

Trinity United Church



Lent 2014 Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

Put them on your Calendar!

Shrove Tuesday Dinner

Join your church family for pancakes
March 4th!

"World Day of Prayer"

hosted by Trinity
7pm on March 7th

Communion Sunday

March 9th
The first Sunday of Lent

Red Hot Chili Night

March 21st

Heavenly Hosts Concert

Saturday April 5th at 7pm
"Another Brick in The Wall"

Maundy Thursday

April 17th at 6:30pm
communion service
All-Night North Bay Youth
Easter Vigil

Good Friday

AOTS breakfast.
Worship at 10:30am Friday
April 18th

Easter Sunrise

April 20th 7:30am
The corner of Ferguson & McIntyre

Easter Sunday

April 20th 10:30am
Music-Filled Communion Service

From the Minister's Desk:

Singing the Blues this Lent

“Everybody has some kind of blues to offer.”
~ Jimi Hendrix

The season of Advent, those four Sunday that precede Christmas, are days marked by an attitude of expectation, of waiting and anticipation. The season of Lent has a profoundly different orientation. Lent is not about what is coming, but about what is here. Lent is about “the now.” Before we hear the soaring other-worldly good news of Easter, we are faced with the reality of this world—in all its profane, mundane, “what you see is what you get.”

It's long struck me that the music of Lent is the blues. Whether or not your favourite song belongs literally to the blues genre, it is the blues which hit us where we live, embodying the highs and lows of human life: sadness and loss; hardship and mortality; brokenness and the search for meaning. The rich

vocabulary of our Christian tradition might speak of lamentation, confession, embodiment, incarnation, and (yes) sin.

Every Sunday this Lent, I've asked members from the wider Trinity community to share with us their blues: a secular song that is nonetheless spiritual: which brings them comfort, makes them think, maybe makes them cry. Along with scripture, prayer, and hymnody, these songs will be a touchstone in each service—deepening in us the awareness of our shared humanity. I hope you'll join us for this experiment in spiritual practice—and that you in turn will feel joined on the lifelong journey of faith.

Blessings to you and yours,

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www.trinitynorthbay.ca

Lent is a time to reconnect

On one of the coldest days of our long winter, the promise of warm breezes and sunshine is being whispered in the lengthening of the days. Yet for now, it is cold, and spring seems far away. As we prepare ourselves for the beginning of Lent, the promise of Easter may seem far away too. We are people of the light, Easter people – called to celebrate the promise of new hope, symbolized by the empty tomb, but yet we must journey through the quieter, more reflective and some-

times dark days of Lent to get there.

Lent is a time to reconnect with what is important in our lives, to think about, and deepen our relationship with God and with others. It is a time to think about what changes we need to make in our lives to become better people. Whether you choose to give up something (like chocolate or social media), or to take on something new (like getting more exercise or giving to people in need), at Trinity, there will be many opportuni-

ties to deepen your relationship with God and your Trinity family. Join us for our Lenten Blues Services each Sunday from now through Easter and participate in the Lenten Bible Study. Participate in any of the events and activities that are happening at Trinity or join in any number of groups that call Trinity home. As you journey through Lent may you find belonging, a deepening faith and renewal in your spirit.

Grace and light,
Lisa

On a Musical Note...from Betty Farris, Minister of Music.

We anticipate with Easter joy, the rebirth that is to come

As we enter the Lenten season, we are reminded of the sacrifice of Jesus, our Christ. We anticipate with Easter joy, the rebirth that is to come.

Trinity Senior Choir continues to have a great time making music together. We have welcomed several new members this year, and always have room for additional enthusiastic singers! On Easter Sunday, we will continue our tradition & perform the Hallelujah Chorus, and enjoy the leadership of our Trinity Wind Ensemble.

As outreach to our Trinity family, our golden age members are invited to submit in writing a list of favourite hymns or chorus choices to Betty Farris, after church any Sunday. These can be from any denomination or hymn book, past or present. They can be personal

choices, or given in memory of a loved one. All requests will be honoured as long as they can be found. We can all enjoy these favourite songs in the music prelude before the Sunday service in the weeks ahead. [Please include your name and phone number on your requests, in case I (Betty) need to contact you for additional information. Thanks!]

Trinity will be hosting the community World Day of Prayer service on Friday, March 7th at 7:00 p.m. Our Trinity Senior Choir will be welcoming members from other churches to form a massed ecumenical choir for this occasion!

This year's Good Friday service will also be held at Trinity Church, on Friday, April 18th at 10:30 a.m. Once again, we will welcome choir members from the other churches

participating in a massed choir.

The children of our Trinity Junior Choir are excited and proud to be part of our Lenten and Easter celebrations and look forward to sharing their music with the congregation. We rehearse Sundays from 9:15 – 10:00 a.m., and always welcome new members, J.K. age, and up. Practices resume on Sunday, March 23.

On Sunday, May 25, the J.O.Y. Band will be musical guests at our worship service. We look forward to this gift of music.

We would like to thank all those who have helped to enrich our services musically this year. Our choirs especially thank the congregation for their continued support.

Lent is a time when we contemplate our own mortality

Throughout the Bible, a forty day period plays a significant role in the spiritual journey for our ancestors in Christ. Moses spent 40 days on the mountain of Sinai, Elijah spent 40 days in the cave and for 40 days and nights, the rains came in The Flood. Jesus, after his Baptism, spent 40 days in the desert before he prepared for his public ministry. According to calculations of scholars, Jesus spent 40 hours in the tomb before his resurrection.

In Celtic theology, the number 40 is significant. It represents the concept of “God’s will has been completed.” Our Lenten journey is 40 days, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending at Easter. During this time, we listen to difficult Scriptures that confront our very understanding of our lives. For many, Lent is a time of repentance, a time of retreating to the mountain, desert or cave of the soul. One can still be socially engaged with others, but the interior life takes a new shape of simplifying life, getting back to basics and contemplating how to be a better disciple of Jesus Christ.

In the movie *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* there is a char-

acter Moaning Myrtle who is a ghost that haunts the girls lavatory. During the course of the movie, we discover that she died accidentally but remained a ghost because she was still attached to this life and could not understand the circumstance of her own death. One day Harry asks Moaning Myrtle about her whereabouts at a certain time. She says, “I was here, thinking about death.” Lent reminds me of Moaning Myrtle’s statement: Lent is a time when we contemplate our own mortality in a loving community of fellow companions on a journey. It is a time when we are confronted by our very self and we see our need for Christ in our lives in a new way. Unlike Moaning Myrtle, who is stuck in her own world of death, we know that our period of Lenten journeying will culminate in the hope of Resurrection.

Our culture is increasingly avoiding death yet obsessed with it. Funerals in churches or funeral homes are becoming less popular, wakes even more so. Popular culture is captivated by zombies yet we are simultaneously avoiding funeral practices and talking openly about the reality of death. Christians set aside a sacred time to explore these issues in

Lent, not to avoid our own mortality, but to find meaning in it with and through Christ.

During the Lenten journey, we take austerity measures with our soul, confronting our mortality, our very humanity in a mountain top or desert like journey. Often times, we like to avoid unpleasant issues in life until we are directly confronted by them. Lent is a time when we can take a deep look at ourselves, taking ourselves to the mountain to spend time with God, being adrift on an ark in the rains or putting ourselves in the desert to be confronted by our strengths and weaknesses. It is a time to consider our own death so that we may live in fullness of life.

Our Lenten journey does not need to be solitary. There will be a Lenten Bible study offered every Tuesday in Lent at 1pm in the Fireside Room. We will spend time in spiritual practices based on lectionary readings as they connect to our Lenten Sunday Blues themes. Please join us as we enter into Lent with reverence, curiosity and reflection.

Peace of Christ
Shalome

THE TRINITY TESTOSTERONE USHERS IN SUMMER!

All men are welcome to join the “Trinity Testosterone” men’s canoe weekend on the weekend of June 20th through 22nd. However, the trip will be limited in numbers, so sign up on the sheet available as of Easter Sunday in the downstairs Sunday School Hall.

Participants will gather to plan details over coffee, after worship on May 25th. Please join us to plan details of the route, meals, and other important aspects of the trip!

Lenten offering goes to Food Shelf, and Benevolent Fund

The CE committee is responsible for coordinating and overseeing a vibrant multifaceted and current, Christian Education program for the Congregation, and provides leadership thereto.

The members of the CEO committee are; John Sheridan, Cindy Brownlee, Marcel MacDonald, Lindsey Mutch, Caroline Harrison, Diane Cook, Melissa Peddie, Sandra Brownlee, and Lisa Blais. We are very pleased to announce a new member and we welcome whole heartedly: Brenda Holbein, we need you, come on down. We are also very pleased to announce that Sue Whitehead has chosen to stay with us as she enters her rest year. We are also very pleased that our current chair John Sheridan will be the 2014 Trinity Board Chairman. All the best in your new position John.

Please feel free to approach any member with feedback or ideas that may be worked into a program.

The Sunday school, once again, will be making and decorating special envelopes to be used for the Lenten Offering.

Lenten envelopes are available weekly during lent and funds received go directly to the Trinity Food Shelf, and the Benevolent Fund. The Food Shelf is at its peak requirement period, and continued support is needed. We need to mention at this time the great volunteers that help out the Trinity Food Shelf. Your donation of time to help the needs of others is commendable. Thank You to all.

We have a dedicated team of teachers for our weekly Sunday school program, and we cannot thank them enough for their dedication

of time and talents. Thank you Sunday school teachers, you are truly exceptional. We are always open to new volunteers that wish to help in sharing their knowledge. Don't forget that you will learn so much as well, from our students and their unabashed ideas of life. We will celebrate our Sunday School and thank our teachers on Sunday June 13th during the morning worship.

Vacation Bible Camp: Coming this summer – August 18 – 22nd Mark your calendars!

Easter Blessings from the CEO Committee;

He triumphed over death; His Spirit fills our hearts.

He is Risen; Alleluia..

Tuesday Morning Coffee Group

We are a non-denominational group of friendly and welcoming women of all ages who meet on Tuesday mornings throughout the school year. The program varies from week to week with guest speakers, cooking, crafts, gardening, child development, tours, health & nutrition and lots of other interesting events. Childcare is provided in a safe, fun and stimulating environment for babies, toddlers and preschoolers. The children get a snack, enjoy activities (crafts, music, games, stories etc.) and make new friends too.

Our group meets at Trinity United Church (at the corner of McIntyre

& Ferguson) each Tuesday morning during the school year from **9:30 – 11:30**. Cost is **\$3.00 per week**.

March 4 Pancake Tuesday
– bring your “unique” pancakes

March 11 March Break
– no program this week

March 18 Potluck and Planning

March 25 Cheese Tasting

April 1 April Fools
– history and storytelling

April 8 Potluck and Patty Fedeli

April 15 Easter Bread Baking

April 22 Potluck and
Earth Day Activities

April 29 Mother's Day Fundraiser

Beginner Handbell Choir

Do you love the beautiful and ethereal sound of a handbell choir? Then here's a heads up for anyone interested in learning to play them. Coming this spring, there will be a beginner's workshop followed by open weekly rehearsals until June. We will be learning different techniques in ringing as well as care and set-up of the bells. Date of workshop and rehearsals to be announced. For more information or to be notified of the workshop date, please contact

Brenda McLay at email:
brenda.mclay@hotmail.com
or phone **(705)-472-5253**.

From the Finance/Stewardship Committee

VIEW from the VAULT

31 January 2014

RECEIPTS

Offering	\$16,586
Fundraisers	\$1,771
Outreach	\$1,000
Other	\$120

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$19,660
Property	\$2,736
Operations	\$2,078
Worship	\$0
CE	\$180
Fundraising	\$0
Outreach	\$2,000

Totals	\$19,477	\$26,654
Receipts - Expenses		(\$7,177)
Bank Balance Jan 1		\$12,208
Bank Balance Jan 31		\$5,031

Roof		
Lift update	\$1,000	Lift update \$9,973
		Balance to Repay \$8,973

Our attendance has been down in January and that is reflected in our reduced offering. If you are behind please work hard to catch up. Last year in January our offering was \$21,500.

Trinity's Vacation Bible Camp: **Quest for Adventure!**

Coming this summer!
August 18 – 22nd, 2014
9:30 – 3:30

Set sail for adventure as we discover the treasures of the bible through the Parables of Jesus.

\$50 per child, includes camp t-shirt, lunch, snacks and all supplies.
For children in Junior Kindergarten – Grade 6 Children in Grade 7 and up are welcome to help out and gain valuable leadership skills.
Highschool volunteer hours will be granted for those who qualify.

For more information please contact

Lisa Blais (705)474-3310

or by email blais.trinity@gmail.com

Ministry & Personnel

Our staff at Trinity are one busy group! You only have need to look at the calendar of upcoming events to get a sense of all the work that is being done behind the scenes, that keeps our church and its related activities, running smoothly.

On January 27th we hosted a staff appreciation dinner at the Stenning residence. It provided an opportunity to meet and share stories, in a relaxed family atmosphere.

We take this opportunity to welcome our newest staff member; Rob Sanders, who is our new treasurer, taking over for Peter Moseley-Williams, who is retiring. We thank Peter for his time spent in this position, and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

We also, at this time, extend a warm welcome to our new committee member; Don Haslam. We look forward to his experience and valued contribution to our committee.

As we move into the busy church season of Lent, we know our staff will continue to do what they always do: ONE GREAT JOB!!!

AOTS Gift Card order dates for March and April are, March 9th, March 23rd, April 6 and April 27.

See Bill Brownlee (472-3226) in March and Ed Rose(476-5316) in April to order.

I-DYG (Inter-Denominational Youth Group)

Trinity youth, along with youth from other area churches meet once a month. We participate in a variety of fun and spiritually creative activities with the goal of building community with other Christian youth. We usually meet at Calvin Presbyterian Church on the last Sunday of the month. Ask to be added to the I-DYG Facebook page to receive information about upcoming events. Some of our upcoming activities are listed below along with an invitation to our annual prayer vigil. We also are looking forward to participating in another weekend nature

retreat either late spring or early fall. Details will be announced as soon as we confirm dates.

Sunday March 30th – Casselhome Communion Service

The I-DYG will be leading a communion service along at Casselholme. Time and details will be posted as they become available.

Camp Lorrain 2014

Junior Camp

(age 7-10) July 6 -12

Intermediate Camp

(age 11-14) July 13 - 19

Intermediate Camp

(age 11-14) July 20 - 26

CIT

(age 15-16) July 1 – August 1

Family Camp (all ages)

July 27 – August 1

Camp Lorrain is excited to be offering rentals to families and groups during June and August.

Visit us online for more information, to register, or to donate:

www.camplorrain.com



Red Hot Friday Night

A Dinner With a Winner

Trinity Families Present

at Trinity

Chili Cook-off

Sign up your team and get your taste buds ready for an exciting experience

Prizes for best Chilies

03.21.2014

**WE'RE BUILDING SCHOOLS UNDER AFRICAN SKIES!
SUPPORT HOPE 2 KENYA AND PUT**

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL

THE HEAVENLY HOSTS

**PRESENT AN EVENING OF
UPBEAT CONTEMPORARY
MUSIC FEATURING A FULL
SET OF PINK FLOYD**

7:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014

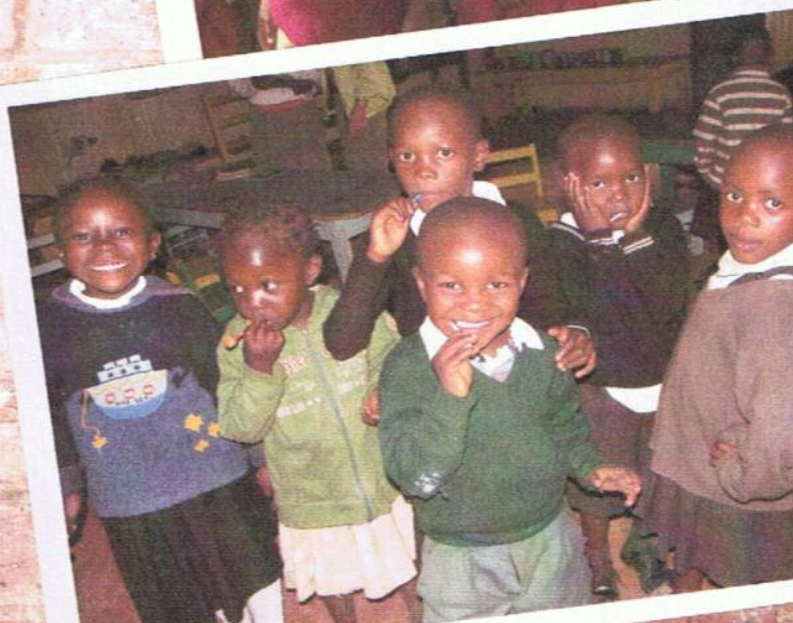
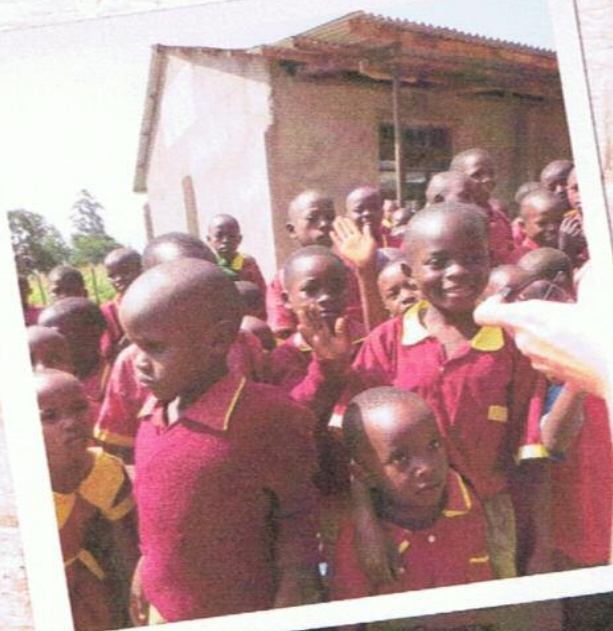
**(RECEPTION & REFRESHMENTS
TO FOLLOW)**

**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
FERGUSON AT MCINTYRE
NORTH BAY**

**ADMISSION BY DONATION
(RECOMMENDED MINIMUM
DONATION OF \$10.00)**

**FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION
CALL TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
705-474-3310**

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO HOPE 2 KENYA
FOR THEIR HUMANITARIAN WORK**



Youth Prayer Vigil

Thurs. April 17th – Fri. April 18th



I-DYG (Inter-Denominational Youth Group) and North Bay Presbytery Youth Groups will be holding a Prayer Vigil (April 17th – 18th) beginning with the Maundy Thursday worship service in the Trinity Sanctuary at 6:30 pm and ending following the 10:30 am Good Friday service at Trinity United Church.

We would like to invite any interested youth in Grade 7 and up to join us while we take a deeply spiritual and reflective journey through Good Friday.

The inspiration for the vigil is from the gospels of Mark and Matthew, when, in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus asks the sleeping disciples, 'Could you not watch one hour?' (Mk 14:38)

Throughout the night we will be holding hourly prayer sessions and meditations, participating in prayer stations, quiet games, etc.

**For more information please contact
Lisa Blais at 474-3310 or blais.trinity@gmail.com**

"Laudate" Sunday

April 27th

A Sunday on which to celebrate Easter by sharing your jokes!

Mother's Day Baptism Service

May 11th

(Please contact the office with your interest ASAP)

Hope 2 Kenya Dinner

Saturday May 10th

The Joy Band

brings their joy to our worship

Sunday, May 25th 10:30am

Neighbours Praising God

June 6th-8th

Manitou Conference

Weekend in Timmins, Ontario.

The theme is **"Reboot Your Life!"**

See www.manitouconference.ca

"Trinity Testosterone"

June 20th to 22nd

annual men's canoe trip

Watch for Sign-Up sheets

Summer Holidays

June 18th – July 23rd

Trinity is closed for a month of summer holidays. You will be warmly welcomed to worship at **St. Andrew's United Church, on Sundays at 10:30am**

Trinity's famous Vacation Bible Camp

August 18-22

over 50 children for a week of fun, surprises, and spiritual growth! Get your registration kits from Trinity's office!

Rally Back Sunday

September 7th

Covenanting with our Sunday School at morning worship—laughing and playing at Camp Tillicum in the afternoon with our Annual Rally Back Picnic!