



**May/June 2023**

Welcome to *Generosity in Action*. This regular update celebrates the many ways people at Trinity Streetsville share their time, abilities, talents, and finances to enable us to spread God's love and grace together. Have a suggestion for a future issue? Please send your ideas to [liz@trinitystreetsville.org](mailto:liz@trinitystreetsville.org).

## **Embracing the Future at Trinity Streetsville!**

Did you know that innovation, flexibility, and resilience are vital to Trinity's congregational character? Over our 182-year history, we've faced significant setbacks, including two destructive fires (150 years apart!) and a global pandemic. Yet, through God's grace, the people of Trinity have continued to meet challenges and envision new ways to share and demonstrate God's love.

When the pandemic hit in March 2020, Trinity quickly shifted from in-person services to online worship. We met online for 18 months, pre-recording services and airing them Sunday mornings on our YouTube channel.

Many parishioners returned to attend in person when the church reopened in September 2021.

Also, increasing numbers of visitors joined us after having first explored and experienced Trinity online. We introduced a live stream option (real-time broadcasting) when we reopened, knowing that some parishioners intended to continue watching online. In addition, new viewers continue to join us online each week!

***For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*** – Jeremiah 29:11

Whether people attend church in person or online, we want to provide a way for everyone to be welcomed, nurtured, and involved in life at Trinity. The growth of our online congregation, in particular, calls for innovative ways to foster worship, prayer, and discipleship while creating opportunities to give and serve. Together, our in-person congregation and online community will continue advancing our mission to love Jesus, live like Jesus, and lead others to Jesus.



Recognizing the need to nurture and develop our in-person and online congregations, Trinity is strategically investing in human resources, programming, and technology. This investment will expand our capacity to respond to growth's exciting opportunities and challenges.

To support us, the Anglican Diocese of Toronto has awarded Trinity a multi-year Congregational Growth grant from its Ministry Allocation Fund (MAF). The generous grant provides \$225,000 in the first two years, representing a significant portion of the funding needed to hire a full-time Online Engagement Director, part-time Welcome and Connections Director, and part-time Production Assistant.

The grant from the Diocese enabled us to move forward immediately with recruitment for these vital positions. After a diligent search, we're excited to announce that we have successfully filled these new roles from within the congregation! Congratulations to Elizabeth Archer, Sally Hurkmans, and Dale Birch. Please read page 2 to meet our new team members. The Diocese grant will help bridge the gap as Trinity continues to grow, along with congregational financial giving. Trinity parishioners will also have the opportunity to help advance our vision through special contributions.

## Elizabeth Archer, *Online Engagement Director*

You may recognize Elizabeth Archer from the many times she has warmly welcomed people at the start of a Sunday service. Since she and her husband Elliot joined Trinity in 2013, Elizabeth has volunteered in several other ministries, including Stephen Ministry, children and youth ministry, and as a Board member. On May 29, Elizabeth joined the Trinity staff in the new role of Online Engagement Director.



“My vision is that anyone who tunes in online with Trinity truly becomes 'tuned in' to the life of the church,” says Elizabeth. “By this I mean they feel known, connected, supported, and cared for. They also must have opportunities to give, through time, gifts, and resources, to support the health and vitality of our church.”

Elizabeth's primary responsibilities include:

- Providing pastoral care/discipleship support to online parishioners.
- Creating and maintaining engaging social media content.
- Managing the Trinity website.
- On-camera hosting for the Sunday service livestream (starting in the fall).

“I believe there are going to be some amazing opportunities to connect with and grow our ministry to serve this important part of the congregation,” she says. Elizabeth and Elliot are proud parents to daughters Josephine (9), Cecilia (7), and Gloria (4).

## Sally Hurkmans, *Welcome & Connections Director*

Being a newcomer is nothing new to Sally Hurkmans, our new Welcome and Connections Director. Over her lifetime Sally has attended 11 churches in 12 cities and two countries! Fortunately, she has experienced many warm and genuine welcomes.

“Having experienced what it is to be new fuels my passion for ensuring that every visitor to Trinity feels warmly welcomed and has the opportunity to get connected to Christ and to His family!” says Sally.

In this new part-time role at Trinity, Sally's primary responsibilities include coordinating guest and newcomer welcome and follow-up, connecting existing parishioners with opportunities to get involved, and promoting and supporting LIFE groups. During her two years at Trinity, Sally, husband Rob, and their four daughters have enjoyed getting to know the Trinity community. Sally has been volunteering as a Trinity Care Coordinator, providing a vital ministry to those who are journeying a difficult path.



“We, as a whole church, are called to welcome the stranger, invite the outsider in, and continue Christ's mission of spreading God's love throughout the world,” says Sally. “Of course, our passion for, and ability to welcome others, is firmly rooted in Christ's radical welcome of us!” If you haven't met Sally, visit the Welcome Desk on Sunday to say hi!

## Dale Birch, *Production Assistant*



When Dale Birch, his wife Sadaf, and sons Elijah and Elisha started attending Trinity a year ago, little did Dale know he'd have the opportunity to join the staff 12 months later as our new Production Assistant! This new part-time role offers Dale the opportunity to share the expertise he's gained during more than 25 years in both music and television production, primarily in his native Pakistan. Considered one of the most promising composers in Pakistan, Dale has also worked as a singer-songwriter, music producer, musician, and lyricist. Dale has composed and produced music for large national and international brand campaigns such as Samsung, Levis, Nestle, Pepsi and Mobilink. As well, Dale has served as the Head of Music, Senior Music Director for TV serial OSTs and Lead Music director and Executive producer for Top Pakistani television channels.

“My primary job right now isn't in relation to anything creative,” says Dale. “As an artist I was looking for a creative outlet. This role at Trinity presented an opportunity to do that while also serving God.”

In his new role, Dale will support Media Director Alex Stevens by producing high-quality digital content that inspires, informs, and educates our in-person and online church community. His work will include media production, video editing, and graphic design. Soon you'll see the results on Trinity's YouTube channel, in our Sunday services, and on social media!