

# Friday News from South West

June 2, 2023

## Trinity Sunday

This week we celebrate Trinity Sunday. What, some of you may be wondering, is Trinity Sunday?

Sundays are a holy day in Christianity, and in creation, and Trinity Sunday is particularly holy.

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost in the Western Christian liturgical calendar, and the Sunday of Pentecost in Eastern Christianity.



Trinity Sunday celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three persons of God: The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The readings for this Sunday begin with Genesis 1:1—2:4a (our first introduction to the God we worship), the very beginning of Genesis, continues with Psalm 8 and culminates in the Gospel of Matthew 28: 16-20 where Jesus gives his final commission to his disciples at the end of his life.

The reading from Matthew this week is a story about the lives of those men and women who followed Jesus; people who were so very ordinary and, yet, so very extraordinary.

Our reading from Matthew 28: 16-20 is:

### The Great Commission

<sup>16</sup> Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Jesus had one last important instruction for these disciples: "Therefore, go and make

disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.”

Jesus spoke these words to the men and women who understood his message and had themselves seen his works.

They were first-hand witnesses to Jesus in the Spirit. They understood the call to spread the word in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. But what a task Jesus had set before them; they were the only surviving members of a face-to-face experience with him and now he was depending on them to carry out his work!

So, I have to ask what about us? We too are ordinary men and women, each with our own burdens and baggage. Most of us do not have the means or the know-how to change the big things in our world. But there are three basic things which we can do to ensure this great commission of Jesus does not go unheeded.

If we can seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God, I believe the rest will follow. If we can learn to both receive and extend God’s welcome to all God’s people, especially those who are marginalized, then we are doing the work of Christ and walking in the presence of Jesus the son, God the Father and the Holy Spirit.

My prayer for this week is:

*Faithful Creator, we give thanks for your forming, saving, and empowering work in our lives. Shape us for a closer relationship with you and a meaningful life among our neighbours.*

*We are thankful for your constant presence in our lives as we learn and grow in our faith.*

*In our daily living and relationship with others, help us to be a sign of your presence and your unending love. Amen.*

In peace

Pastor Beryl, DLM

## *This Afternoon!*

There will be a concert at the **Rockburn Presbyterian church** to welcome their new organ! Our organ, built by Wolfgang Kater for SouthWest 15 years ago. The new residence is a 200 year old stone church with beautiful wood work inside, and the organ looks and sounds gorgeous.

Our own Katherine Black will be singing, as well as members of the Peace&Justice choir.

**Sunday, June 4 at 4 pm**

There is a freewill donation, with all proceeds going to a local food bank.

You are welcome!!

\*Approximately an hour from Verdun.

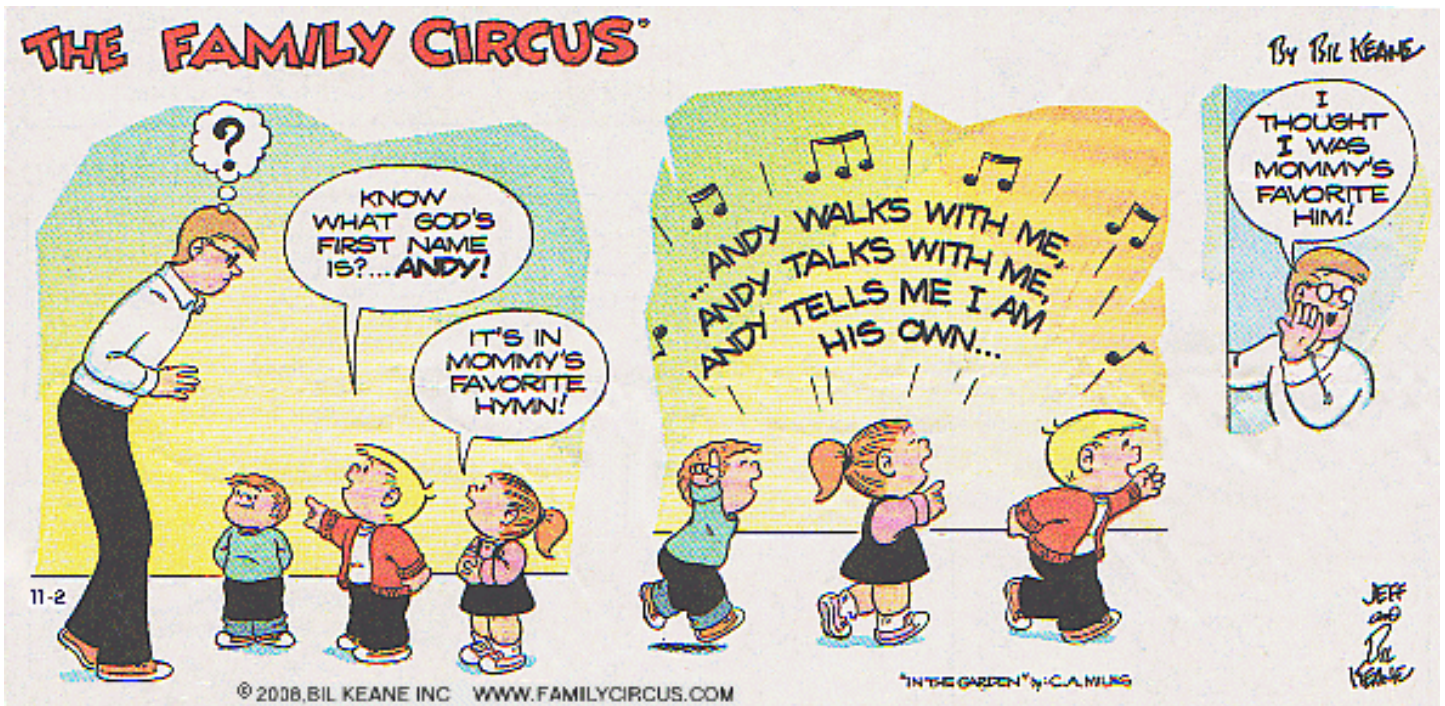
# A Dose of Good News

You may have noticed that the name Natalie Lalonde recently came off our prayer list. If you have any connection with Verdun Elementary, you will know "Miss Natalie" as a teacher, mentor and advocate for all our kids.

Natalie had a pretty complicated surgery to remove a brain tumour last October and has been off work ever since. I am happy to report that she is fully recovered and recently went back to work at VES. We're so happy for Natalie, her family, and the whole community!

Many SouthWest people will remember that some years ago we had a little girl named Louise on our prayer list. Louise was seven, a student at VES, and had cancer.

You might be surprised to learn that little Louise turned 17 not long ago and will graduate from high school this month. She has been accepted to her first choice Cegep for the fall. Best of all, she had her last ever appointment at the cancer unit at the Children's earlier this spring and was given a clean bill of health. We're excited to see what this lovely young woman will do next. Go get 'em Louise!



## Upcoming Services at Summerlea (10AM):

June 4: Trinity Sunday; Pride Sunday, Union Sunday; Environment Sunday

June 11: 2nd after Pentecost

June 18: 3rd after Pentecost; Father's Day, Indigenous Day of Prayer / Food Sunday

June 25: 4th after Pentecost

**Summerlea United will close for the month of July.**

## *SouthWest Prayer List*

John Adnum

David Adnum

Helen Cameron

Donna Cobb & Keith Wood

May Cook

Violet L'Esperance

Phyllis Luther

Bridget McCarthy

Shirley Mitchell

Patrick O'Leary

Roberta Roberts

Doris Smith

Maurice Tringle

Suzanne Webster

If you would like your name added to (or removed from) the prayer list, or if you are requesting on behalf of a family member, call the office or contact Pastor Beryl directly.

**Pastoral Care:** for emergencies, you may contact Pastor Beryl directly on her cell phone. No calls after 9pm please: 514 942-6212.



*SouthWest United Church*  
225 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lachine, Qc. H8T 2T7  
phone: 514 538-0624  
email: [southwestunited@gmail.com](mailto:southwestunited@gmail.com)  
Web: [southwestunited.net](http://southwestunited.net)