***Our Statement of Purpose***

As a community of faith led by the Spirit, we welcome all to worship God and live in loving, just and respectful relationship with each other, our neighbours and the earth. Inspired by the life and ministry of Jesus Christ we strive to recognize the light of God in each person regardless of age, race, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, economic status or any other category by which the world may seek to divide. We challenge ourselves to deepen our relationship to God, to see the light of the divine in each person and in all creation, and to live the faith we proclaim in every aspect of our lives.

***Our Week at a Glance – August 19, 2018***

The flowers today have been placed by Sherrill Maynes & Ed Hathway, in loving memory of Elizabeth Hathway & Ernie Maynes.

***THIS WEEK AT TSA:***

**Wed. Aug. 22** Bible Study – Marian Roffey, 12:00

**Thurs. Aug. 23** Membership, Pastoral Care & Fellowship –
 Marian Roffey, 10:00

**AUDIO SYSTEM** Aug. 19 – Debbie McDermid
 Aug. 26 – Gerry Blandford

**COUNTING OFFERING** Aug. 19 – Leslee Gervais & Marg Crozier
 Aug. 26 – Noma Deshane & Sadie Smith

**MEALS ON WHEELS** Aug. 19 – Ken & Karen Mullins
 Aug. 26 – Garry & Ruth Charter

**Chicken BBQ**: Many thanks to all our volunteers who assisted with our annual chicken barbecue. We have a net profit of $4,370.00.

**Summer Coffee Roster: TSA Coffee Volunteers Needed**: Please join us downstairs in the refreshing coolness of Stewart Hall for fellowship after the service. Thank you to all the helpers who prepare and clean up. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex.

**Upper Room Daily Devotional**: If you are looking to obtain the Upper Room daily devotional, they are now located in the Office, and can be picked up Mon-Thurs, 9-2. The booklets are $2.00.

**TSA Thrift Shop**

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

For the period April 1 to June 30, 2018 – the second quarter:

* $11,000 will be given to the Church
* $1,100 will be given to Charity – Renfrew Food Bank
* $758.85 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: 53
* Average sales per day: $360.80
* Average sale per customer: $6.79
* Net sales for Q1: $13,052.89

Net sales in Q2 were up $1,851.17 from Q2 last year with 1 fewer day open in 2018.
Total given to the Church for the year 2018 is $20,200 which is $2,100 more than budgeted.



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.

Robert Powell



Safe Haven, Stepping Stone

Our gifts for Mission & Service create community and support people living on the margins.

Centre 507, located at Centretown United Church in Ottawa, is an adult drop-in centre and support service that describes itself in its motto: “Safe Haven, Stepping Stone.” Each day, 100 or more people—many facing such challenges as homelessness, poverty, addiction, mental illness, unstable housing, chronic unemployment, and physical abuse— come into the centre seeking a safe and friendly environment.

Daniel Hayward is a former chaplain at Centre 507. He reminisces about his days journeying with the people who drop in: “A lot of coffee and many games of chess! I remember listening to a man who had been released from prison in Kingston, got on the bus to Ottawa, and ended up right away at 507, which is two blocks from the bus station. A young woman came in looking for support; she was pregnant and had been rejected by her church. Parents would arrive, searching for adult children who could be on the streets in Ottawa. A volunteer from a local United Church would repair clothing for grateful participants.

“I led memorial services for participants who had died. One man had no family or money at all and received the solitary burial provided by the government, but the people of Centre 507 and Centretown United showed up so that he would not be alone. Centre 507 staff, volunteers, and participants make a great effort to ensure that no one feels abandoned.” Mission & Service cares for these neighbours.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.