



Trinity Talks

Spring Edition 2020

It's Easter! Hallelujah!

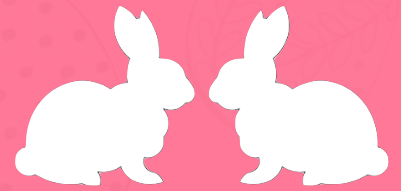
We hope that this newsletter finds you healthy and safe in these strange times of COVID-19. This will be the first time in the history of our church where we will not be able to gather together for Easter. But that won't stop us from celebrating!

The fear that many of us feel during this time of uncertainty must be like the fear that the disciples felt after Jesus was put into the tomb on Good Friday. They were alone and scared. It must have felt like their situation would go on forever. But we know that it didn't. And neither

will ours. Let us focus our attention on those we love. Snuggle down. Share quality time together. And experience the joy that Easter brings.

Please note that should you need anything — ANYTHING! — from a listening ear, to toilet paper, to groceries or medicines, we are here for you. We have set up a Pastoral Team that is ready to go out and bring you anything you need. Call Sabz Heffernan at 514-770-7663 or Rev. Read Sherman at 514-592-7037.

Christ is risen indeed!



*No bunny
loves you like*

Jesus!



"They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two angels in dazzling clothes stood beside them....."

- Luke 24:2-4, alt.



A Note From Rev. Read Sherman

Dear Friends:

We've learned so much about ourselves and our world in the last few weeks since the COVID-19 pandemic was proclaimed by the World Health Organization. What started out as a localized "novel" virus in Wuhan, China has since gone around the world, marking all of us in its wake as globalization shows how interconnected we are - and, whether we like it or not - how interdependent we are. Now we know how vulnerable we can be too - new viruses not knowing borders. We are all one, needing to "sink or swim" together as we pray for as much of the world as possible to stay safe.

And yet, angels meet us unawares! Doctors, nurses (like the two "dazzling" ones pictured above from a COVID-19 drive-in testing clinic here in Montreal), public health officials (even our government leaders - who knew?) rise to the occasion. Bravo, we say!



It is in this context that we approach Holy Week - Palm Sunday (with Communion!) on April 5, Good Friday on April 10, and Easter Sunday April 12. Health precautions keep us at home, but as Christians we can't but remember that our Lenten journey brings us to this moment each year -

enthusiastically to join Jesus' parade into Jerusalem, run for cover at the turn of events and death of Good Friday, only to emerge from our tombs on Easter, dazzling light in our eyes, strange glow in our hearts!

Yes, we will worship online for all three occasions, at 11:15am. Yes, we will enter community using this new technology; which we find connecting us in profound new ways. We hear each other's voices by telephone or computer connection. Many of us can see and be seen. Different than sitting in the pew we always sit in, turning to the same people. We turn to each other, and in our physical distance, we see or hear each as an angel to us, precious, cared-for, missed.

Zoom Worship

Join us on Zoom as we gather and worship together.

MEETING ID: 409-899-9875

Go to zoom.us and click "Join a Meeting" then enter the meeting ID
Or call +1 438 809 7799 and key in the meeting ID (4098999875#)

Holy Week Services 11:15 AM:

○ Sunday, April 5: Palm Sunday

Please colour the attached palm and have it ready for our palm parade!

○ Friday, April 10: Good Friday

It has been said that there is no Easter without Good Friday.
Come be with friends during this sombre time.

○ Sunday, April 12: Easter

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Join us online as we celebrate this joyous event! Bring Flat Jesus (see later on in this newsletter)!

Your on-going belief in, and support for, Trinity is critical at this time. Your weekly offering is still needed to do what we do as Christ's Church! Without the plate being passed, we need to get creative.

We look forward to being sprung from the tombs of our COVID-19 lives soon. May Christ's comforting presence accompany you in the meantime! Thank you for your faith, and for your support.

Read

Other times to Gather

○ Friendship Group

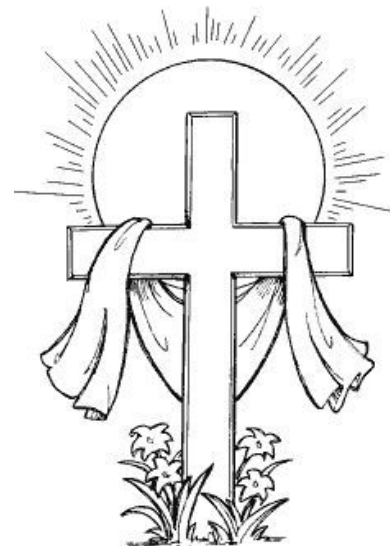
Every **Tuesday** morning at **10:30 AM**.
Gather with Gary Tompkins and other friends. Come chat, check in, and play games together.

○ The Living Room

Every **Wednesday** night at **7:30 PM**. Join Rev. Read Sherman and others as we sing, pray, and discuss together in this relaxed atmosphere.

○ Prayer Meetings

Every **Saturday** morning at **11 AM**.



Walk through Holy Week with Jesus

Here is an activity for kids of all ages as we walk through Holy Week with Jesus. You will find a picture of Jesus in your envelope. Go ahead — colour him and cut him out. He'll walk with you through all of your activities this week.

Each day there is a Bible reading, a reflection, and an activity. We invite you to post photos of your completed activities on our Facebook page so we can share in the journey together.

Prepare. In preparation of Holy Week (April 5 – April 12), we invite you to colour and cut out Flat Jesus.

April
5

Sunday: Jesus enters Jerusalem (Matt. 21: 1-11).

- **ACTIVITY 1:** Place Jesus among the plants of your home to signify the palm branches that people waved.
- **ACTIVITY 2:** Use your stuffed animals or other friends to create a palm parade for Jesus.

April
6

Monday: Jesus cleanses the temple (Matt. 21-12-17)

- **ACTIVITY 1:** Take some time today to reflect on a bad habit you can rid yourself of to become closer to God.
- **ACTIVITY 2:** Sort through your clothes, toys, or kitchen supplies. What can you give away to someone who needs it?

April
7

Tuesday: Jesus washes his disciples feet (John 13: 1-17)

- **ACTIVITY 1:** Take a picture of Jesus beside a body of water: a bathtub, the sink, a lake, etc.
- **ACTIVITY 2:** Be a secret agent for God: how many nice things can you do for people in your home without getting caught?

Wednesday: Jesus and his disciples share The Last Supper (Matt. 26:17-30)

- **ACTIVITY 1:** Bring Jesus to dinner with you and re-enact Jesus sharing communion.
- **ACTIVITY 2:** Our Jewish brothers and sisters are celebrating Passover tonight. Find out about this holiday and how it connects Judaism and Christianity.

Thursday: Jesus prays (Luke 22:39-44)

- **ACTIVITY 1:** Create a prayer space.
- **ACTIVITY 2:** Call someone who may feel lonely and pray with them.

Friday: Jesus dies and is placed in a tomb (Matt. 26:45-61)

- **ACTIVITY 1:** What needs to “die” in your life? Rekindle a relationship, say you’re sorry. Learn to let go.
- **ACTIVITY 2:** Build a person-sized fort to represent Jesus’ tomb.

Saturday: The disciples wait in fear.

- **ACTIVITY 1:** The unknown is scary. What are you afraid of today? Tell Jesus and ask him to help you overcome your fears.
- **ACTIVITY 2:** Make a prayer jar: mix oil, water, food colouring, and glitter in a sealable jar. When you’re afraid, swirl it around and let the glitter carry your fears away.

Sunday: Jesus is alive! (Matt. 28:1-10)

- **ACTIVITY 1:** Come worship with us on Zoom! Bring Jesus!
- **ACTIVITY 2:** Find ways to keep your family traditions alive. Jesus lives — why shouldn’t your traditions?

April
8

April
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April
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April
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April
12



Come walk
with me.

A Letter to the Church from your Director of Finance, Philip Massarelli

Greetings from my office at home – bonjour de mon bureau “chez-moi”.

Emails and phone calls have been our way of keeping in touch with our members, adherents and friends during this time of COVID-19 and the uncertainty of the world around us. My letter is designed to say “hello” – and that I am thinking about you and your extended families and friends.

The whole world is a moving target and who knows what exactly the world will look like when

“Know that you are not alone, but are in the presence of God’s Peace...” (Karoline Lewis)

you finally receive this message – will I have it right? Well if something looks odd – it may be that things have just changed again.

As soon as COVID-19 made its debut in Canada, the church Council met and discussed what to do. Keeping everyone safe was our priority. As school boards closed, we quickly followed their lead and decided that coming to church was not a safe option for most of our congregants, so we opted to close the building until further notice.

Immediately we came to the conclusion that we need to stay in contact with each other via mail, telephone and new online experiences. Staying together as a community would be our strength. As I think you can agree, we have done that.

When we met online as a church Council the other night, we talked about how the current COVID-19 emergency and the public health restrictions will affect our collective lives including our finances – your finances – my finances – our church’s finances. How are we going to survive? Our church buildings are closed – many folks are off work – unable to get out – what to do?

My task was to draft this letter and to share my story and at the same time ask for your ideas on how we can continue our ongoing mission without our regular Sunday morning

gifts from you.

So, part of my story so far...

My life here at Trinity has had many great experiences over the years – to name a few:

- My family started coming to Trinity in 1963
- singing in the Junior Choir and joining the Scouts back in the 1960’s
- playing badminton and being a member of the “Tower Youth Group” in the 1970’s
- meeting my wife Carol Cunningham here and getting married in the 1980’s
- having our children, and then having them baptized in 1989 and 1992
- being an Elder, Trustee, Chair of the congregation, and currently the Director of Finance

- participating in the funeral service for my father-in-law Andy Cunningham in 2006 and most recently for my dad Frank in January 2020....

How has Trinity impacted your life over the years?

I would welcome your response to how the church can remain a place of belonging and participation for you and those you love into the future. Reach out to me via email Philip.massarelli@outlook.com or call me at home at 514-252-0167 with your ideas. (Je parle français aussi!)

Please take care of yourself and your loved ones. Please pray about how you can help us out at this time – perhaps your financial resources are more limited now than ever before; perhaps you can share more resources with us. Each one is different – but whatever your situation is, please keep in contact with us and share your experiences as we find new ways to connect online and offline.

Peace – Paix – Pace

Philip Massarelli – Director of Finance

Ways to Support Trinity Financially

1

Cheques

Including post-dated cheques (made payable to “TRINITY UNITED CHURCH”) — can be mailed directly to Philip Massarelli to be deposited to Trinity’s bank account.

Trinity United Church
c/o Philip Massarelli –
Director of Finance
4997 rue Mignault
Montreal, QC H1M 1Y6

2

PAR

(Pre-Authorized Remittance)

Pre-authorized remittance is a direct payment that comes out of your bank account or on your credit card on the 20th of every month.

To get on PAR, please fill in the attached form or find it online, at www.unitedchurch.ca under PAR. Shirley Cartmill (514-376-2159) can also give you a form.

Once the form is complete, please mail it to:

Trinity United Church
c/o Shirley Cartmill
3050 Rosemont Blvd;
Montreal, QC H1Y 1M2

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Shirley Cartmill.

3

Online

- On the Canada Helps website. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/16902>

Ou en français <https://www.canadahelps.org/fr/dn/16902>

- On our website, trinityuc.net and click on **GIVE**

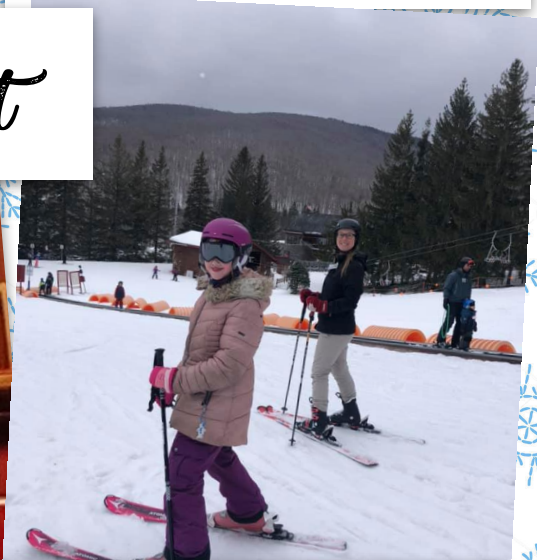
Winter Memories



Best Gift Fund

Over \$800 raised for toys for kids from low income families. Thank you for your generous donations!

Children's Christmas Pageant



March Break Ski Day



Worshiplude in Ottawa



Friendship Group



Breakfast Club



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

In Memoriam

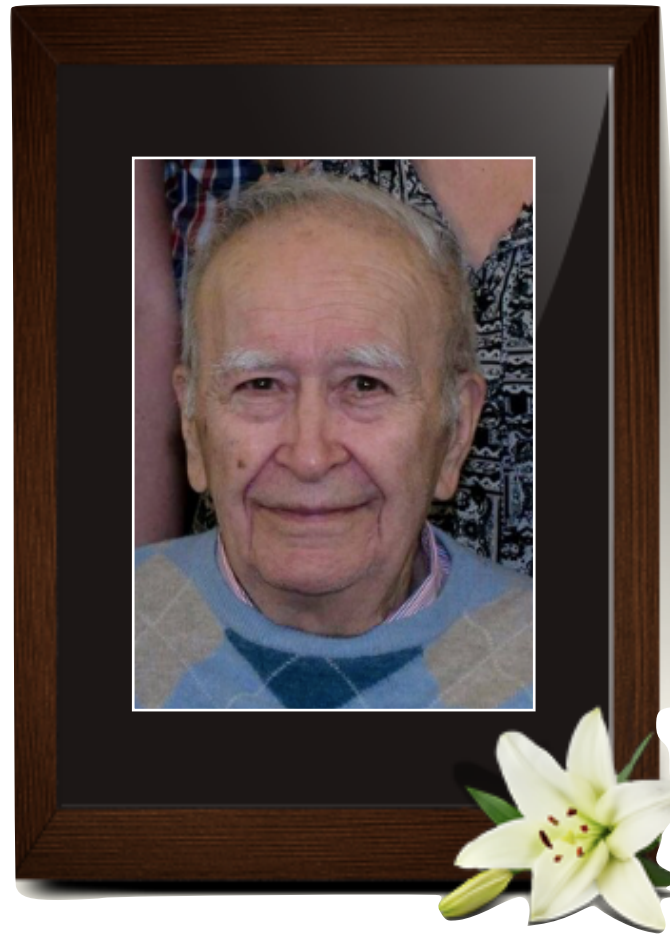
This newsletter is dedicated in loving memory to Frank Massarelli, a pillar of strength in our community for so very long.

Frank spent many, many hours working for the good of our church and always had the church's best interests in his heart. His leadership and calm demeanour are greatly missed.

We extend our love and our condolences to his family.

Frank was a husband to Judy, a father to son, Philip, and to daughters, Kathy (Glenn), Janet (Jean), and Norma (Eddy), grandfather to Allyson (Elliot), Andrew (Krista), David (Elisabeth), Daniel, Zachary, and Emilie, Isabelle and Benjamin, and great-grandfather to Theo, son of Allyson and Elliot.

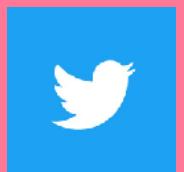
May God hold Frank in his loving arms until we meet him again in heaven.



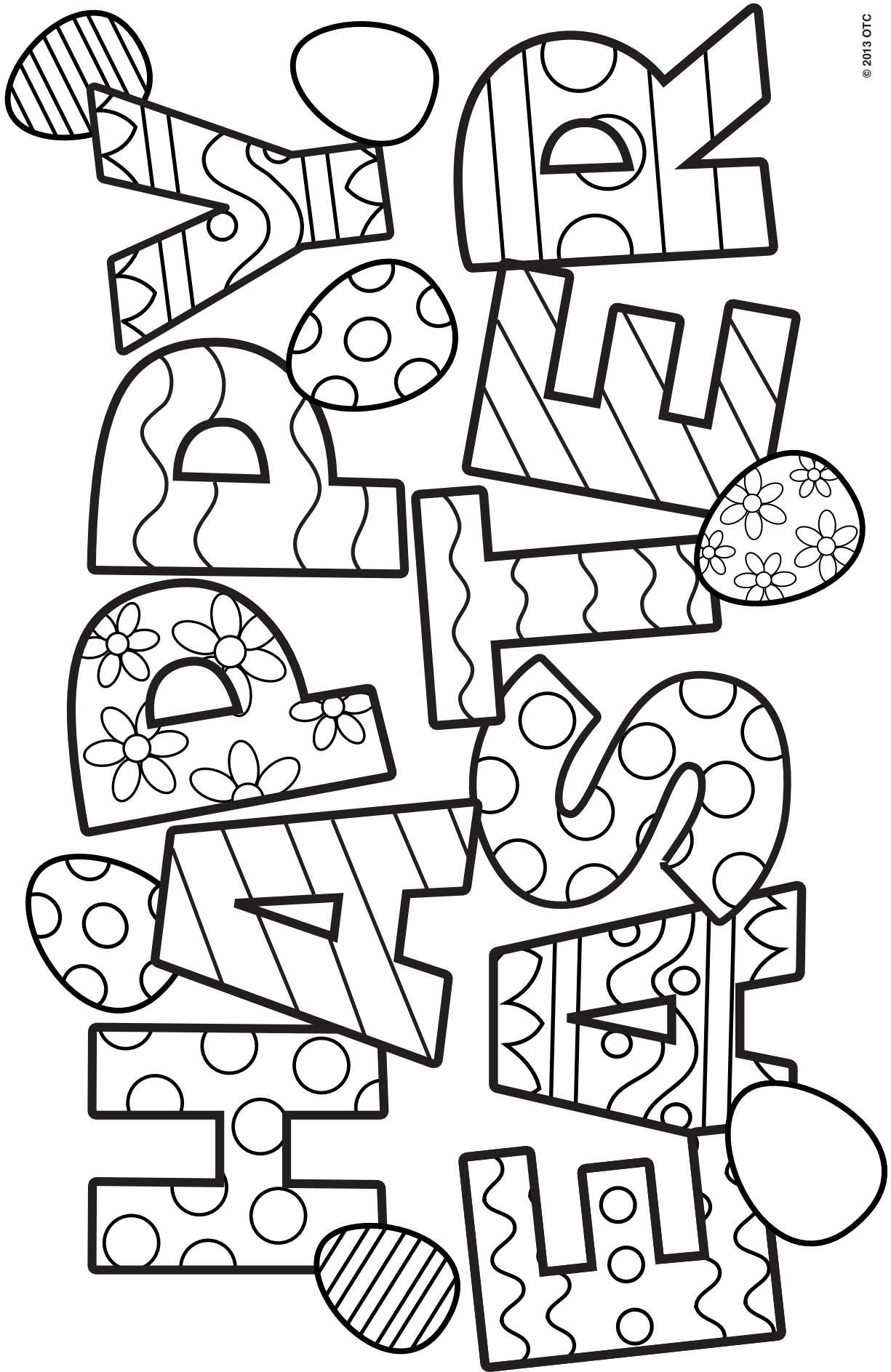
Trinity United Church

3050 Rosemont
Montreal, Quebec H1Y 1M2
phone: 514-721-1830
email: welcome@trinityuc.net
website: trinityuc.net

Keep in touch! We'd love to hear from you!









PAR AUTHORIZATION FORM

- For registration of new PAR donors
- or
- For banking changes for existing donors

FOR USE BY PAR ADMINISTRATOR

PAR congregational number: _____

Church PAR administrator: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail: _____

Donor name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal code: _____

E-mail _____ Envelope# _____ Gift amount \$ _____

Name of local church: _____

Address: _____

This gift to the above church is to benefit

Local church: \$ _____ Mission & Service: \$ _____ Other: \$ _____

Option 1: Pre-authorized debit

Please attach a VOID cheque.

I/We request/authorize The United Church of Canada to debit my/our account on the 20th of every month, starting the 20th _____ of, 20____. I/we also recognize and agree to the following:

- I/we may change the amount of my contribution at any time by contacting our church PAR contact.
- I/we have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, I have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAR agreement. To obtain more information on my recourse rights, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca.
- I/we waive my right to receive pre-notification of the amount of pre-authorized remittance (PAR) and agree that I do not require advance notice of the amount of PAR before the debit is processed.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Option 2: Visa/MasterCard/American Express

Please note that a 2–3% service charge reduces the total of your donation to your congregation.

Card number: _____ Expiry: _____
MM YY

Name on card: _____

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Thank you for your generosity.

The use, retention, and disclosure of personal information collected from this form is done in compliance with privacy legislation and adheres to the principles of the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (S.C. 2000, c.5)*.

The United Church of Canada Attn: PAR • 3250 Bloor St. West, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4
1-800-268-3781, ext. 3152/3050 • fax: 416-231-3103 • par@united-church.ca