

Staff Changes at Trinity

Trinity United Church will see major changes in Ministry Staff this year. At the end of June, Lorraine Powell is leaving to resume her plans for retirement. Lorraine's work in pastoral care, her many hospital and home visits, her participation in worship, and her caring ways have all been appreciated. We wish Lorraine much happiness and satisfaction for many years to come.

After eight years of ministry with us, Blair Odney leaves at the end of August to become the minister at Lynn Valley United Church in North Vancouver. We will miss Blair's multitude of talents: dynamic leadership in worship, ability to lead study groups, musical talent which found expression through our choir and congregational singing, initiation of Jazz Vespers, and support for Camp Hurlburt redevelopment. We wish Blair all the best as he embarks on the next stage of his journey in ministry.

At the Congregational Meeting on June 14th Janet Cawley, on behalf of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery, led the congregation in a discussion of Interim Ministry. Upon recommendation of Presbytery and our Trinity Board of Governance, the congregation voted unanimously to enter into two years of Interim Ministry during which time we'll have the opportunity to define who we are at this point in our development, and discern where God is leading us into the future.

The Interim Minister who joins us in July, 2009, and who will work with us over the next two years is Reverend Sharon Ferguson-Hood. Sharon was born on a farm just north of Regina. In her youth she taught Sunday School and later, volunteered as a youth minister for 10 years in Unity. She attained her Arts Degree and her Masters of Divinity at the University of Saskatchewan. She is a published author and a creative writer. She has traveled extensively in exotic places like Tibet, Nepal, Turkey, Thailand, Laos and Greece. From 2000 to 2007 Sharon ministered with the Haidi Gwaii Pastoral Charge on the Queen Charlotte Islands where she was able to accomplish the challenging task of bringing two churches together into one congregation.

Sharon has three adult children and three grandchildren. We're looking forward to working with Reverend Sharon Ferguson-Hood in the two years ahead.