***Our Week at a Glance – May 13, 2018***

The flowers today have been placed by the UCW, in loving memory of all mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers.

***THIS WEEK AT TSA:***

**Mon. May 14** UCW General – Chapel, 1:00

**Tues. May 15** Council – Assembly, 7:00

**Wed. May 16**  Bible Study – Marian Roffey, 12:00
 Mat Group – Stewart Hall, 1:00
 Crafty Ladies – Library, 1:00

**Thurs. May 17** Choir – Sanctuary, 7:00

**Sun. May 20** Pentecost Sunday – Communion

**Mon. May 21** Victoria Day – Office closed

***PLEASE SEE BULLETIN BOARD FOR OTHER EVENTS AND DETAILS***

**AUDIO SYSTEM** May 13 – Marilyn Eady
 May 20 – Merv Kusluski

**COUNTING OFFERING** Pat Blandford & Marg Crozier
 June: Geoff Roberts & Noma Deshane

**MEALS ON WHEELS** May 13 – Darwin Phillips & Tyson Jessup
 May 20 – John & Laura Cooke

**Renfrew Youth Chorus Concert**: The Renfrew Children's/Youth Chorus present their annual Spring Concert: "Sing for Spring!" on Sunday, May 13 at 3pm.  Held at Trinity-St. Andrews United Church.  Tickets are $5.00 and available at the door.  Homemade butter tarts and raffle tickets for a Spring themed gift basket will also be sold at the concert.   Come and enjoy an afternoon of music from our 40 children's voices blended together in song!

**From the UCW**: Our next General Meeting is on Monday, May 14, in the Chapel at 1:00pm.

**Upcoming Presentation**: Join Tom Sidney at TSA on Wednesday May 16 at 7pm for a presentation entitled: "Tom Sidney's Gratitude Attitude - from Fears to Tears to Hope!" Tom will talk about his recent illness, which paralyzed him for a time, and his spiritual/emotional journey to recovery. This event is sponsored by the Renfrew and Area Foodbank and is free to attend with a donation to the food bank.

**From Christian Education**: We're having a Church Family Picnic! Join us on June 3, after worship, rain or Shine: on the Plaunt Street lawn or in Stewart Hall. Family and friends of all ages welcome. Food provided – hamburgers, hotdogs, dessert & drinks (also vegetarian & GF food). Games too! Participate or watch: lawn games, parachute games, relays... Want to help? Have a favourite "church picnic" request? Contact Nancy Illman, Ginette Raaphorst, Yvonne Powell or Felicite Stairs. Mark your calendars now!

**From the Thrift Shop**: While sorting through your spring clothes, if you find things that don’t fit, or you don’t wear anymore, please think of the Thrift Shop. We are in need of spring and summer clothing. Thank you!

**TSA Thrift Shop**

**2018 First Quarter Report to the Trinity St Andrew’s Congregation**

For the period January 1 to March 31, 2018 – the first quarter:

* $9,200 will be given to the Church
* $920 will be given to Charity – Camp Lau-Ren
* $897.65 will be given to the UCW to reimburse for sales on Saturdays that they operated.
* Number of days open: 37
* Average number of customers per day: 47
* Average sales per day: $302.17
* Average sale per customer: $6.32
* Net sales for Q1: $11,098.80

Net sales in Q1 were up $1,732.33 from Q1 last year with 2 fewer days open in 2018. Total given to the Church for the year 2018 is $9,200 which is $1,200 more than budgeted.

**From MPCF**: Say "Fantastic!" We are ready to create a collection of photos of all the folks who come to TSA. Photos will be displayed on the wall in the narthex for handy reference. One copy will be kept in the office. You may also request one personal copy. Our photographer Mickey McDonald will have his equipment set up in the Marion Roffey Room after the worship service. It will take about 5 minutes or less per person or family group. Please sign up at the photo table to reserve a time in May.

2018 Affirming

Affirming

Robert Powell

Sometimes despite our best intentions as communities, as people on the *inside* with the power to open or close the door to *outside*, it also becomes easy to forget that those distinctions – *without* and *within* – some with some very heavy baggage. The decision to be inclusive, to be hospitable, to people who have traditionally have been disenfranchised, excluded by matter of rote, and who have had door after door impenetrably sealed to them for loving or acting the wrong way, is something that can demonstrate a community’s strength, and show that it values the profound power of inclusion; as well as the strength that comes from believing in the value of diversity.

The affirming process that TSA is involved in right now surrounds the issue of hospitality; the value of inclusion; and the matter of making your stance on welcoming people of all orientations visible. A symbol is a concentrated message that is more than the sum of its parts. Those who share faith and share principles identify with images which connote values commonly shared. The rainbow is a symbol gifted to human kind by nature that *in its very essence* includes the building blocks of everything we see. It is the precise spirit of inclusion as it is composed of all variety, all colours, all waves of light that amount to a complete continuum; and it means that we all belong.

I did not feel this kind of inclusion when I lived in the Ottawa Valley, many years ago; and there were no visible symbols of inclusivity to make me feel like I might or could be at home, even though this was where I was growing up. I cannot overstate the value of making it explicit, and visible, that everyone who lives here who wants to belong knows that they can belong, and that the community supports people who know very well that they are different but are looking to belong to a community that does not ask them to hide, or lie for the chance to experience hospitality. Hospitality, fraternity, and even the radical gesture of an invitation are the fundamental components of what amounts to inclusion.