

LUNCH BAG CHATS

Continuing!

Friday, Feb 21st @ Noon

This regular meet-up encourages the conversation about our discernment of Trinity's future. Our question for this week is about M&S...

THE QUESTION: The Mission and Service fund is for mission and ministry. These "donations support new church development, Canadian outreach pro-relief and development, training and supporting maintaining ecumenical relationships." (*—from the website*)



Trinity's main fund congregations and grams, international ministers and main-

Congregations and individuals have different relationships and feelings about Mission and Service. Some people want nothing to do with M&S. Others are clear about committing part of their regular offering to M&S. Many congregations hold many fundraisers a year to support the work of M&S.



Each year, Trinity makes a pledge to M&S (for 2020 it is \$20,000). We currently rely on fundraising by the UCW and individuals giving part of their regular offering to meet that annual commitment. Often, in our case, that means we actually exceed our pledge by thousands of dollars (last year we exceeded by \$1, 714).

In my personal experience, the more a congregation commits to M&S, the healthier the congregation tends to be. The congregation has a better sense of connected to the work of the wider church, a stronger sense of purpose, and a broader perspective of their own wellbeing and ministry. In the past, Trinity has always been a strong supporter of M&S.

Things are changing for Trinity. **How do we see Trinity's relationship to M&S in the future? Do we see it increasing? Decreasing? If Trinity were able to secure several hundred thousands of dollars in annual income through development, would we be willing to commit some of that income to M&S? Would we be willing to do more fundraising to increase our M&S commitment? Would we rather "fundraise" for ourselves? For local ministries? Or for M&S?**