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Trinity Musings #39: from Rev Brian Goodings trinityminister@bmts.com
Serving Trinity United Church: Collingwood

Saw the name of my “old friend” Salmonella on a sign in our grocery store last week. Apparently good ol salmo had contaminated all the eggs at the egg factory, so the shelves were empty.

Wow. I thought all other diseases and pathogens had been crowded off our worry radar by...you know who(m). Hint...its name ends with the same number worn by Paul Henderson, Bill Derlago, Joffrey Lupul, and Jason Spezza.

I haven't even heard much about the Giant Murder Hornets lately. (Yeah, that's a real thing the media said we had to worry about before last year.)

Nice to see the name of a familiar health threat that doesn't start with a “C” and isn't novel. Made me slightly reminiscent for the days of Listeria or E.coli outbreaks.

I'm being completely facetious, of course, but seeing a public health notice about something non-Covid was a break in itself.

The world has been infected with constantly thinking and talking about this virus.

CBC radio has, for the most part, gone loopy. Is there an angle they haven't covered about this virus?

I'm waiting for a Cross Country Check-up show that asks callers to phone in and talk about how they think the virus has affected...I dunno...maybe their cat. People who don't even have cats will call in to speculate, at length too. Media programmers and producers never had life so easy.

We all need a break (and a vaccine) from this virus and our patience with holding the line, and keeping up our best practices, is wearing a bit thin.

Even as I write, the list of names of politicians and government employees on the “I Got Caught Traveling Abroad Wall of Shame” is growing. Everyone on the list, except Senator Don Plett has been dismissed or

demoted. Senator Plett says he's sorry, and besides, Mexican tequila kills worms and all bugs, so he should be fine. (I made up the part about the apology.)

We are in that toughest of times on a long uncomfortable trip...almost there...but not quite yet. Kids need to go to the bathroom and we all need to get out of this stupid car and stretch. But we're still en route and can't stop here. We're not really going to all be "there" until August or September.

Given that we are all amateur virologists now and know a whole heck of a lot about viruses and how they spread, the number of infections should be going down, not up.

This is not the case.

In the spring, six hundred infections in a day was viewed as pretty serious, but now we routinely crack the two thousand a day mark and carry on as if it is normal. Sadly, it seems to be.

More people are dying and becoming very ill from this virus because we are letting down our guards. We're tired of being told what not to do.

The travelling-politicos got caught but I suspect lots of people did stuff they knew they really shouldn't have done over the holidays. The term, "essential travel", is open to a pretty wide interpretation and there are new and more contagious versions of the virus happy to make the jump to others.

Maybe the resolution we all need to make for 2021 is to remember how we behaved in early 2020, when we were all very scared and compliant.

I admit I haven't sung "Happy Birthday" while washing my hands, like I did in March and I'm pretty casual about wearing and re-wearing my masks. They go into my pocket, not the washing machine, until I need them again.

I know better and so do you.

None of us should be too quick to start throwing rocks or criticisms at others...this is the time for rallying around the common cause. Instead of blame, let's share good humour, patience, and encouragement.

Hang in team...I'll buy you ice cream from Chapman's when we get there together.