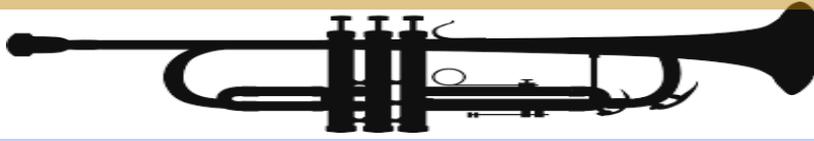


# Trulls Road Trumpet



Trulls Road Free Methodist Church, 2301 Trulls Road, Courtice, ON

February 7, 2016 Edition

*(An update from the desk of Pastor Brian)*

## **February 2016 Headlines**

***Learning Community Team Launches; Huddles Are Not Only For Football!;  
The Rental Challenge At Trulls; O Canada: Please Don't Allow Assisted Suicide.***

### **Learning Community Team Launches**

The team met on Jan. 27 and is made up of the following people: Liz Brasier, Bonnie Lee, Christian Leroux, Mary-Ann Muizelaar, Donna Short, Pastor Joan, Pastor Jon and Pastor Brian. Feel free to engage any one of these folk to find out more about the work of this team over these next two years.

3dmovements is the organization we are working with which can be referenced simply by 3dm. You can check out their website [3dmovements.com](http://3dmovements.com). The three dimensions this stands for are what we have been working on for a while now at Trulls - UP, IN, OUT. (Remember our theme for the giving campaign was Higher, Wider, Deeper.)

This Team is now a part of the 2 year Learning Community (LC) with 3dm. It provides us as a church with regular input through 4 weekend sessions once every 6 months, as well as a resource in the form of a regular (twice per month) phone coaching video call with three other churches in the LC. Pastor Jon and I are in on this call together. The Team at Trulls is planning to meet monthly to work on how to build a stronger discipling culture. We will keep you posted along the way. If you wish to read Mike Breen's book, [Building a Discipling Culture](#), we have copies available in the office for \$20. You can also find a short video here that describes what a huddle is if you are interested:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCx6ggWNHCE>

### **Huddles are not only for football!**

Huddles. What are they and why are we moving towards starting more of them? Some of you may have heard that a few of us have been in a huddle of late and you may be wondering what they are. One thing they are not is a small group so let me explain a bit more.

A Huddle is a leadership development vehicle to help people do 2 things: The character and competency of Jesus. It's about how we can be like Jesus - to live, love and act more like him. Over the course of 10-12 months 5-6 individuals are invited into a huddle (which makes it different from a small group in one significant way) by someone who has been through a huddle and wants to share their lives and their example of following Jesus. I joined a huddle in 2013 via a phone conference call with a 3dm coach to experience it myself. It was a very powerful journey. I then started a men's huddle in the summer of 2014 which is now complete. Pastor Joan and Liz Brasier also were coached through a long distance huddle and have since led one huddle each. 8 key principles are taught and encouraged to be lived out which are based on the model of Christ's ministry while he lived on this earth. One of the clear expectations for joining a huddle is to agree to start one yourself at some point. So out of the 12 that have been in a huddle the past 18 months or so there are now some second generation huddles about to be started. Let's pray together for those who will be encouraged in their journey with our Lord in this way.

### **The Rental Challenge at Trulls**

We are so glad for our new space at Trulls and with it come some adjustments about how to use it effectively. The Official Board and a sub committee have been working on figuring out what it will mean to rent our facilities. Please understand two things at this point: 1) The Government is very strict with us about how we do rentals. They tell us that our charitable status could be revoked if we do not abide by the laws governing charities. The most critical implication is that we cannot offer members of Trulls Road FMC a "deal or a discount" for using the church compared to someone who is not a member. Members are not allowed to gain a financial advantage over non-members. You may be thinking you should be able to get a great rate for renting the gym for instance for a family gathering. Unfortunately, that is not possible. Which brings us to point 2). The Rates: We researched other churches and community halls to try to find a marketplace rate that is comparable. It's not exactly easy since there are many variables. Our first effort has been cause for feedback from some of you that the rates are too high. We are again reviewing things and would like to ask for your appreciation of the challenge involved. If, for instance, we only charged \$1 for each rental, then it's possible we would offend other places that charge more standard rental rates. Plus we would have to figure out a way to cover the expense of operating the facilities and only recovering \$1 to help pay heat and hydro etc. (continued on page 2).

## **The Rental Challenge continued:**

We also have looked at the issues of needing people to cover everything from cooking to cleaning to sound technicians, to hosting and security. It takes quite a few hours of service to rent our spaces and we are asking what it means to offset these things. We do not see this as a money making venture – yet do require some recovery to help carry the expenses. We do recognize that celebrating significant milestone events is part of our church-wide ministry of membership care. We have established that people could hold a wedding or baby shower, an 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party, or a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at no charge (except to cover the cost of food). Funerals for immediate family of members or adherents are also exempt from any fees. This is possible by action of the Official Board to offer these as a part of what is considered to be essential church ministries. If you wanted to use the gym for an event other than these for personal or family time then a rental fee applies. As well, our insurance company is insistent that we ask anyone renting the church to provide a Certificate of Insurance at their own expense (usually this can be obtained on a one time basis for about \$100). As you can see, it is fairly complicated. We are wanting to constantly review the policy and the rental fees and would welcome your input. It's best if you can send us something in writing please, as well as feel free to engage any member of the Staff or the Official Board. Stay tuned and we will update you if any adjustments are made in a timely fashion.

## **O Canada: Please Don't Allow Assisted Suicide**

As you may have heard, the Canadian courts struck down the law prohibiting physician assisted suicide and euthanasia. That was Feb. 6, 2015 and now there are only 4 months left for the government to craft a new law. It's an important time in our history and I really want to ask you to be informed and to pray. The kinds of things that the government is hearing seem incredible to me and would be tragic should they be put into law. The Provincial –Territorial Expert Advisory Group on Physician-Assisted Dying is recommending these things: (My comments follow in brackets.)

1. Doctor Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia (DASE) will be paid for by our tax dollars through the health care system. (This sounds wrong, the funding of the practice of helping people die via our health care system?)
2. Eligibility should be based on competence not age. (Will children be eligible?)
3. The definition of what would trigger DASE is "a grievous and irremediable condition" that cannot be alleviated by any means "acceptable to the patient". (Please, please don't let our society believe that suffering in this life is not acceptable.)
4. All health care providers should be required to inform patients of all end of life options including DASE, regardless of their personal or religious beliefs. (Conscientious objectors must refer to a Doctor who will provide DASE. Again this is just not right.)
5. There should be public education about DASE. (This means publicly funded education. Imagine watching your TV only to see a "nice" ad about DASE or at what grade level will we start teaching our children this?)

You can sign a petition in support of the Declaration on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide on the website of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada at [www.evangelicalfellowship.ca](http://www.evangelicalfellowship.ca) by clicking on the link to sign the declaration. The Declaration is introduced by this sentence among others: "*We are convinced the only ways to help people live and die with dignity are: to ensure they are supported by love and care; to provide holistic care which includes pain control as well as psychological, spiritual and emotional support; and, to improve and increase resources in support of palliative and home care.*"

I humbly offer that this is what I would support. To think that our health care professionals will assist in suicide either in our hospitals or at home is immoral, unethical and indefensible.

## **Annual Society Meeting: February 21, 2016**

This annual meeting is a time for us to give thanks for the ministry of TRFMC in 2015, to review the financial status, to approve our 2016 spending plan and to vote in some new Official Board Members. Please plan to join us for this time to interact and engage in listening to God and to each other. Specifically I would like to invite your attention to the display board in the Foyer which introduces those who are either up for re-election or to be newly elected. There are three spaces to fill this year and three new nominees. We will be asking you to vote on these positions as a part of our evening as well as for those terms coming up for renewal. Our plan is to distribute the Annual Report on February 14 one week in advance of the meeting. Should you have specific questions or need further information please be in touch with our Board Chair, Beth Rawn, or our Treasurer, Dave Hefford, before the meeting. We are more than willing to identify your questions or concerns and to represent them to the whole Society that night. We also believe it is helpful for you to allow us time to respond before the meeting to help clarify or to be better prepared to respond during the meeting.

**Word for the Year 2016.** (Here are a few of the words for the Year that have been reported so far.)

Bold, Wait, Breathe, Patience, Rely, Love, Change, Positive, Congruence, Focus, Intention, Purpose, Growth, Trust, Prayer, Contentment, Cleanse, React and Encouragement. Please tell someone about your word and/or send it along to me.

## **2016 Verse for the Year – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

"Always be joyful. Pray continually, and give thanks whatever happens. That is what God wants for you in Christ Jesus."