



Trinity United Church

The Life and Work of the Church

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Season of Lent

Lent is a time of reflection, a time to travel the Lenten road together. A time of meditation.

Lent began on Shrove Tuesday, February 25 followed by Ash Wednesday, February 26.

Palms from 2019 were burned and ashes used in our first Service in Lent.

Holy Week is April 6—9th.

As usual there will be services throughout the week at 12:10 with a light lunch to follow.

Location is yet to be determined.

Freewill offering supporting various Ministerial local designations.

Trinity Lent Services

Palm Sunday, April 5

Good Friday, April 10

Easter Sunday, April 12

All Trinity services start at 10:30 am

Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
 CLOSER TO JESUS

Palm Sunday Brunch Sunday, April 5

Our Choir invites you to join us for Brunch following the Palm Sunday Service on April 5th. Stay after Service and enjoy the Brunch with family & friends!

The Brunch is *legendary* with our 'famous' made to order omelettes, bacon & sausage, and other tasty items to fill your plate.

Includes coffee, tea & juice.

Brunch is hosted by the Senior Choir, a talented ensemble of musical voices as well as great cooks!

Please join us...

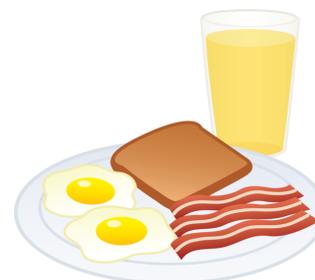
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Cost: Adult ~ \$8

Child (6-12 yrs.) ~ \$4

Child under 5 yrs. ~ Free

We HOPE to see YOU!



Breathe! I know you've heard that often in my message. It is my favourite word, a grounding action to bring us to the present moment. It is reconnecting to the Essence of God within us.

I have had to remind myself to take a deep breath often as I try to contain my excitement of all the possibilities before us after only being with you for a month. I'm one that loves to take action!

Yet careful listening, prayerful reflection, and conversations to discern what is possible is essential as we fulfill the mission and purpose of Trinity, "It is our purpose to be witnesses of our faith, to worship God, and to reach out with love to all people."

Lent is a time of prayer and reflection. It is a time that we can ask: How do we fulfill our mission? What is it that we truly desire? What are our unique gifts as a community of faith that God desires us to share and focus upon? How can we engage the community?

These are big questions that require reflection, contemplation, and input from all to create a community of connection, love, and progression into the future.

Jesus withdrew often to pray. "Jesus would often slip away to the wilderness to pray." (Luke 6:12) There are numerous passages supporting this throughout our scriptures.

I believe this quieted his soul from the chaos all around him, reconnected to God's Essence within him, and enlivened him to fulfill his purpose. Jesus' unprecedented purpose of creating an inclusive community of extraordinary love was a result of this prayerful pause.

So too must we in this season of Lent connect often with God's Essence in prayer, gather together in worship and authentic love, and uplift one another in hope. Hope that surpasses all understanding. Hope that leads us to Easter. Hope that leads us to the Resurrection.

Hope that brings the Son, rays of illumination, each new day. Although this seems to be an oxymoron from me, one of my favourite passages is from Psalm 46:10 NIV: "Be still and know that I am God."

May we embody this in prayer and in hope as we travel through this Lenten season to resurrection Sunday!

Many blessings,

Sharon



From Sandra's desk

What Lent means to me...

It is always interesting during Lent to assess where I am or what I wish to work on during this journey towards the cross. I like to use the Easter story as a symbolic resurrection in my own life.

To me, Lent is a perfect occasion to spend some time in quiet reflection, just as Jesus did in the desert. This year I am reflecting on 'suffering'. This has been influenced by my studies at the University of Toronto in Mindfulness and Mindful Meditation. When I talk of 'suffering' I am alluding to the worries; the stress one finds oneself in; anything that is being resisted or wrestled with; and physical, mental, or emotional pain experienced. These are sign posts pointing to opportunities of growth and spiritual maturity. Here are some of the questions I have been reflecting upon: What is 'suffering' highlighting in my life? How can I safely and respectfully let these issues die? What part of me is functioning with rigid or limited sight so I am not able to see the whole picture? What thoughts or habitual assumptions are keeping me from the wholeness God desires for me?

These are not easy questions. Many would avoid this contemplation on 'suffering'. It's too depressing! I ask, where is my 'suffering' leading me? I anticipate the freedom it assures on the other side. Resurrection! That's God's promise...

I pray you enrich yourself as is best for you, during your Lenten journey!

Pastoral Care

It is such a gift to have this position. It is an honour to accompany people in their spiritual journey and faith formation. I am able to witness love, strength, compassion, kindness, and wisdom – truly the best in people. I am so grateful.

The Wallaceburg Community Roundtable is now working to put on a workshop to help us realize the difference between someone who has been raised in poverty and someone who has been raised in a middle class atmosphere. This is highly educational and can bridge some misunderstandings and help us become aware of some of our biases. I hope this interests you. Please stay tuned for the details to come.

Youth Ministry

We seem to have a younger crew attending on Sundays now. I am sure you are in agreement with me when I say, it is always fun and refreshing to have them join us! Thank you to the families who share your little gems with us.

I look forward to the time ahead working in team ministry with Sharon. I trust that this community of faith will share in the newness and freshness, just like the Spring season!

Blessings on your Lenten Journey...

Sandra



FOOD RESCUE: There has been a new food program active in Chatham Kent for a little over a year now. The FOOD RESCUE PROGRAM consists of restaurants, grocery stores, butcher/meat stores who sign up and agree to hand out left over or close to expiry date foods to be distributed where needed. This program is a run off of SECOND HARVEST, started in the Toronto area about five years ago. Locally two kinds of soup are picked up from The



Black Goose every day by 3 different churches. Trinity picks it up Fridays, a group meets in the kitchen to "scoop" the soup into containers, label them then freeze

them. Soup must be handed out frozen for health reasons. There are 4 different places we hand out the soup, every two weeks, on a rotating basis. The recipients of the soup really appreciate it and look forward to us coming. We have established some great connections with a lot of the people we visit. The next time you are in the church kitchen, look at the supply of soup in the freezer. We are always looking for plastic containers to use for the soup so if you have any you are recycling, we will take them.

This is just another way we can feel proud of helping out our community.



and



Lay Supervisory Team (LST)

Trinity United Church's newest committee is a mandatory group of church members created due to the church's voted desire to become a learning ministerial center. With the call to ministry as a student full time minister Sharon Campbell-Raymont has agreed to a 2 yr. term of learning with the help of the LST and our whole congregation.

Committee members are Pat Lee, Nancy MacLennan, Sue Elliott, Oliver Arnold, Evelyn Mayo and Harry Courtis.

We have met twice so far. The first meeting was a training session by video conferencing with members of the Southwest Ontario candidacy Board. There we discussed and learned about the How's, Why's, Where's of our undertaking as members of the LST.

We met next, as the committee of the whole, to map out a learning covenant and plan on how best to support Sharon in completing her studies to become an ordained minister.

How appropriate that at this Easter time with its celebration of resurrection and rebirth that we members of the LST help our congregation and Sharon in its newest chapter of witnessing of the glory of our Lord.



COMMUNITY MEALS: Since January 2008 Trinity has been providing a Free Community Meal to the community on the fourth Friday of the month. This project started off slowly but has grown to the point where we plan on 110 people per meal. Many of the same people frequent the meals and let us know how much they appreciate the meal and the social gathering in general. The meal is a full course, nutritious meal of meat, potatoes, vegetables, salad, veggie tray, tea and coffee and our own famous bakers' cookies or cupcakes for dessert.



We thank our many, many helpers who set up tables, serve the food, do dishes and take down tables. None of this would be possible without the congregation's help.



**Presenting
Mr. and Mrs. Moir!**

Holly and Jim
exchanged vows
on Feb. 29, 2020.

**Wishing you all
the best!**

Do you know of someone ill or in need of a visit? Please contact the office so that staff can be aware of the need.

Office: 519-627-1472



A BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who serve coffee and goodies on Sunday mornings. What a great ministry



Pre-Authorized Remittance, or PAR, allows you to support your church through an automatic monthly withdrawal from your bank account. Besides being convenient, using PAR for your offering ensures regular monthly giving to help the church's ministry even when you are away. Contact the church office for more information or to easily set-up your account with PAR.



We are delighted to once again welcome Vaughn Pugh and the Chatham Concert Band into our midst of worship on Sunday, April 26th.



Kenesserie Camp would like to express their appreciation for your ongoing financial support of the children's ministry. Your donation has helped with the costs of providing children's camping programs for the summer of 2019. Over 580 children attended Kenesserie in the summer of 2019 as well as many school groups in the spring. Kenesserie also employs over 30 youth workers giving them valuable leadership experience and growth.

Thank you for your generous gift towards the Operating fund(s).

A Thank You from The Salvation Army – Thanks to your help, the 2019 Christmas campaign was very successful. We were able to assist over 320 households and 253 children with our hamper program. This could not have happened without the help of our volunteers and those of you who contributed financially.

Your generosity has definitely blessed those that we serve.



Giving
Hope
Today

Save the Date

April

Sunday, April 5
 Friday, April 10
 Sunday, April 12
 Monday, April 22
 Monday, April 13
 Friday, April 24

Palm Sunday Service, 10:30am - brunch to follow
 Good Friday Service, 10:30am - Office Closed
 Easter Service, 10:30am
 Earth Day - Climate Action
 Easter Monday - Office Closed
 Community Meal at Trinity, 5:30pm

May

Monday, May 18
 Sunday, May 10
 Wednesday, May 20
 Friday, May 24

Victoria Day-Office closed
 Happy Mother's Day
 Council Meeting, 7:00pm
 Community Meal at Trinity, 5:30pm



June

Saturday, June 13
 Sunday, June 21
 Friday, June 20
 Friday, June 26

Trinity's Annual Yard Sale & BBQ 8:00am-1:00pm
 Happy Father's Day
 Summer Solstice
 Community Meal at Trinity, 5:30pm



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.

10 Fun Facts:

1. You can't see your ears without a mirror.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose with your tongue out.
4. You just tried No. 3
6. When you did No. 3 you realised that it is possible, only you look like a dog.
7. You are smiling right now, because you were fooled.
8. You skipped No. 5.
9. You just checked to see if there is a No. 5.

FÜN FACTS

Student Minister: of Worship: Sharon Campbell-Rayment

Pastoral Care & Youth Ministry: Sandra Maltby-Mills

Music Director: Laura Rintjema

Administrative Assistant: Debbie Courtis

Caretaker: Ana Nogueira

Trinity United Church Office Hours:

Monday to Thursday 8:30am - 4pm

Closed from 12-1pm for lunch.