

Parish Profile

Holy Trinity Emmanuel

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia



Mission Statement: *"We are a welcoming community, a people of God. Together we will live the gospel through our worship services, fellowship programs and outreach ministries."*

The first line on our bulletins every Sunday is "Welcome to our Church". We take that very seriously. Newcomers are greeted by at least three people when they first arrive, and then taken under someone's wing until they feel at home at Holy Trinity Emmanuel.

Holy Trinity Emmanuel is a small but growing parish. Despite Covid, we have experienced growth these past two years. We have 47 families on our Parish List and can expect between 35-45 people on Sunday mornings. We are a diverse parish, including and embracing all people. As one parishioner said, "listening and understanding without judgment" is important to us.

We are a parish willing to take risks to try new and innovative expressions of ministry. We are also a parish willing to work collaboratively with other parishes in the region.

We are a caring church family who celebrate birthday Sunday every month with lunch and cake. And we aspire to an increasing number of parish activities such as a men's/women's/youth group, Bible study (in person or online). We have been holding online discussion called Faith Brewing.

Holy Trinity Emmanuel has a history of community involvement in Dartmouth North, offering spiritual and practical support for those in need for over 50 years.

We are energetic and enthusiastic, eager to reach out to the community in old, new and creative ways. Our outreach currently includes:

- Clothing Depot: serving the needs of the people of Dartmouth North for over 30 years.
- Foodbank support including Christmas support for several families. One of our members serves on the board of a local foodbank.
- We offer our hall with the rate based on the ability to pay to Guides/Brownies, Karate, to other community groups and for local events.
- Concerts the second Sunday of every month (freewill offering at the door).
- We offer support to outreach workers at the local schools in their efforts to assist families and children in need.
- Trick or treat at Halloween outside the church.
- Annual community barbeque
- Growing and offering free veggies to people who use the Clothing Depot or who are passing by.

Parishioners enthusiastically engage in fund raising. Flea markets, raffles, monthly Soup and Sandwich Takeout serving teachers in the local schools and others...

Our parish council indicated that leadership development was a priority and have been enthusiastically engaged in training and skill development and have applied those skills in their deliberations.

Our volunteer office administrator works closely with our priest in charge and wardens.

Our property manager is dedicated to maintaining the building and grounds. These past few years we made improvements to the outside of the building and grounds that include removal

of an old fence, painting the outside of the building, removing brush, growing veggies and reviving a perennial garden.

We are wheelchair accessible upstairs and downstairs. We have a new bathroom on each level. We have a well finished basement with a large hall, a large kitchen, and a stage. Windows on the south side provide good natural light. We recently built cupboards downstairs and installed heat pumps.

Our worship space has a beautiful stained-glass window behind the altar, and wooden pews.

Sunday services are mostly BAS Holy Eucharist. We often use alternative forms of approved liturgy during special seasons, e.g., Season of Creation, Earth Day, Feast of St. Francis... Occasionally we worship using the BCP. BAS Morning Prayer is led by our two Licensed Lay Ministers (LLM) when the priest is not present due to illness or vacation and occasionally on other Sundays.

We have been using Power Point for our in-person services for the past year and a half. Parishioners have come to prefer this.

Sunday services are live streamed through our Facebook page. We also post them on our YouTube channel. Using social media to share God's Word, we now have hundreds of viewers worshipping with us each week. Our LLMs also add to opportunities for worship recording weekday services posted on our Facebook group. Special services or studies for Advent & Lent are either pre-recorded or livestreamed. Our parishioners are always keen to talk to each other before and after worship so we used Zoom last year due to the lock downs so we could come together in a more meaningful, participatory way. Holy Week is a combination of pre-recorded and in person services.

The parish is open to traditional as well as modern worship music. Most often music is provided by keyboard and once a month by guitar. The band River Song plays on a designated Sunday every second month. We currently do not have choir but we do have one parishioner who has a magnificent voice, will sing solo and wants to be more engaged in music in the parish.

This past two years the number of children in the parish has grown. On Advent 3, 15 children performed the Nativity. Because of the increasing numbers we recently started a Church for Youth. We have a dedicated leader and other volunteers.

We are looking for a Rector who is welcoming. A person who is interested in both the spiritual and physical growth of the church and the broader community. We are looking for a "good fit" for an enthusiastic, energetic congregation that is very involved in their parish and community.

There is racial, socioeconomic and age diversity in HRM and our parish reflects that demographic.

Dartmouth, located across the harbour from Halifax, is an important part of the Halifax Regional Municipality. It has a beautiful waterfront. Two bridges and two ferries connect the two cities. The Halifax waterfront has many shops and restaurants along the boardwalk.

Primary health care is available through walk-in clinics, mobile clinics, or phone appointments. We have three large hospitals under the umbrella of Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) Health Sciences in Halifax and the Dartmouth General on this side of the harbour.

As well as elementary, Jr. High and High Schools, Halifax is a university city, with 6 accredited universities. We also have community colleges that offer training in trades of every kind.

Dartmouth and Halifax are modern cities steeped in history that offer a broad range of entertainment including: theatre, sports, museums, and festivals.

Dartmouth is known as the City of Lakes, with 23 lakes that provide opportunities for kayaking, windsurfing, canoeing and swimming. We also have many beautiful parks and walking trails. Two ski hills are a few hours drive from the city and a number of beaches are minutes away. Nova Scotia is “Canada’s Ocean Playground.”

Some of our Fun Activities

