boat with Jesus - that is the essence of Christian living and something so many of you have striven to do day in and day out in 2019.

Thank you! Thank you hanging in there during a year, yet again, of major change.

2019 was the year of approving our new slimmed down Council system of governance, for starters. So many of you stepped up to take on leadership - dreaming

of what could be and putting it all together. Glenn Funamoto, Ira Lax and so many others - Thank you! Others put themselves forward to serve on Council and as part of our Ministry teams. You know who you are! Thank you! Getting into this boat hasn't been easy. We've hit some storms. We're still finding our way. Yet, we're still here, sailing with Jesus, and growing together as a community. Trinity has always been blessed by strong, faithful leaders. In 2019 we stand on the shoulders of giants as new leaders find their way.

2019 has also been a year of loss in our community. Catherine Bray; Angela Silver; Gerald Garceau; Ike Amromin; Frank Massarelli. Loved ones, friends, leaders, members of this church whose absence is profound, and yet their memory will never fail to bring a smile as we do what church folk do - remember them. We also missed the active presence of friends and leaders like Judy Massarelli, living now in the West Island, and Ivylin Scott, recovering at home from a leg ailment, and pray for them. Several members have had tough health years and we don't get to see them as often as we wish - God bless each one!

2019 has seen the continued dedicated service of our paid staff and a corps of volunteers without whom Trinity could not continue to be. Julia Budd, Vera Studnicki and John Bridgman - Thank you! Volunteer worship musicians Gary Tompkins and John Brosseau (and Keynote helpers Luka Coward-Yaskiw and Diane Best) - Thank you! Sunday School teaching stalwarts Sheri Cameron, Sabz Heffernan and - keeping up with the little ones! - Sarah Garceau; Busy Beavers Ashley Verhaeghe, Garry Garland, Gordie Bailey, and for Security, John Brosseau - Thank you! Sunday collection, envelope and accounting volunteers Eric Garceau, Patrice Laporte, Warren Purcell, Beverley Bridgman, Philip Massarelli and Shirley Cartmill - Thank you! We said goodbye to our Super Seniors animator (and founder!) Grace Rostig this year and thank her for her creativity and love for the Supers. Entering the scene now is the Trinity Friendship Group/Club Amitié Trinité - with Gail Pallente and Claudette Petrauskas taking the lead as volunteers (not to mention Christine Tatarewicz' special meals!). Thank you!

Trinity's choir serves faithfully in worship 42 weeks out of the year. For one member, Shirley Budd, 2019 marked her 60th year of singing! Amazing! Thank you! Grace-Dart Extended Care Ministry team members David and Garry Garland, Delores Best, Diane Best, and Gordie Bailey - Thank you!

To anyone I may have missed (I'll catch you next year!), or who remains unnamed in the beautiful ways you contribute to who and what Trinity is - Thank you! And to our members and friends, without each of you 2019 at Trinity would have been the poorer,

and our boat listing about on the waves with fewer friends to help steer.

As for me, 2019 was an exciting and challenging year. In addition to my church work at Trinity and Anjou, my presidency of the Almage Senior Community Centre board continued. I also took on a role on the Quebec and Eastern Ontario Candidacy Board - taking me away to interview candidates for ministry for two intensive weeks out of the year. That, and co-chairing (with Lisa Byer-de Wever) the Nakonha:ka Regional Living into Right Relations Committee made me a very busy man. I'm looking forward to paring back some of these responsibilities in 2020 - in the search for a better work/life/volunteering balance.

Despite the struggles 2019 presented us, and the questions of which way to go and how to get there, with God's help you pulled off an amazing year of dedication, creativity and fun that sets us up for full-speed ahead in 2020. Thank God that Jesus is in our boat - sleeping some of the time, to let us sail forward, maybe making mistakes and being afraid of where we're headed. But he's there - to keep an eye out for each one and to guide us when we ask him for help. He is the reason we do what we do - his love, the justice he calls for, the radical vision of including everyone that keeps our sails full and hopes high.

For all your support I thank you and I'm blessed to be among you in the boat that is Trinity. With Christ as our captain, we have an exciting year ahead!

Blessings and love,
Read



A Message from Our Chair

The first draft of this year's annual report was written in anticipation of publication during Lent. It seemed the perfect time to be still and reflect on the year behind us while looking forward to the year ahead. Now, it appears we are in a time where reflections need to keep pace with the many adaptations required to thrive during a rapidly changing world. Trinity Council chose to delay publication of this report and our annual congregational meeting until we knew more about how COVID-19 would impact our ability to meet in person. Now, we are starting to see a need to hold that meeting online. Detailed information will be distributed to all members and adherents as soon as we can be sure to follow Regional United Church guidelines regarding such matters. In preparation of said congregational meeting, here is the long awaited recap of Council's activities:

As many of you know, the spiritual path of our church family this year led us through a shift in the governing structure so that we could better organize and serve our community. We're still building up that structure and ironing out the transition in leadership but, I'm proud to say we

managed to run business as usual because of how diligently every leader in our church family picked up and/or continued the day to day work. There are too many people for me to thank here but, all of our Council members know how vital you've been and continue to be. It's clear we have many strengths as a community so, now we're just looking to streamline policy in such a way that will facilitate teamwork and growth. Council has called in Regional help with protocol development in everything from M&P processes to rental contracts.

To continue our spiritual work, Council recognizes how vital our financial and community health is. One of our goals is to increase revenue generation and outreach through renting our spaces to non-profit organizations without sacrificing the peace of mind that comes with restricting building access to members/long time affiliates only. To achieve this, we had a programmable lock installed on the 7th avenue door. Now, the building can be accessed as needed during our operating hours while lost or stolen keys can be deactivated. As you know, Council has oversight of all that happens in the church and many of our meetings addressed

specific needs of one ministry or another. I won't go into everything we've done here however, all Council minutes are publicly available on Trinity's website and I'm always happy to discuss business if you're curious about something specific.

Council's ideal practice moving forward will be to have a sustainable way for everyone to provide suggestions and feedback. After all, a leader's responsibility is to the people they lead so, we want to know what you think! There is no one right spiritual path but, one thing is clear: We are to love and care for others as fiercely as we love ourselves. We are to stand alongside

those that are forced into hardships that no one should handle alone. Now more than ever, I see daily examples of how our community of faith strengthens and improves the lives of individuals. I've seen people that hardly know each other jump in to help each other without a second thought. Solutions to obstacles are being freely offered and arranged. These are the teachings of the community I serve and, I am honoured to continue serving in whatever capacity is deemed useful. To lead well is to lead together.

Yours as ever,
Sabz

Trinity Council 2019



Minister
Rev. Read Sherman



Chair
Sabz Heffernan



Treasurer
Beverley Bridgman



Director, Finance
Philip Massarelli



Director, Spiritual Affairs
Gary Tompkins



Director, M&P
Claude Beaumont



**Director, Communications
Council secretary**
Sheri Cameron

Session Report

The Session consisted of the minister and elders who were elected by the congregation for their wisdom, caring, spiritual discernment and other gifts of the Spirit. It was the duty of Session to oversee the spiritual interests of the congregation, and to have oversight of the worship service, administration of sacraments, membership, the religious training of the young, pastoral care, outreach, Inquirers and Candidates for ministry, to keep the roll of the congregation and the register of baptisms, marriages and burials and to ensure support of the elderly. Elders had an assigned list of members of the congregation to keep in touch with.

Before the change of governance structure, the session met regularly, four times in early 2019, to discuss and make decisions about all matters that came before it. In May, Session met for the last time, joined by the new Ministry Leaders.

We deeply appreciate the many years of dedication and service of our Elders. They were:

Beverley Bridgman, John Brosseau, Shirley Budd, Shirley Cartmill (Clerk of Session), Judy Ciciola, Sabrina Heffernan, Lorna McIntyre, Heather Purcell, Murray Rainier, Ivylin Scott, Elouise Segre, Rev. Read Sherman, and Gary Tompkins (Chair).

Now that we have a new governance structure at Trinity, Session has been replaced by a Director of Spiritual Affairs and five Ministry Leaders and their ministry teams, along with the new Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Tompkins
Director of Spiritual Affairs

The 5 ministry teams and their leaders are:

- **Christian Development** (Jenn Carroll)
- **Congregational Life** (David Garland)
- **Membership and Pastoral Life** (Judy Ciciola)
- **Mission and Outreach** (Stacey Ciciola)
- **Worship** (Heather Purcell)

Spiritual Affairs



▶ Worship Ministry

The Worship Ministry leaders were Christine Tatarewicz and Heather Purcell.

Trinity celebrated the sacrament of Holy Communion six times during the year. Special services included Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Blue Christmas/Memorial and Christmas Eve. Many of us also joined our friends at Anjou United for a Maundy Thursday Seder Celebration. We enjoyed a wonderful Christmas Pageant by our talented children in December.

We are blessed on a regular basis by the spiritual and insightful leadership of our minister, Rev. Read Sherman, in worship and pastoral care.

We are also thankful for those willing to lead worship when Rev. Read is away. In 2019, services were led by Heather Purcell, John Brosseau, Aaron Miechkota, Sheri Cameron and the Sunday School children, and Rev. Shaun Yaskiw.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Tompkins
Director of Spiritual Affairs

▶ Congregational Life Ministry



The year started under the leadership of Eric Garceau as the Chair of the Fellowship Committee. Then in April, with our new governance structure, David Garland became Ministry Leader for Congregational Life.

Events in 2019 included a visit to a Sugar Shack, eight Breakfast Club Saturday breakfasts with a number of special guests, including representatives from Hands Across the Sea about mission work in Haiti, and in November we had veterans from the Rosemount Canadian Legion Branch 29 and Mr. Tom Irvine (Legion National Headquarters President), military chaplain Rev. Shaun Yaskiw and a bagpiper from the Black Watch. Our youth group helped serve and all agreed this will be an annual event. We also had our annual Breakfast with Santa with Mrs. Claus joining us as well.

We look forward to another great year of fellowship together.

David Garland
Ministry Leader for Congregational Life

▶ Christian Development



2019 was a successful year for our Sunday School with 14 active members and the establishment of a new Youth Group and a Junior Handbell Choir.

Last February our newly-formed Youth Group went to Worshiplude in Ottawa and met other United Church youth.

Over the summer, two of our children went to the United Spirit-Esprit Unie United Church of Canada residential camp.

We held our biggest VBS yet - welcoming 20 children to the to Mars and Beyond! VBS Day Camp. At least 10 of the campers are not regular church-goers, we were happy with the outreach.

In the autumn, our children were active in their classes, beginning with a blessing of the backpacks, then organizing the Fall Festival and the We Scare Hunger Campaign in October.

In December, the Youth Group held a benefit concert for the Best Gift Fund and received \$850 in generous donations, which we then used to buy toys for Sun Youth.

Once again we worked hard to present our annual Christmas pageant.

Oh, and somewhere in there we also had multiple sleepovers!

▶ Membership and Pastoral Life



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH 2019

Baptisms

Marriages

Olivia Worton & Dalla Sen	Married: July 19, 2019
Melina Gracioppo & Anthony D'Orazio	Married: Sept. 14, 2019
Caterina Varano & Alfio Cardinale	Married: Dec. 6, 2019

Deaths

Catherine Bray (Nee Garnett)	Died: Jan. 8, 2019	Memorial: N/A
Angela Silver (Nee Bartoshuk)	Died: Jan. 13, 2019	Memorial: Feb. 8, 2020
Gerald Garceau	Died: Nov. 3, 2019	Memorial: Nov. 16, 2019
Ike Amromin	Died: Nov. 26, 2019	Memorial: Dec. 6, 2019
Frank Massarelli	Died: Nov. 26, 2019	Memorial: Jan. 11, 2020
Denise Brosseau	Died: Nov. 28, 2019	Memorial: Dec. 1, 2019

Membership

Received by profession of faith:

Claude Beaumont	Date Received June 9, 2019
Adrienne Gibson	Date Received: June 9, 2019

Removed from active roll:

By death:

Catherine Bray
Angela Silver
Gerald Garceau
Frank Massarelli

By relocation out of province:

Kevin Lebeau & Kristina Couture

Respectfully submitted by: Gary Tompkins, Director of Spiritual Affairs

► Mission and Outreach

The Open Door Mission

An organization that serves the homeless. Donations of money, food or clothes are appreciated. Un organisation qui veine en aide à des sans abris. Des dons en argent, nourriture ou vêtements sont appréciés. See/Voir Julia Budd.

Auberge Madeleine

Looking for donations of razors, slippers, pjs & underwear (size L – XL), fitted sheets for single beds and deodorant. Nous sommes à la recherche de dons de rasoirs, pantouffles, pyjama & sous-vêtement (taille G – TG), draps contour pour lit simple et deodorant. To help call/Pour aider appeler Ivlyn Scott, See/Voir Elouise Segre.



Mission and Service Fund

The United Church of Canada's M&S fund goes to help the people of God worldwide. We'd like to thank you for your contributions. Thank you for feeding your soul at our Soup & Chili luncheon. We thank your sweet tooth at our goodie sales where each treat is baked with love and the calories removed ;) . My team hopes that you'll continue to help us in 2020. Le fond de Mission et Service de l'Église Unie du Canada aide le peuple de Dieu à travers le monde. Nous aimerions vous remercier pour vos contributions. Merci d'avoir nourri votre âme à notre dîner Soupe et Chili. Merci à votre dent sucrée lors de nos ventes de gâteries que nous avons tous fait avec amour et les calories ont été enlevées ;) . Mon équipe espère que vous allez continuer de nous aider en 2020.

Donation Breakdown / Vos dons détaillé

Weekly givings / Dons par semaine	\$5166.15
Fundraisers / Lever de fonds	
Bake Sale – Valentine's Day *Feb.17/19	
Vente de gâterie – Saint-Valentin *17 fév. 2019	\$183.50
Bake Sale – Fall *Oct.6/19	
Vente de gâterie – Automne *6 oct. 2019	\$205.00
Soup & Chili luncheon *Nov. 10/19	Sale/Vente = \$506.00
Diner Soupe & Chili *10 Nov. 2019	Expenses/Dépense = (\$92.50)
	Total = \$413.50
Grand Total	\$5968.15

▶ Friendship Group



The Friendship Group started in November 2019 as an evolution from the Super Seniors Group. The volunteers are as follows:

Gail Pallante, Claudette Petrauskas, Christine Tatarewicz, and John Bridgeman. The start of the group was blessed by Rev. Read Sherman

Meat Pies were provided as a donation by Christine to the new group. Claudette created a new Friendship Banner. Gail plans luncheons, makes certain that there is enough food, recycled paper plates - she communicates with the members asking their opinions regarding activities.

The Friendship Group has approximately 15 people every Tuesday from 10:30am to 1:30pm in the Church Gym - all are welcomed - lunch provided - Free Will Donation. December we had Potluck Christmas Party along with Christmas gifts.

Gail, Claudette, Christine and John are working very well with the group and the communication flows well between them and among the members.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Pallante

Stewards Report

Under our new governance structure, the Stewards have been replaced by a Director of Finance, two Ministry Leaders, and their Ministry Teams.

The 2 ministry teams and their leaders are:

- **Buildings & Grounds** (Norman Doré)
- **Fund Development** (Kim Wildenmann-Doré)

Finance Report



► Buildings & Grounds

The purpose of this Ministry is to maintain the building infrastructure and systems and its surrounding grounds.

This was a particularly challenging year following an inspection of our premises by the Montreal Fire Department. We were obliged to install a fire alarm system to monitor the Sanctuary, Memorial Hall, the gym and kitchen, and the caretaker's apartment. This project was awarded to Guard-X and consisted of a control panel, heat and smoke detectors, and evacuation alarms throughout the buildings. Integral to this work was the replacement of the mechanical door lock for the 7th Avenue entrance with an electronic lock and monitoring system. We also had to repair the fire escape leading from Memorial Hall down to the lane and install a fire door in the kitchen. All exit doors were fitted with hydraulic closing devices.

Other projects included re-taping the A-frame plexiglass panels over the main entrance, purchasing and installing a mini Tempo shelter for the 8th Avenue emergency exit, purchasing a new gas-powered lawnmower, and replacing the leaking hot water heater. A special group gathered to assemble scaffolding and change most of the 500-watt bulbs in the Sanctuary. Various improvements were made to roof drains and bathroom plumbing throughout both buildings. A guard plate was added to the front door lock to provide added security against forced entry.

In an effort to reduce electricity consumption, the window frames in Memorial Hall and the 8th Avenue side of the Sanctuary were re-caulked to reduce heat loss.

The Buildings and Grounds Ministry is thankful to count on the dedicated presence of Ashley Verhaeghe for his expertise and guidance in regular maintenance work and as contact person for the church during special projects requiring outside tradespeople. I would also like to extend thanks to John Brosseau, Gordon Bailey, John Bridgman, David and

Gary Garland, Eric Garceau and Patrice Laporte for the invaluable assistance they provide in their continuous service to this Ministry at Trinity.

Yours in Christ,

Norman Doré

► Fund Development



Our group is tasked with finding ways to fundraise to support the church. We do this through fundraising events and managing rentals of the church and its facilities.

Our group has held a number of meetings this year to discuss how we can best run fundraisers and make an effort to coordinate with other church groups such as Fellowship and M & S. This way we hope that people can participate in as many events as they want to.

We have also taken a look at our costs to put on events, and, have made efforts to keep all the events affordable for families and seniors in particular.

In coordination with Fellowship, we held a survey in September to see which events our congregation wanted to have. The top two Fundraising events that were voted for were a Pizza and Games night and Italian Night.

Pizza and Games night was held on Feb 1st and was a success raising \$170. We will hold the Italian Night in March and hope that we can raise even more.

In November, we rented the church Narthex to Elections Canada and we have had several

other smaller rentals. We are looking into what our costs are and how much we need to charge to ensure that we cover our insurance, heating and electricity costs and still make an amount for the church. This project is on-going and we hope to have a price list to submit to Council later this year.

We have also looked at on-line fundraising opportunities. Some money was raised on the Canada Helps website but we still need to work more with the Communications team to broaden our outreach on this platform in order to raise more next year, and particularly on Giving Tuesday (day after Cyber Monday).

We are also looking at opportunities to ask companies to sponsor some of our events. This year the Maple Treat Company donated the maple syrup for two Fellowship events and for the Pancake Supper held this February to raise money to send kids to camp.

Kim Wildenmann-Doré