



St. Paul's Weekly Update – Nov. 3, 2022

From the Minister

As Karen continues to be ill with a cold/flu virus as well as COVID, this Sunday, November 6th, our Remembrance Day service **will be on-line only. Regular in-person services will resume the following week.** There will also be no in-person coffee hour this Sunday.

The funeral service for Clint Truax will go forward, however due to increasing COVID numbers, the family requests that everyone wears a mask.

Worship

Join us on-line for the Remembrance Day service on Sunday November 6th. Visit our website at www.stpaulsmidland.org and use the direct YouTube link at the top of the page, or simply go to YouTube and subscribe to our channel. Just type in "St. Paul's Midland" and you will find us.

Our annual **Foodgrains Campaign** will continue until Nov. 30th. So far, we **have raised \$5,220.** Donations will be matched from our Trust Funds, up to a maximum of \$2,675.00. You can donate by cash, cheque (made payable to St. Paul's United Church) or by e-transfer. For every dollar that you give the Canadian government matches it 4 to 1.



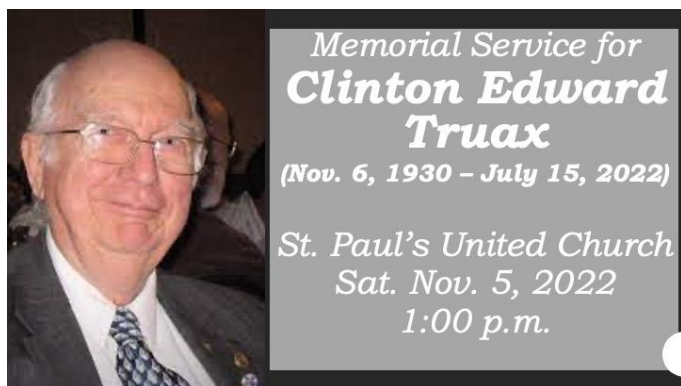
St. Paul's Coffee Hour

There will be no in-person coffee hour this week.

Office Hours

Currently, the office is open on **Tuesday and Thursday mornings** between **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Louise can be reached on her home phone number (705-526-1640) the balance of the time (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays) or by e-mail at stpaulsunity@rogers.com.

Congregational Life



MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CLINTON TRUAX:

Please join us on Sat. Nov 5th at 1:00 p.m. at the church for Clint's service. For those who are unable to attend in person the service will be livestreamed and then available on our St. Paul's Midland YouTube channel.

PASTORAL CARE:

If you know of anyone who is in hospital or in need of pastoral care please contact me, Karen at 705-433-1224.

UCW

The UCW meets on **Tuesday, November 8th** at **1:30pm** in the Parlour. Doreen Gunson will be the guest speaker. All women are welcome!

Faith Formation

Discovery Kids are invited back into the Sanctuary for the Theme Conversation and Christ Candle lighting at the beginning of each service. Children will go up to DK as a group for lessons after that.

Furnace update:

To date, we have raised \$54,640.00 of the \$85,000. We are grateful for all donations already received. In order to meet our target of paying for new furnace equipment, we need to continue our campaign. If you can assist, it would be greatly appreciated.

Outreach

Interested in social justice? Working with the marginalized? Feeding the hungry? The Outreach committee is starting back up with regular meetings in November and would like to invite you to consider joining them as part of St. Paul's outreach to our community and global community. Please contact the office if you are interested.

This Week's Minute for Mission

**GOD'S MISSION
OUR GIFTS**



Killer robots sound like creepy sci fi. But they are real and the World Council of Churches—a Mission & Service partner—is taking them seriously. So much so that in 2021 it released a campaign guide for churches on the topic in six different languages.

The free guide introduces churches to “killer robots,” or lethal autonomous weapons systems, and help raise awareness of the need for Christians to advocate for a pre-emptive ban on the future development of such weapons.

Calling the weapons a “unique menace,” the Right Rev. Dr. Christopher Cocksworth, Bishop of Coventry, underscores the urgency to act in the guide’s foreword: “They are a futile and sinister attempt to sanitize war...and contravene fundamental principles of international law. They simply make killing easier,” he writes.

Armed drones are nothing new. But unlike existing semi-autonomous weapons like drones, fully autonomous weapons have no human-operated “kill switch” and instead use artificial intelligence to make decisions over life and death. These machines can both select and attack targets.

And they already exist. In an article published last May, Foreign Policy notes that Israel, Russia, South Korea, and Turkey have reportedly deployed weapons with autonomous capabilities, and Australia, Britain, China, and the United States are investing heavily in their development.

Around the world, churches are joining the call to raise awareness about the risks posed by killer robots and urging their governments to take steps to ban such technology.

Your generosity through Mission & Service supports the work of organizations like the World Council of Churches that are urging governments to put a pre-emptive ban on autonomous weapons systems and developing awareness tools like the campaign guide.

James 3:18 reads, "A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace" (ESV). When we sow peace, we reap peace.

Thank you for supporting worldwide peace-making efforts through Mission & Service.

Blessings everyone,

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