



Trinity United Church



The Life and Work of the Church

750 Wellington Street, Wallaceburg, ON N8A 2Y6

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Website: www.trinityunitedwallaceburg.com or follow us on Facebook



Wallaceburg & District Ministerial's Community Carol Sing Service December 11th at 7:00pm, Trinity United

Join in this festive event as we welcome our community to Trinity! This service will be featuring musical performances from local churches, including choirs, hand bells, solos and more, plus Christmas Carols for everyone! We hope you will plan to join us as we celebrate the season! All are welcome.



Longest Night of the Year Service on December 21st, 7:00pm

We welcome you to join with us for the 'Longest Night of the Year' Service. A quiet service of prayer, scripture, candle lighting and music— providing a place for those who are suffering a loss, experiencing a problem, or simply feeling overwhelmed by the busyness of the season.



White Gift and Snowflake Tree Sunday, December 9th, 2018

As we prepare for the Christmas Season, we desire to share with those around us the virtues of Advent: hope, peace, joy, and love. Our *White Gift* and *Snowflake Tree* event provides two ways to bless local families this Christmas.

Bring a new unwrapped toy or non-perishable food item as your *White Gift* **OR** choose a *Snowflake* from our tree with a child's gift wish.

Please note that all items are **due on December 9th** to provide ample time for further organizing by the Salvation Army, our partner organization.



Have you signed up to be a Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Volunteer?

Sign up sheet is in the Narthex or contact Tracy Morrison 519-627-2170



Ministerial Musings....

Advent 2018

Dear Trinity Friends,

As I draw closer to my retirement at the end of December, I am experiencing many 'last times' - last meetings, last services... I find I am experiencing a complex set of emotions. I look forward to retirement with a feeling of relief that soon I will have less on my plate and the freedom to set a more relaxed pace. Certainly retirement comes highly recommended by all the retired folks out there!

However there are other feelings too. It is hard to let go of Trinity and the dear people that I have served for 30 years now. It feels like there is a big hole coming into my life - really our lives, for Rob is included in this too. As I retire we must step away from this church family for at least a year. This is important on both sides. We need to let go of Trinity and the folks of Trinity need to let go of us. We need to do this in order to make room for the new beginning that is coming.

The Search Committee is working hard to find a new minister to come to Trinity. This person will bring new energy and ideas, and there needs to be an open place of welcome for him or her. There needs to be ready and open hearts for this new minister as you begin a new step in the journey as a church. This is a good thing; really an exciting time of new beginning! I crave that for Trinity.

However there must be an ending for a new beginning to be born. Endings can be painful. As you have heard me say in so many funerals, "Grief is the price that we pay for love. But love is what gives life meaning. So when you feel the pain of grief, remember that it is born out of the love that you have experienced." I know that I am grieving and perhaps you are too. Yet even in the grief, I am celebrating the wonderful years that we have had together. There have been times of great fun and joy. There have been difficult times that we have weathered together. You have invited me into your lives: in the happy times of baptisms, weddings and anniversaries as well as in the difficult times of sadness beside a hospital bed or beside a casket or urn of a loved one. I treasure these moments like beautiful pearls on a necklace, one that has been strung over the 10,950 days of 30 years in ministry with you. No wonder it is hard to let go!

We are entering the season of Advent – a season of waiting and anticipation of a new beginning. While it is an incredibly busy time to be retiring, perhaps it resonates with the season. In our church year, we say farewell to the old year at the end of November, as we begin a new year on the first Sunday of Advent. So in many ways we are 'ending at the beginning'. The cycle begins again with the weeks of hope, peace, joy and love that lead to the Christmas miracle of new life.

Ending at the beginning ... perhaps that is a good way for us to think of this time of farewell. With deep gratitude for all that has been and great anticipation for what is ahead for both of us and for Trinity, we will bid adieu at my final service with you on Christmas Eve and both move on to a new beginning.

Heart-felt blessings and Advent Joy to each one of you,

Cheryl

Cheryl Kirk

Note: plans are being made for a Farewell Celebration of Ministry on January 20. Stay tuned for details...



JOTS FROM SANDRA'S DESK

From September, to the end of November already. My, how time flies when you are having fun! It is quite enjoyable working with the youth. They are enthusiastic and attentive in our discussions. This year, our scheduling has been a little different with most events planned for Sundays following the service. I acknowledge the support of Christine Button, Julie Forgie and Jayne Glover. Without them this program would not be possible!

The youth have been combining mission and fun this year:

- ◆ We have picked and donated 300lbs of apples for the Salvation Army Food Bank.



- ◆ We have made red pepper jelly together and sold it to raise funds for food, shelter, education and programs for 'Aid Displaced Persons' (under 18). We also had enough to purchase two gifts of 'Remove Barriers to Education' from the giving catalogue of the United Church of Canada. Thank you to those of you who purchased our jelly! We hope you enjoy it. And thank you to Jayne Glover and the euchre card group. They purchased the jars and peppers for us!

- ◆ Thanks to the generosity of the congregation with their donations of candy treats, we packed 300 stocking stuffer bags for the Salvation Army Christmas Hampers.



- ◆ And we are about to go caroling at Fairfield Park, sharing our Christmas spirit.



- ◆ We celebrated confirmation this year with these six youth! It was a proud and moving ceremony welcoming them into the membership of the church. Welcome to (from left to right) Ava VandenDool, Jessica Forgie, Josh Powers, Ryan Burritt, Garet VandenDool, and Oliver Arnold. We hope to continue meeting in the New Year.

Pastoral Care

Many thanks to Rita Walker who drops off the bulletins to residents at Fairfield Park. Also, Pearl Carder has stepped in to help out Rita. Thank you ladies!

Chiming at Fairfield is still going strong and we are enjoying playing some different Christmas Carols for the season.

Trinity Yoga has had great attendance!! Come out and give it a try. We are wrapping up Dec. 10th, and starting back Jan.7th.

I am honoured to be able to work in this Pastoral Care and Youth Ministry with Trinity United Church. I look forward to the challenges and changes that 2019 will hold. I trust Spirit will be present with us on this journey.

I pray your advent season is full of hope, peace, joy and love.

Sandra

Our **Soup and Apple Crisp fundraiser**

raised \$628.15 for the WDSS Bagged



Lunch Program. This program provides lunch to those without and we are pleased to partner with this ministry outreach.

Wallaceburg Accessible Transit Services through CitiLinx, CK Transit:

This curb-to-curb service may be used by persons with mobility issues for any purpose; employment, education, medical, personal, business, or leisure.

This service is available 7 days a week for individuals with permanent or temporarily physical disabilities, the frail, or the elderly.

Application forms are required to give reason for the request of use, and a \$3.00 one way trip fee is due upon entering the vehicle. **Call 519-627-1603 or visit The Wallaceburg Service Centre to receive an application form.**



For more information about the Accessible Transit Service, contact CitiLinx at 519-354-7433. *Happy Travels!*



Trinity's 8th Annual Marketplace Vendor Sale

was a success—raising over \$1500.00 for our Snowflake Tree/White Christmas event. These funds will be utilized to purchase Christmas gifts for children in the community who would otherwise be without.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful cause!



Offering Envelopes will be available for pick-up in the



Narthex as of December 7th.

Should you desire offering envelopes but do not yet have an envelope number, please contact the church office for assistance.

Peace Garden Update:

We are very pleased to announce that last batch of memorial stones have been installed in the Peace Garden. We appreciate your patience as we experienced some complications beyond our control. The Fountain has been prepared for the winter season of rest. Again we thank all those who have taken part in the project. Special thanks to Jack Wilford of Wilford Landscaping, Ryan and Tom of St. Croix Memorial, Doug MacLennan, Chair of Property, and Jean Bolt, Project Coordinator and Visionary (and very hard worker!)

Trinity Welcomes a New Administrative Assistant!

We are very pleased to welcome **Debbie Courtis** to our staff as administrative assistant. Debbie brings many years of experience in administration and in church life, along with her warm and friendly attitude. She has had to 'hit the ground running' as she begins her work in this busy season, but she is rising to the task.

UPCOMING Events



The **Memorial Poinsettia Project** has begun. We welcome you to honour those you love with a poinsettia plant during our Advent season. The poinsettias will serve as sanctuary décor during Worship and then will be delivered to shut-ins in mid December. Names of those remembered will be included in our weekly bulletin during the Advent season. Order forms are located on page 7 of this newsletter and in the Narthex. The \$10 donation can be made by cash or cheque, designated in the offering or submitted to the church office. **Please note that Poinsettia Orders are due by December 18th, 2018.**

Please note that there will be **no Community Meal at Trinity for the month of December.** Community Meals will resume at Trinity on January 25, 2019. Thank-you to our volunteers for serving in 2018! We couldn't do it without you!



Have you moved or changed your email address? Don't forget to update your address with the church office. Updating your address with the church ensures that your tax receipt and other important mail is received on time. Should you have a 9-1-1 House Number, please provide it to the church office. Our postal service requires additional information beyond RR# to properly deliver our mail.



Thank you for assisting with these house-keeping items!

Christmas Poinsettia Luncheon:

December 7th, 11:30am — 1:00pm
As we prepare for another beautiful Christmas Luncheon at Trinity, we welcome you to attend, bring a friend, and to **donate some home-made baked goods or preserves for our bake sale.** Last year's Poinsettia Luncheon was such a success, we almost ran out of goodies! Please consider making a baked good donation as you prepare your holiday baking. YUM!



Trinity's Christmas Eve

Family Service will be held at **7pm on December 24th.** We



welcome you to join us for this family-friendly evening service that is open to all

Need a Gift Idea?

Are you looking for meaningful gifts to give this Christmas? The United Church's [Gifts with Vision](#) catalogue is a great way to make a difference and show someone that you care. This year's catalogue is filled with gifts that don't need wrapping or tags, just your love.



Do you know of someone in hospital, ill at home, or in need of pastoral care? Please be sure to let us know in the Office. We cannot visit, if we do not know. It is going to be more difficult to keep up to date as we move into this time of transition. Please help by keeping the communication going.

Trinity plays host to a game of 'fun and friendly' **Euchre every Wednesday from 1:30-3:30pm**, growing bigger and better each week! Join a fun and relaxing game of cards for \$1. We promise the coffee will be on! All ages are welcome!



Have you tried Shuffle Board? Join us **every Monday and Thursday morning from 9:30-11:30am**. Coffee and treats are always included with your \$1 'fun' donation. Come to socialize, shuffle, and snack! All ages and skill levels are welcome!



Have you joined our online mailing list? Stay connected at Trinity by providing your email address to quickly receive information, updates, and our seasonal newsletter electronically. Contact the church office at **519-627-1472** or by email at **trinity@mnsi.net** and we will be happy to add you to our electronic mail out list.

Financial Update as of October 31, 2018

Total Income	\$141,746.87
Total Expenses	<u>\$182,577.73</u>
Deficit	(\$40,830.86)

We have committed \$17,000 to the UC Mission and Service Fund and our givings to date are \$11,836.

As we near the end of 2018 please consider making a final Christmas Financial Gift to Trinity.

Carl Powers, Chair Finance

Special Gifts received Trinity!

We are so grateful to have received recently a couple of wonderful gifts in the form of bequests. From the estate of Joyce Christian, \$5000. And from the estate of Dorothy Glasgow, \$20,000. We are so grateful to both of these well-loved members who planned ahead to leave a lasting legacy to their church. These funds will be held by the Trustees and will be available for needs or projects that arise.

Also of note, Trinity's Memorial Fund received approximately \$7000 this year from Memorial donations made at the Funeral Home. Have you considered making Trinity one of the suggestions for memorial gifts as part of your funeral planning?



Volunteers are NEEDED!! We need people to join our list of people who can run the sound and/or the video projection on Sunday mornings. The video projection is done using power point and is prepared by the Office. Training is provided. This would qualify for young people needing volunteer hours. The program cannot continue without more help! Contact the Church Office (627-1472) or speak with Rob Kirk.

Thank You!

Our annual Celebrate Stewardship Program was held on October 28 and November 4. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people who helped with the success of this financial stewardship program. Cheryl Kirk creatively developed the theme of "The Bridge of Generosity" and taught us how working together we can cross from "what is" to "what could be". Alecia Atterbury, our former Executive Assistant worked hard to print, cut, fold and gather all the supplies needed for the annual mailing. The letters were prepared for mailing by Dick Devillaer, Barb and Brian Innis, Liz Morrison, Keith Southern, Jeanette Mann and Evelyn Mayo. A lovely cake was enjoyed by many during the Thank you Coffee Time hosted by Brenda Stokes, Dick Devillaer, Mary Lou Bradley and Bob and Evelyn Mayo. A big thank you to everyone for the part you played in the Celebrate Stewardship Program. Thank you also to everyone who completed the Estimate of Giving cards and to all who generously support the financial mission of our church.

Working together we show "what can be" done.

Evelyn Mayo, Finance & Stewardship

*Thank
you*

NOTE: We add a big thank you to Evelyn Mayo!

Poinsettia Order Form

Donations may be made by marking "Poinsettia" on your offering envelope, enclosing \$10, and the following information:

In Memory Of: _____

Donor Name: _____

Envelope #: _____ (If no envelope number, please include your address below).

Address: _____

Do you wish to take a plant home after Christmas? Yes _____ No _____



Trinity United Church
750 Wellington Street
Wallaceburg, ON

Trinity Office: 519-627-1472

Trinity Email: trinity@mnsi.net

Minister: Cheryl Kirk

Pastoral Care & Youth Ministry: Sandra Maltby-Mills

Music Director: Laura Rintjema

Administrative Assistant: Debbie Courtis

Caretaker: Ana Nogueira

DECEMBER

						1
2 Advent 1- Hanging of the Greens	3	4	5	6	7 Christmas Poinsettia Luncheon	8
9 Advent 2- White Gift/ Snowflake Tree	10	11 Community Carol Service, 7pm	12	13	14	15
16 Advent 3	17	18	19	20	21 Longest Night Service, 7pm	22
23 Advent 4 Cheryl's Last Sunday with Trinity	24 Christmas Eve Service, 7pm	25 Christmas Day 	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve	<p>Trinity United Church Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 8:30—4pm with the church closed from 12-1pm for lunch.</p> <p>Holiday Hours: The church will be closed for the holidays from December 25th to January 2nd.</p>				

Upcoming Events in 2019:

Wednesday, January 23rd
 Sunday, January 20th
 Friday, January 25th
 Sunday, February 10th

Trinity Council Meeting, 7pm
 Retirement Party for Cheryl Kirk (details to follow)
 Community Meal, 5:30pm
 Annual Congregational Meeting, after service

