



**Trinity-St. Paul's United Church and  
Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts**

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September, 2011

Dear Friends,

Another summer, another year and here we are, back together again as a warm and sustaining community. In fact it isn't just another year...we are approaching our 125th year. How exciting is that! Surely over the vacation period you gave some thought to Trinity-St. Paul's and about how being a part of this congregation enriches your life. And with that you are probably returning with a keen sense of getting involved in TSP's life and work.

It is now time to gather our ideas and resources to plan a celebration in 2012 that will not only hold up what we stand for, but will also build a sustainable future. As in other years we have an opportunity to renew our connection to the church in a way that can make the most of our individual gifts and skills. Whether it is in reading a lesson, preparing the prayers of the people, working with the children, engaging in a social justice initiative or volunteering to be part of a congregational Circle, each individual member's contribution is important. It is also the time for us to strengthen our commitment financially. We certainly need whatever personal and/or financial contributions you are able to offer and ask that you indicate your interests on the enclosed Commitment Forms.

Again this season we also give thanks for our life together through Fall Community Meals. This is an opportunity to spend a relaxing time with other members of the congregation, share your life and concerns, discuss aspects of faith and last, but not least, share some great food.

We ask you to read the enclosed background materials. The Narrative Budget outlines the challenges TSP faces to achieve sustainability and the congregational expenses for our staffing and programs. We are hoping that the total of congregational pledges will increase again this year by at least 6%, that the Fall Appeal (which helps complete this year's budget) will meet its goal of \$42,000, and that you will be a part of this. In place of the usual Time and Talents section of the commitment form, we are including a survey form on your volunteer involvements at TSP which will help our Assessment Group and Board project our capacity over the coming years. For automatic tallying reasons, we prefer that you use the electronic format available at:

<http://www.trinitystpauls.ca/content/volunteer-survey-2011>

If you choose the enclosed paper version, please return it to the TSP office. We want to hear as well from the many of you who for various reasons do not now volunteer.

Many thanks for your support and generosity in contributing to the ministry at Trinity-St. Paul's United Church. Our goal is to complete this year's Season of Commitment on Sunday, November 13th, so we ask you to submit by then your completed Financial Resources Commitment Form (with your Fall Appeal cheque, if possible) at the TSP Office or on the offering plate. If you have any questions about any of the programs at Trinity-St. Paul's, please feel free to contact our ministers Vicki Obedkoff or Hans van Nie.

Thanks for giving!

Allison Savaria, Vera Callahan & Jane Wood, Coordinators / Season for Commitment Campaign