



TRINITY UNITED Church

The Life and Work of Trinity United Church, Wallaceburg, Ontario

Visit us at: <http://trinity.mnsi.net>

519-627-1472 Email: trinity@mnsi.net



Trinity's Christmas Luncheon

Dec. 4, 11:30 am - 1 pm

We cordially invite one and all to our

Annual Christmas Lunch

*Serving a cold plate with beverage
and dessert for \$8*

*Visit our Bake Table for delicious homemade
Christmas treats for yourself or to share with
friends – cookies, squares, tarts, and pies
(come early for best selection).*

*We hope to see you at our Christmas Lunch
...tell your friends!*

Note: Bake sale items will be received Dec. 3 for pricing. Cookies & squares pre-wrapped (small amounts), pies and preserves and small crafts are requested. We encourage donations of baked goods. Baking is a 'best seller' for Trinity. Warm up the oven & bake for Trinity's Christmas Lunch.



Pat Lee & Friends Christmas Concert

November 29, 7 pm at Trinity

Join us for this wonderful Concert.

Freewill offering.



Community Carol Service

***Tuesday, Dec.8, 7 pm at
Christian Reformed Church***

Hosted by Wallaceburg & District Ministerial. Please join this joyful Carol Service where area churches come together to sing and worship in this special season.

Come & enjoy local choirs, groups, soloists, and join together in great carol singing.

Freewill offering to the work of the Ministerial in support of local projects.
Refreshment to follow.

Are you on PAR –Pre-Authorized Remittance?

Our church participates in the "direct debit" program administered by the national church. This allows people to support our church through an automatic monthly withdrawal from their bank account. On the 20th of each month (or the next business day if the 20th falls on a weekend) your individual bank account will be debited the amount of your choosing and the lump sum of all people on PAR is credited to our congregational account.

The PAR program costs our local congregation 50 cents per giver, per month. Trinity has 30 who chose to give to the work and mission of Trinity United Church through PAR. The PAR program ensures regular monthly giving to pay church expenses. The more people on the program the more valuable and viable it can be. Trinity will receive your donation when you are away for a weekend, on holidays or perhaps even when you are tucked inside on a cold and blustery Sunday this winter. You choose your monthly donation amount and designate how much goes to local expenses and how much goes to the Mission & Service Fund. You may increase or decrease the amounts you give at any time. Trinity receives a monthly notice of giving and applies directly to your individual statement.

Please consider becoming a PAR giver. PAR brochures can be found in the narthex. Authorization forms along with a voided cheque may be submitted to the office secretary or mailed directly to the national office. For further information please contact a Finance and Stewardship Committee member.

Financial Summary as of October 31, 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Income	\$156,028	\$165,271
Expenses	\$172,199	<u>\$179,810</u>
Deficit	(\$16,171)	(\$14,539)

November was Stewardship month at Trinity. A time to reflect, as individuals, on our financial support of Trinity and our giving to help support God's work in the community and in the world.

We thank those who give throughout the year as well as those who contribute using PAR (see above).

Our Mission & Service giving as of October 31, 2015 was **\$ 11,996** compared to **\$13,124** for the same period last year. Please consider the M & S fund in your offering. Our 2015 goal is \$17,000.

Based on our current revenue and forecast of expenses we will require a revenue of **\$58,322** or **\$9,720** per week by year's end to balance our budget.

As we approach the end of 2015 please consider Trinity. Any additional financial support you may be able to provide will help balance our budget and keep Trinity financially strong as we enter in to 2016. Thank you.

-Carl Powers, Finance & Stewardship Committee

Advent, 2015

Dear Friends of Trinity,

Soon the journey will begin once again. In fact, the stores have already begun. I am, of course, speaking of the journey to Christmas. We in the church have a special name for that journey: Advent.

It will be no secret to most of you that this is my favourite time of the year. Yes, the pace is so busy that it threatens collapse. Yes, it is an over-commercialized, consumer frenzy. Yes, we are tempted to do too much, to spend too much, to eat too much. Yet I love this season where joy bubbles in surprising moments, where children's laughter is often heard, where hope tickles even the cynics among us.

A candle overcomes the deep darkness with its fragile glow. Emmanuel has come: God-with-us. Even a terrorist's worst effort cannot take away that gift or that light.

Yes, I love this season leading to Christmas. I love the Advent Candles which lead us on the path of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. There are so many special moments in the Advent season, but there is a wonderful moment that comes for me each Christmas Eve as I stand at the front as we create the circle of light. I look out to see the beloved faces around me, alight with candle glow. I can close my eyes and see it through the years. Other dear faces, now gone, join the circle. Then we sing the holy words... Silent Night, Holy Night. And in that moment it always seems to me that Christmas comes.

We do not live in a perfect or peaceful world. Nor do we live in perfect or always peaceful families. Yet our faith teaches us about the power of love: that love can overcome every form of darkness. This Advent let us cling to that hope and promise and let us build our lives on its foundation.

*How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
And God imparts to human hearts the blessed gift of
heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of
sin, Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ
enters in.*

(O Little Town of Bethlehem)

*Advent Blessings to each one of you,
Cheryl*





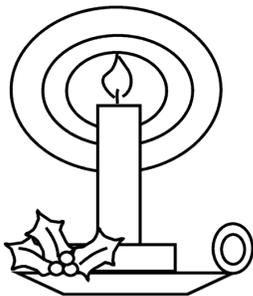
Celebrate Giving Thank You

Our annual Celebrate Giving program has come to a close but the joy of giving continues. We would like to thank the many people who gave of their time, talents and money to make this program possible. Cheryl led us on a Treasure Hunt for our theme this year. Liz Morrison shared her personal "Why I Give" Faith Story with us the first week of our program.

Patti Truesdale, our secretary, did extra work preparing everything needed for the stewardship mailing. The letter "stuffers" of Gord Heath, Ariel Mann, Sherrill Lidstone, Rita Walker, Jeanette Mann, and Evelyn Mayo prepared letters for the mail. For the "Celebrate Giving Coffee Time Thank You", Bonnie Rotschenk and Evelyn Mayo from the Finance and Stewardship Committee provided heart shaped cookies to remind us that where our treasure is there our heart will be. A big thank you for everyone's involvement.

The Financial and Stewardship Committee would like to echo Cheryl's thank you to all of you who give to God's Mission through Trinity United Church. Please continue to give generously and thankfully to our local church and the Mission and Service of the whole church.

Evelyn Mayo, Finance and Stewardship Committee



Longest Night Service **December 21st, 7 pm**

The *Longest Night Service* provides a sacred time of prayer, scripture, candle lighting and music for those who are suffering a loss, illness, struggling with a problem, or feeling overwhelmed. Christmas is a busy time. The busyness can be overwhelming and we may need to find a quiet space to hear the simple message of Christmas ...

God is with us.

We can feel very alone in the midst of the celebrating and out of step with others. Yet the good news of Christmas is that God is with us, even in our darkest moments.

Please join us ...

on the longest and darkest night of the year,
December 21st, 7 pm, for this special Communion Service.



Christmas Poinsettias

Remember those you love this Christmas with
a **\$10 donation** for a **Poinsettia**.

Names of those remembered will be printed in the bulletin
(any extra funds used for silk arrangements or other Worship needs).

After use in worship the small poinsettias will be delivered to shut-ins in December.

Donations may be made by marking POINSETTIA on your envelope and enclosing **\$10**
and the following information -

--cut here -----

In Memory of: _____

Donor Name: _____

Envelope # _____

Do you wish to take plant home after Christmas? yes ___ OR no ___ (check one)

→ **Deadline - Dec. 6**

Trinity's Snowflake Tree & White Gifts

Our Snowflake Tree has been decorated throughout the month of November with snowflakes.
Each snowflake represents a Christmas Wish of a local child, whose Christmas might otherwise be sparse.
Those who have taken a snowflake help make a child's wish come true!

If you have not already done so please remember to return purchased items (unwrapped) along with the snowflake by **December 6th**. You are welcome to include gift wrap & tape (do not wrap). IF your gifts need batteries please include them. Please attach the Snowflake to your package securely.



Note:

You are welcome to use the White Gift offering envelope (or mark a plain envelope 'White Gift') for a cash donation which will assist those in need.

Our Snowflake Tree project is in coordination with the Salvation Army Christmas Hamper program.

Syrian Relief ... how YOU can help Syrian Refugees

The United Church of Canada is deeply concerned for the more than 6 million people who are now refugees, displaced by the fighting in Syria.

The United Church launched an emergency appeal for donations to be directed to our partners on the ground. Please provide your support - mark donations, in your offering envelope (or plain envelope) '**Syrian Relief**'.

NOTE: The Canadian government will match donations made until December 31, 2015.

You may also contact The United Church of Canada at 1-800-268-3781 to use your Visa or Mastercard.

PRAY ...

~for the millions of Syrians facing conflict and displacement

~for the host communities who welcome the refugees

~for The United Church partners and humanitarian relief agencies working to meet the needs of those affected

~for regional governments /international community working together to address this crisis, end the conflict, and help bring peace to Syria and the region.

From our Mission & Outreach Committee -

THANKS to everyone for your support of the **High School Lunch Program!**

This program provides a simple bag lunch for students without one. One simply cannot learn on an empty stomach.

The Mission & Outreach Committee's annual Soup & Apple Crisp Lunch following worship recently raised over \$548 for this program! Trinity United Church is the sole supporter of this program.

We are thankful for the opportunity to provide lunches as needed and for the support of the Trinity United Church congregation.



Salvation Army Christmas Lunch

Mark your calendar ...

The Community is encouraged to attend a meal to benefit the Salvation Army on

Monday, December 14 11 am to 1 pm at UAW Hall, Elm Street. Don't miss it!

Donations accepted at the door.

A delicious, full course meal, from the main course to dessert and beverage, provided by the **Black Goose**, *with all proceeds to the Salvation Army* for local needs. The needs are many, especially at this time of year, please offer your support and enjoy a great meal too.

Everyone is welcome!

Trinity's Community Meal

The last Friday of the month* Trinity is alive with preparations for our monthly Community Meal at 5:30 pm. A hearty and delicious meal is prepared by loving and skilled hands. Tables are set for approximately 100 guests each month. There is always room for you!

Many volunteers cook and set up tables for our Community Meal. A meal for the entire community to enjoy together. We thank our dedicated volunteers without whom the meals would not happen.

Please consider joining us. There is no charge, nothing to bring, simply sit back and enjoy the meal and company of others. We'd love to have you here!

A place at the table awaits YOU!
Bring a friend, make a friend, come back again and again.

*Trinity Community Meals are not served in July, August & December, allowing our volunteers a well deserved break.

Searching for New and Meaningful Gifts?

Gifts With Vision 2015/16 Giving Catalogue from The United Church of Canada offers life changing gifts with a difference.

Gifts that are an expression of love and that can make a difference in a person's life.

We dream of a world in which human needs are met - a world where we can improve lives in our communities, across Canada, and globally. Join us in giving hope.

Gift include **help build a school in Haiti** , **fresh food for homeless in Guelph**, **winter warmth in Winnipeg**, or **a child to camp**.

Copies of **Gifts with Vision** catalogue may be found in the church gathering place or online at www.giftswithvision.ca

Join with others and take action ...

See The Gifts with Vision catalogue today.
Your gift can make a real difference.

Holiday POP CAN collection...

Please donate your empty aluminum pop cans to Trinity. Money raised from the sale of scrap pop cans is used to help cover costs of Trinity's Community Meals and other youth events here at Trinity.

Drop cans off at **66 Napier Street** or leave in church kitchen (washed & bagged).

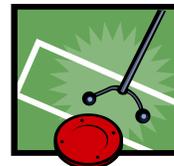
Thanks for your support!

SHUFFLEBOARD

Monday & Thursday, 9:30-11:30 am
Shuffleboard is for ALL ages!

Consider joining us.

You'll have LOTS of fun!
We're not 'pro's' at shuffleboard
... we're 'pro's' at having fun!



“This & That” on the back page ...

Thanks to Tracy Morrison for coordinating Trinity’s volunteers for the Salvation Army Red Kettles. Contact Tracy, 627-2170 to volunteer on Dec. 2 & 9 for 2 hour shifts.

Thanks to Foster’s Meats for once again donating the wonderful beef for Trinity’s Anniversary Dinner in October!

See our **Certificate of Appreciation** from Habitat for Humanity in the narthex.

A fun Christmas Quiz

What did the Three Wise Men use to guide them to Baby Jesus?

A) Map B) GPS C) Star D) Street Signs

How many sizes too small is the Grinch’s heart?

A) 2 B) 3 C) 5 D) 10

(answers below - no peeking)

RECYCLE Milk Bags - 4 litre outer bag only, NOT the 3 inner clear ones, which are crocheted into sleeping mats for the impoverished in various countries. A collection box can be found in the Narthex. Please WASH/DRY the milk bag before placing it in the collection box (folded bags take up less space). It takes approx. 400 bags to make one mat.

Contact Us

Trinity United Church/ Secretary: trinity@mnsi.net

Cheryl Kirk: cherylkirk@mdirect.net

Would you like our newsletter by E-mail?

Due to current anti-spam legislation we must obtain your permission to send you a newsletter. We’d be happy to add you to our email list ... contact us.

- ◆ email Trinity
- ◆ call the church office 627-1472

ADVENT CALENDAR

Advent I, Nov. 29 - Hanging of the Greens & Advent *Communion*, Intergenerational Service

Pat Lee & Friends Concert, Nov 29, 7 pm at Trinity. Freewill offering - everyone welcome!

Christmas Lunch & Bake Sale, Dec 4. (see front page). Plan to attend our annual lunch.

Advent II, Dec. 6 -White Gift Sunday Snowflake Tree gifts deadline. Please bring new unwrapped gift or Snowflake gifts (see page 5) or can food.

Community Carol Sing, Dec. 8, 7 pm Christian Reformed Church (see front page)

Advent III, Dec. 13

The Swell, Contemporary Youth Worship, Dec. 18, 7 pm, London (see Cheryl for info)

Christmas Sunday, Advent IV, Dec. 20

Longest Night Service, Dec. 21, 7 pm

Christmas Eve Family Service. Dec. 24, 7 pm

Our prayer for you ... a blessed Advent Season and a joy filled 2016 with happiness and good health..



Quiz Answers
(C) Star
B) 3