

# Trinity United Church Annual Report 2016



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### **STAFF 2016**

Minister .....	Rev. Ted Harrison
Designated Lay Minister .....	Lisa Blais
Minister Emerita .....	Rev. Kathy McCallum
Minister of Music .....	Betty Farris
Office Administrator .....	Wanda Gleason
Custodian .....	Ryan Rozicki
Night Reception .....	Maurice Laporte
Night Security .....	Shirley Myre
Treasurer .....	Michelina Beam

## **“In It for the Long Haul”:**

A Reflection from Rev. Ted

This 2016 minister’s annual report is, in a sense, a book report! Several of my ministry colleagues have recently pointed out to me that 2016 constitutes my seventh year at Trinity, and that in the church seven years is a watershed moment: *somehow at seven years, a ministry becomes long-term.*

“In it for the Long Haul” is the name of a trusted book of research concerned with “Building Long-Term Pastorates.” Written by a minister named Glenn Ludwig, the book traces the successes and challenges that characterize those ministries that stretch beyond the *year seven milestone*.

Long-term ministries are typical of Trinity’s recent history. While our roots in late-19<sup>th</sup> century Methodism meant the prescribed short pastorates typical of that period, in recent memory, the typical pastorate was between one and two decades long - with me as only the fourth ordained minister in the last half-century! Our experience at Trinity agrees with confirmed research, that long-term ministries tend to equate with healthy and resilient congregations.

The real challenges of long-term ministry boil down mostly to one overriding trend: *churches can get stuck*. We can get complacent, even lazy. Like all institutions, we can convince ourselves that we don’t need to risk or change to respond to the needs of our wider community. And while our church needs to offer comfort and stability, it can’t do so at the cost of our call to serve the world that God loves. We can never forget why we are here - to care and to give in ways that speak of God’s love.

As a minister at Trinity, I get a front-row seat to witness that love-in-action. It is a sacred trust that I am often invited to share in the most intimate, painful, and joyous times in peoples’ lives. I am one child of God who gets to walk with many other children of God - as we share our gifts, celebrate our milestones, take chances, and learn to love this life.

Thank you for that deep trust. It will be necessary. It will take great trust to navigate our future together. The church today finds itself in uncertain territory. It will take enormous trust - and great creativity - to be a church that speaks and serves faithfully and responsively in these unprecedented times.

On Christmas Eve I shared with the congregation the insight that I was now in a “long term ministry.” I announced my intention to stay, to be “in it for the long haul.” I will be with you for the foreseeable future, and of course much of my job will be reminding you of why you are here.

Blessings to you, blessings through you,  
Rev. Ted

## **Thank God for You!**

Report by Lisa Blais, Designated Lay Minister

To be honest, as I reflect back on the year that was, I am feeling a certain sense of relief that it is over! On a personal level, it was a year that was filled with challenges and grief. That is not to say that it was all bad. In fact, there were many moments where I witnessed and felt God’s grace. There were wonderful moments of great joy, faithful work, celebrations, fantastic music, and of course delicious food - and that certainly goes a long way to sustain us in those tender moments. I thank God for my Trinity Family every day and I thank *you*, for allowing me to continue to serve here.

As we move into our 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary year I am reminded of the long history of care, faithfulness, and service that Trinity has and continues to offer. In the ten years that I have served in ministry here at Trinity, there have been quite a few changes - new faces, new groups, new ways of doing things - but some things never change. I am deeply humbled by the generosity in which Trinity people give of their time, their talents and their resources - the Trinity community puts faith in to action - offering support, love, prayers and of course food, to all who need it! God is certainly active in the hands, feet and *hearts* of our wonderful community!

I would like to thank all the people who dedicate and volunteer their time in so many ways at Trinity, whether it’s serving one of the committees of the church, peeling apples, helping out in Sunday school, making sandwiches, running the lift, handing out bulletins, making coffee, packing Christmas bags, washing dishes, singing in the choir, reading scripture, setting up tables and chairs, those who attend Sunday worship *and* those who support our ministries and events every *other* day of the week. You are the people who make Trinity a welcoming and exciting place to be!

(cont’ - page 2)

I am grateful to my fellow Trinity staff members who make coming in to work each day such a joy, and also to the many people whom I collaborate and work with on a day to day basis. I am happy to participate and offer support to Trinity Families, Trinity Arts, Mustard Seed Theatre, Vacation Bible Camp, the Inter-Denominational Youth Group, North Bay Presbytery's Mission Committee, the Food Shelf Oversight Committee, and the Christian Education and Outreach Committee (and anyone else who asks).

Thank-you for your part in helping to live out Trinity's 135 year history, your generous support and dedication throughout the years and for continuing to make Trinity a welcoming and busy place for all.

May your year ahead be filled with laughter, love, peace and God's abundant grace.

Lisa Blais

## **Trinity Music – Annual Report For 2016**

Our Trinity Senior and Junior Choirs have enjoyed providing music on a regular basis for weekly worship services and various other special church events during 2016. During Lent and in the fall, several members of the Senior Choir assisted the Pastoral Care Committee with music at Communion Services at local Seniors' homes.

The Senior Choir welcomed new members and additional choristers for some special occasions during the year.

We are grateful to the following instrumentalists who have enriched our music: Melissa Pajunen, Brenda McLay, and Theresa McDermott - piano and organ; Laura Farris Einarson - flute; Jennifer Hedican - violin; Don Clysdale - viola; Marcel Macdonald, Victoria Wickett, and Diana Lalonde - trumpet; Doug Nichol - french horn; Kevin Smith, Dave Wilks, and Diana Lalonde - trombone; Rob Farris - tuba; Matthew Whitehead, Chris Clarke and Peggy Millar - percussion.

The Junior Choir, under the capable leadership of Peggy Millar, continues to grow. This enthusiastic group of 4-12 year olds loves to sing on their own, and with the Senior Choir. Thank you for enriching our services.

Trinity's newest music group, the "Joyful Bells", under the leadership of Brenda McLay, presented a beautiful Christmas concert on Sunday afternoon, December 4.

The J.O.Y. Community Concert Band, under the direction of Betty Farris and Neil Kennedy, enriched Trinity Sunday services during May and on Remembrance Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. For a special afternoon concert on November 13<sup>th</sup>, Trinity welcomed the community, as the J.O.Y. Band presented "Musical Memories of the War Years". The concert included band selections, vocal solos, small ensembles, and sing-alongs, and was enjoyed by a large audience. Over \$1200 in free-will offering was donated to the Brain Injury Association of North Bay and area.

On December 11<sup>th</sup> (Advent III), the J.O.Y. Band and J.O.Y. Band Too presented "Sweet Sounds of Christmas". This concert was a wonderful afternoon of music for our church and the North Bay community. Thank you to the many Trinity members who helped in any way with the organization, publicity and refreshments for this concert! Proceeds from the concert were donated to the Trinity Infant Food Shelf, and the Nipissing Serenity Hospice.

The Senior Choir presented a beautiful Christmas cantata, "Let The Whole World Sing", by composer Joel Raney, on December 18<sup>th</sup>, (Advent IV). Both the choir and congregation enjoyed this uplifting musical, which was narrated by Rev. Ted. Our ten instrumentalists added greatly to the special presentation.

Our Senior and Junior Choirs, the Joyful Bells and the J.O.Y. Bands look forward to continuing their contribution to the musical life of Trinity Church!

Respectively submitted, Betty Farris,  
Minister of Music - Trinity United Church

**.. from the Chairman of the Board . . .**

It has been an honour and pleasure for me to Chair the Trinity United Church Board this past year. The honour has been to serve. The pleasure has been to serve in the company of good people, the members of the Board, the members of various Committees, with the congregation, with our staff, including Reverend Ted Harrison and Lisa, and with members of our larger community who participate with Trinity United Church. As followers of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and our Lord and Saviour, we try our best to walk in his path. I am humbled and so glad to have witnessed the walk along His path in this company, the people of Trinity United Church.

The Trinity United Church Board has worked extremely well together, with a single mind as stated in our Mission:

*We believe God is calling Trinity United Church to:*

- reach out and serve the wider community and the world;*
- to nurture spirituality in people of all ages;*
- to be a safe, open, welcoming and inclusive community of faith.*

As Chair of the Board, I can say with conviction, 2016 has been a good year for Trinity United Church. The Annual General Report 2016 details many of the activities of our Church. As a Church, and as part of our larger community, we have taken up the opportunities to walk in Christ's path, in support of individuals, families, and our community, both local and afar. In particular, I would like to draw your attention to those activities pertaining to children, youth and young families, which have engaged our entire congregation, our Committees and staff, from regular Sunday service, participation in Communion and Sunday School, to the Family Retreat, Mustard Seed Theatre, Guides and Scouts, and support of the Food Bank, to name but a few.

Trinity United Church has not been without challenges this past year. Those challenges are primarily fiscal, and not unlike any other church, organization or community, small or large. They fall into two major categories: upkeep of our capital assets (building, boilers, pipe organ) which we have gratefully received and been entrusted as a wonderful legacy from our forbearers; and, the sustainability of our mission and service, including outreach to our community, both local and afar. Early in 2017, we will begin to look at a new approach to Stewardship, possibly as a Sub-Committee (distinct to the Finance Committee) to report to the Board. The congregation has already received some information about stewardship from Reverend Melody Duncanson Hales following her sermon on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

The Trinity United Church Board has also begun to participate in the transformation of the United Church of Canada (UCC). While we remain faithful to the Creed of the United Church of Canada, it has become necessary to look at the organization and structure of the UCC in order for it to remain sustainable and relevant to our time. The Trinity Board has undertaken this very seriously and conscientiously. Board members serving on Manitou Conference Presbytery, including Don Haslam and Janice Brownlee, or Reverend Ted, can provide more information.

Lastly, I want to comment on the results of the IMNA (Identity, Mission and Needs Assessment) Survey sponsored by the United Church of Canada in the fall of 2015. A detailed report for Trinity United Church was received and reviewed in detail. Suffice it to say, the survey participants from Trinity were overall very satisfied in all aspects of their identity and mission. There was only one area of consideration in terms of our needs, which was the desire for a slightly greater time for meditation during Sunday services. From my point-of-view, the IMNA Survey made a profound statement confirming the work of Trinity United Church of North Bay, Ontario. Even more specifically, it confirms the wonderful spiritual leadership of Reverend Ted Harrison and Designated Lay Minister Lisa Blais.

In closing, I want to extend my most sincere appreciation to Reverend Harrison and all the members of the Board and Committees and all the congregants of Trinity United Church for their efforts in our Mission over the past year of 2016.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kirk Ready

## Our Church Membership

### IN MEMORIAM

Eileen Zelene Anthony	March 16, 2016
Ralph Burton	March 25, 2016
Sharon McCrae	March 28, 2016
Leona Marie Drury	May 7, 2016
Mervin George Males	May 19, 2016
Ursula Emma VonHoltzendorff	August 20, 2016
Garry Erwin Sullivan	October 23, 2016
Elwood (Woody) Caldwell	November 30, 2016

### STATISTICS

Resident and non-resident membership	
as of December 31, 2015	480
Received by profession of faith	0
Received by transfer	0
Total received in 2015	0
Removed by death	3
Removed by session	0
Removed by unknown residency	0
Removed by transfer	2
Total Removed in 2016	5
Net loss	5
Resident and non-resident membership	
as of December 31, 2016	475
Non-Resident	123
Resident	352
Presbytery and Conference dues are based on the resident memberships.	

### BAPTISMS

Kailee Ashtlayn Edith Wells	January 10, 2016
Ann Margaret Mitchell	May 1, 2016
Connor James Ball	October 9, 2016

### COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Baptisms	10	15	4	11	5	8	3
Marriages	4	13	9	6	2	8	5
Funerals	17	22	12	12	9	13	8



## The Christian Education and Outreach Committee Report

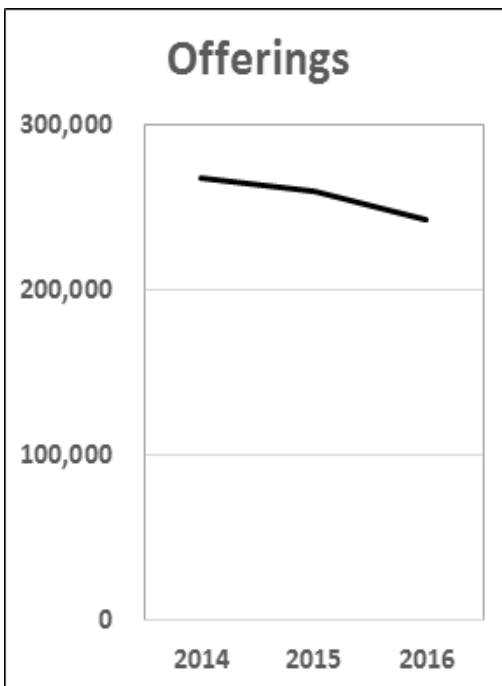
The Christian Education and Outreach Committee is responsible for coordinating and overseeing a vibrant, multi-faceted and current Christian Education program for children, youth and adults. The CEO committee is also responsible for oversight and assistance with the many outreach organizations of the church: such as Trinity's Food Shelf, the Infant Food Bank, Trinity Families, Vacation Bible Camp and more. Supported by Lisa Blais, our Designated Lay Minister, and chaired by Cindy Brownlee who took over from Sandra Brownlee part way through the year. The committee includes; Sunday School Superintendant, Marcel MacDonald, Jeff Mailloux and Eric Brownlee as the youth reps, as well as Linsey Mutch, Melissa Peddie, Caroline Harrison, Diane Cook, and Sue Whitehead.

Many of the CEO Committee programs and activities are reported elsewhere in the annual report (see Sunday School, Trinity Families, Food Shelf, Youth Group, Vacation Bible Camp, Mustard Seed, and Tuesday Morning Coffee Group). The CEO committee is responsible for coordinating Teacher Appreciation Day, the Rally Back Picnic and for initiating fundraising activities and envelope donations to the Food Shelf through special offerings such as Lent, Thanksgiving and White Gift Sunday. This year the Lenten offering brought in \$1646.65 which was donated to the Food Shelf; Thanksgiving brought in \$550.25 for the Food Shelf and the White Gift which helped to provide 150 Christmas bags to those in need in our community.

The countless volunteers and generous supporters of all these activities make the role of the CEO Committee easier. Together, our church family builds a loving and caring community because of the sharing of time, talents and generous donations for our many outreach activities. We wish to thank the Trinity community for their generous support of the many activities that take place inside (and outside) of our very active church.

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Brownlee

## Finance & Stewardship Committee Report



Thank you for your support of all the worthy undertakings within our church community, and for all the time and talent you contribute. As you read the other sections of this Annual Report think about the time, talent and treasure it takes to keep it all running - and feel proud of your part in it.

Thank you too for your generous financial donations to Trinity in 2016. Did you know that your offerings make up 70% of our total income? The figures for total offerings were \$242,000 compared to \$260,000 in 2015 and \$268,000 in 2014. While the declining trend is of concern, offerings towards the end of 2016 were up so we're hopeful that's a good sign for an improvement in 2017.

Trinity relies on its fundraisers to close the gap, and they came through again in 2016. Thank you to our UCS and AOTS groups. And to the specific fund-raising efforts of the people behind the apple pie sales, the Glitter Dinner, and the 4 Trinity events. And thank you to all of you who supported these fund-raising activities.

Trinity continues to carry its weight and more in Outreach. Look for the many examples in the financial statements.

The number of supporters on PAR has continued to increase and PAR donations now cover about 40% of our monthly needs. This is an amount we can count on each month so it is a big plus to our financial stability. PAR is a great way to donate to your church so if you're not already on PAR please call Wanda to sign up. For those of you who are on PAR, please remember to review your annual offering each year.

Our church is a wonderful building, but it is old. We had a major brick repair project in 2016 which cost close to \$18,000. The majority of this expense was covered by previous years' estate donations. We can expect to have more repair projects as our church is 111 years old. We might have to do some brick work every year, and we started some boiler repairs last year and will see those expenses in 2017. ....(cont' - page 6)

At the time the submissions to this annual report were due we hadn't yet closed the books for 2016 but it looks like we'll have a deficit of close to \$11,500. About half of that is due to building maintenance, and the other half just a shortfall in offerings.

We need a constant focus on our giving, and a continued growth in our congregation. With your help both of these are achievable.

The members of your combined Finance & Stewardship committees were: Bob Cook, Donald Bell, Jean Mitchell, John Roberts, Michelina Beam, Moe Laporte, Peter Moseley-Williams, Rob Farris, and Wesley Johnson. Our envelope secretary and PAR administrator is Wanda Gleason, and our treasurer is Michelina Beam. Moe Laporte organizes the tellers and the ushers who count and deposit the offerings. We are grateful to all these people for their valuable contribution to our congregation.

It was a rewarding and inspirational year at Trinity and we're hopeful for another in 2017.

Thank you again!

Respectfully submitted by John Roberts

### **Ministry and Personnel Committee Report**

Our committee members for 2016 consisted of Brad Stenning and Don Haslam as co-chairs, John Peddie, Anna Wright, Debby Clark, and Pat Smith. Fortunately 2016 was a very quiet year for our committee. Things appear to have run quite smoothly. Our responsibilities are: consultation and support for matters involving staff when needed; overseeing the relationship of staff to each other and to the congregation; regular review of working conditions, responsibilities, and compensation for staff; revising position descriptions or pastoral charge staff as needed; conducting annual performance reviews of the staff; ensuring pastoral charge staff are able to use their opportunities for continuing education; and to maintain contact with the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee.

We, here at Trinity, are extremely fortunate in having staff personnel that work both for us and with us, also with each other. All of them go beyond their required work description to keep our church family humming.

Many hands make lighter work. M&P congratulate the congregation for its continued help, support, and participation in the life and work of Trinity United Church. We are especially pleased to see the number of younger families (especially the children) growing in the church family of Trinity. We continue to remember that the church, any church, is the body of people who belong and serve together for the church, the community and the wider world.

Submitted by Brad Stenning and Don Haslam.

### **Pastoral Care and Visiting Report**

2016 was a busy year for our committee. We made visits to the hospital, nursing homes, and retirement homes on a regular basis. In addition, Communion services were conducted at the Empire Living Centre and Nipissing Manor and a private service was conducted at a home as well. Our thanks to Rev. Ted and to Betty Farris and members of the choir for their support. These services are a blessing to the recipients and to the team members alike.

Our Spring/Lenten services are scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> at Nipissing Manor at 2:30 p.m. and Marina Point on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. We welcome anyone who would like to join us for these services to please come out.

We look after getting greeters for the Narthex every Sunday. If you would enjoy greeting please let us know and we will add your name to our list.

In addition to our hospital, home and nursing home visits, we endeavor to keep in touch with our Trinity family as a whole. We do this through our communion lists which are reviewed on a regular basis. The people listed are called by the Elders prior to each communion service. In this way each member and adherent is contacted. This is very important as the Elders are the liaison between the congregation, the Board and Rev. Ted. If there are any changes please let us know.

We are so pleased to welcome Rev. Richard Smith and Moe Laporte to our Pastoral Care Team as we say thank you to Ann Cann and Ann Clark who are retiring from doing a super job looking after our "over 90's"

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birthday group. They (along with chauffer Bill Clark) have dedicated many years providing a card and a visit to these special members of the Trinity family. Rev Smith is now taking on this important role as there are now 21 on the list.

Our committee members include Bonnie Beam, Rae Brownlee, Dainty dePencier, Rob Farris, Wanda Gleason, Ruth McKinnon, Shirley Myre, Barbara Roberts, John Sheridan, Richard Smith, Maurice Laporte, Shirley Tayler, Claudette dePencier and Noreen Brewer.

Submitted by Claudette dePencier and Noreen Brewer

### **Property and Grounds Report**

The Property and Grounds Committee has had another relatively quiet year. We have done our usual job of looking after the maintenance needs of Trinity United, many things have been repaired and made functional again by Don Rideout and Tony dePencier. We continue to set up the stage in the Sanctuary for Mustard Seed Shows and for the Joy Band, and arrange the tables and chairs in the Sunday School Room for the various lunches and dinners held at Trinity United. Lights have been replaced in the Sanctuary with the newest LED bulbs which should reduce our electrical costs somewhat. We continue to look for ways to reduce our hydro, gas and water bills.

Last summer we oversaw the replacement of many bricks on the front of the Church, weather and age take a toll on the old bricks on the exterior of our beautiful Church. This winter we had our boilers refurbished and we should get many years more service from these heating units in the basement. Both of these projects had their costs offset by bequests made to Trinity and we are very grateful for the generosity shown to us. We would like to replace the windows in the Nursery, AA rooms and the Minister's office but will wait to attempt these jobs until we can afford the work. There are many groups and individuals who support the work of the Property and Grounds Committee and I would like to thank them for their ongoing efforts. Our band the "Hosts" are playing concerts to raise funds for cushions in the Sanctuary as are Trinity Arts. The very active group called "4 Trinity", continue to raise funds *for Trinity* as well. Again thanks to all who work to raise funds and to the many who come out and support their efforts.

Our Committee looks forward to 2017 as there are always jobs to be done, painting to happen and new initiatives to become involved in.

Thanks you to all who make our job interesting and fun.

Respectfully Submitted, David McKenney

### **Worship Committee Report**

Committee Members: Rev. Dr. Ted Harrison, Gladys Banks-Bryer, Roxanne Chartrand, Marlene Little, Shirley Myre, Jean Rideout, Sandra Rozicki and Heather Shouse.

Our committee meets with Rev. Ted to ensure that all areas of the worship service are carried out effectively. The Worship Committee is responsible for acquiring the Sunday custodian and lift operators, ushers, lay readers and supply ministers. We prepare the chancel for each service. We provide assistance to the UCW to prepare the elements before each Communion service. We schedule elders to serve Communion throughout the year. In addition, we assist with the Baptism services.

On June 5<sup>th</sup>, the UCW lead us in worship while Rev. Ted was away attending Neighbours Praising God. In addition, the AOTS lead the service on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

In preparation for Advent, the sanctuary was once again transformed into the Christmas season under the direction of Nancy Dewar-Stenning. Our thanks also go out to Don and Jean Rideout, Noreen and Ross Brewer, Gladys Banks-Bryer and Keith Bryer for assisting in this endeavour.

Our Minister of Music, Betty Farris, along with the choir, continue to share their love of music and enthusiasm weekly. One of the Christmas Season's musical offerings is the Choir's Cantata. This year's cantata was entitled "Let the Whole World sing." This is always a most uplifting service. The Junior Choir is under the direction of Peggy Millar and accompanied by Betty Farris. It is always very special when the children present their songs with much enthusiasm.

We again enjoyed the Sunday school's Christmas production, entitled "Manger Tales" under the direction of Darlene Laferriere. The children did another awesome job!

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One of the very special services held annually is the “Longest Night Service” with our friends from St. Andrews United Church. This is a candle lighting service held on December 21<sup>st</sup>. At this time of year, people are dealing with many emotions of not only “highs” but also of “lows” and this service allows a time to pause and reflect.

We are truly blessed to have Rev. Ted as our minister. He challenges us to move forward in our own spiritual journey. Whether it is bringing your stuffed animals to church, Halloween Sunday, Speaking Out about Domestic Violence or Robbie Burns Sunday; he is most creative when presenting important messages. There is always something for everyone and we appreciate his leadership, wisdom and compassion.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the members of the congregation, for your willingness to carry out the necessary tasks to make our worship service run smoothly each week. This committee could not do its work without your dedication and commitment

Lastly, I would like to thank the committee members for their dedication and ongoing work. Whenever tasks are presented to them, they pull together and make sure the jobs get completed quickly and effectively. I feel very privileged to be a part of this hard-working committee.

Respectfully submitted by Gladys Banks-Bryer

### **Nominating Committee Report:**

The members of the Nominating Committee are Roxanne Chartrand, Claudette dePencier, Ed Rose, and Maurice Laporte. The Committee wishes to thank the following retiring elders who have completed their second three year term: Claudette dePencier, Marlene Little, Maurice Laporte, Eunice Laporte and Shirley Taylor.

Don Bell, Debbie Clark, Rae Brownlee, Roxanne Chartrand, Don Haslam, Wesley Johnson, Shirley Myre, Dave McKenney, Brian Boothe and Jean Mitchell have agreed to serve a second three year term. The following are returning as seconded members: Noreen Brewer, Claudette dePencier, Marlene Little, Maurice Laporte, Eunice Laporte, Dave McKenney, and Shirley Taylor.

The following people are nominated to the Board for a term ending 2020: Wesley Johnson (Stewardship), Karen Johnson (Stewardship), Carling Lutecki (Christian Education and Outreach), Judi Rose (Worship), Ryan Roziki (Building and Grounds), Kirk Elliott (Board of Trustees), Richard Smith (Pastoral Care and Visiting.)

Honorary Elders: The following people are nominated: Bill and Doris- Rae Brownlee, and Rae Brownlee. Honorary Elders Remembered: Eleanor Rennick added. The Chairperson is Dave McKenney, Vice-Chair is Darlene Laferriere, Past-Chair is Kirk Ready and the Recording Secretary is Janice Brownlee ( as interim)

Respectfully submitted, Roxanne Chartrand, Past-Chair.

### **Trustee Report**

The Board of Trustees is entrusted with those matters related to the fixed and fiscal property of the congregation, in accordance with the *Trusts of Model Deeds* set out in The Manual: The United Church of Canada: Appendix II.

The members of the Board of Trustees in 2016 were: Bob Cooney, Jim Liddell, Jean Mitchell, John Roberts, Jean Rideout, Ed Rose and Sandra Rozicki. Ed Rose was the Chair of the Trustees, Sandra Rozicki has been named to the position of Trustee Secretary while Jean Rideout is the representative seconded to the Building and Grounds Committee and Bob Cooney fulfilled the position as the representative responsible for insurance matters. Should you wish to be a member of the Trustees , there is still room for more volunteers. A maximum of ten persons is allowed to be a Trustee at any given time.

In carrying out their duties, the Trustees ensure that the church building and contents are adequately insured. An inventory review of the church contents is conducted to confirm that the insurance is both adequate and current. The Trustees also insure that sufficient liability insurance coverage is carried to protect the congregation and staff against personal liability arising from actual or alleged claims of negligence or damages. The Trustees are also charged with the prudent investing of funds held in trust on behalf of the congregation.

Both Ed Rose and Bob Cooney have completed a period of five years as Trustee. Ed Rose will be resigning, while Bob Cooney has decided to volunteer for a further five year period as Trustee should members of the congregation be in favour.

Submitted by Ed Rose, Past Chairperson

## Monday Morning Food Shelf Report

The Monday Morning Food Shelf was open a total of 39 Days in 2016 (40 days in 2015). During the year we supplied a total of 1,124 food baskets (1,156 in 2015). Of these 746 were for single clients and 379 were for families (compared to 780 and 376 in 2015). The families comprised 1,012 members so in total we provided food assistance to 1,757 persons (1762 in the previous year).

In addition to providing food help we were also able to offer items such as toiletries, toilet paper and warm clothing (during winter months.) All of these items were donated rather than purchased.

We now have a total of about 18 volunteers involved in receiving and recording clients, filling and dispensing the baskets and other items, and shopping. Shopping to keep our shelves filled is a mammoth task (we go through about 1,000 food items a month) and our shopping crew deserve a lot of credit for keeping us supplied and containing the cost.

Our work continues thanks to the generosity of Trinity's congregation. We could not carry on without your donations and we hope you will keep up your support support this worthy outreach.

## Financial Statement for Food Shelf Operating Account - 2016

Bank Balance December 30, 2015.	\$2878.16
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### RECEIPTS:

From Trinity Food Shelf Account	February	\$2000.
From Trinity Food Shelf Account	August	\$3000.
From Trinity Food Shelf Account	December	<u>\$3000.</u>
Total.		\$8000.

Total.	\$10,878.16
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### EXPENDITURES:

To AOTS re Food Gift Cards.	\$3900.
Cheques for others buying food.	\$2857.95
Total.	\$6757.95

December 12, 2016	Bank Balance.	\$4120.21
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Respectively Submitted by Doris-Rae Brownlee

## Infant Food Shelf Report

For almost three years the Trinity Infant Food Shelf has been servicing families with children under twelve months of age living below the poverty line. This vulnerable population finds it difficult to access nutritious food and basic necessities needed during that critical first year of life.

Collectively at Trinity we believed that we could make a difference in the lives of those families by extending Trinity's Food Shelf and starting a program strictly for this population.

Every Wednesday between 11:00 and 1:00 in the Sunday school room, families attend the program to receive support. We encourage breast feeding and supply products for that purpose. For those not breast feeding we provide a gift card toward formula. Both groups are able to receive diapers and five other items such as baby food, bottles, wipes and various other products. They are also greeted by a special group of volunteers who provide education on safe sleep, nutrition, and child development.

The Trinity Infant Food Shelf receives no government funding but is dependant on the generosity of the community and funds allocated to Trinity Food Shelf.

To date we have assisted over 160 infants and their families. Our records show that in a twelve month period families visit an average of 9 times.

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In addition to the basic food items we are blessed with sewers who magically turn donated fabric into blankets and sleepers. We also have knitters who create hats and mitts to keep hands and heads warm. Each week, families tell us how grateful they are to Trinity Church for this outreach.

Most important, we have wonderful volunteers who offer ears to listen, and voices to speak words of understanding and encouragement. Brenda Holbein, Rae Brownlee, Janice Brownlee, Barb Roberts, Linda Merkel, Marianne Calhoun, are the smiling faces that greet the families and provide an atmosphere of caring and acceptance. We are also very grateful to the Trinity staff and the Christian Education and Outreach Committee for all their help and support.

We would also like to acknowledge our community supports over the last year that includes: Living Fit (\$1000) IODE (\$200) plus many wonderful knitted hats and mitts, Joy Band (\$607) AOTS ( \$500) Gift Cards, UCW (\$100) The Spirit of Giving from the Correctional building ( cash, gift cards, and baby items) Mother-care (Printing of Post Cards and donations of Diapers and food) Sharon and Jim Liddel ( Yards of Fleece for Blankets and Books for each Child for Christmas) Sewers of beautiful blankets and Sue Sheridan for sewing baby sacks for safe sleep, plus countless individual donations of cash, baby food and diapers , new and gently used clothing. Without our community support this program would not be possible.

Submitted by Linda Mclay Sheridan

### **An Update on the Gathering Place Breakfast Program**

Since we have been working with the Gathering Place over the last few years, the Breakfast Program has been a huge success. The amount of clients that have been helped weekly has increased greatly. This is a great ministry that helps so many people.

Thank you to all the great volunteers who help out every week. All your good and hard work is greatly appreciated.

Blessings. Roxanne.

### **Presbytery Representatives Report**

Our North Bay Presbytery includes representation from the United Churches in Sturgeon Falls, Red-bridge, Mattawa, Rutherglen, Callander, Loring, Golden Valley, Restoule, Nipissing, Powassan, Trout Creek, South River, Sundridge, Magnetawan, Burks Falls, Katrine, Temiscaming and, of course, North Bay. Trinity United Church has three representatives (based on membership numbers), Janice Brownlee, Don Haslam and Eunice Laporte. Ann Clark very generously fills in as an Alternate if and when required. Presbytery also includes all paid accountable ministry staff (Rev. Ted and Lisa Blais), retired members of the Ordered Ministry (Rev. Kathy) and up to 10 lay members at large. From our congregation, Bill Brownlee is a member at large.

Presbytery has an Executive and four Standing Committees – Finance, Mission, Ministry Personnel and Education (M P & E) and, Nominating; these committees meet monthly (except July and August) and then report to the ‘full court’ that meets four times per year – typically September, November, February and April.

The work of Presbytery includes (but is not limited to); over-sight every three years of each Pastoral Charge, ensuring supervision of unstaffed churches, receiving Annual Reports and monitoring financial status, promoting Mission activities, approving closures and changes in staffing (appointments and settlements), licensing and education of Lay Worship Leaders, assisting with Joint Needs Assessments and, is a conduit of information to the Manitou Conference. Another primary role of Presbytery is to provide a forum for learning, networking and worshipping together. Presbytery is there as a support to the congregations providing assistance as requested

From GC42 there were a number of Remits to the Charges and Presbyteries as we attempt to discuss our retooling and redesigning of the face and courts of our United Church. The 8 remits that we must vote on are: 1. The Three Council Model; 2. The Elimination of Transfer and Settlement; 3. Office of Vocation; 4. Funding a New Model; 5. Ministry Partners within Mutual Recognition of Ministry Agreements; 6. One Order of Ministry; 7. Candidacy Pathways; 8. Towards a New Model of Membership.

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 North Bay Presbytery approved Remits 5, 7, and 8. Remit 2 was not approved.

(cont’ - page 11)

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 Remit 1 was considered but the vote was deferred until the November meeting. Remits 1 and 4 were approved at the November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting. We have left to deal with Remits 3 and 6 and will do so on Remit 3 probably in February 2017 and later in 2017 after a workshop on Remit 6. We still do not know what our final outcomes will be.

Kathie Smith continues as Chair of Presbytery and Karen Gouch competently fulfills the duties of Secretary. Janice Brownlee serves as our Lay Representative to the Conference Executive and is also Chair of the Conference Staff Committee.

It has been a very busy and enlightening year in North Bay Presbytery. We have reported our activities regularly to the Board and played host for several meetings at Trinity. We are grateful to the UCW of Trinity for providing delicious food for our lunches. Please feel free to chat with any of us and thank you for the opportunity to serve on your behalf.

Respectfully,

Janice Brownlee, Ann Clark, Don Haslam, and Eunice Laporte.

### **Trinity Arts Report**

**Membership:** Our flexible membership has primarily included Nancy Dewar-Stenning, Darlene Laferriere, Rod Carley, Lisa Blais, Rev. Ted, Michelina Beam, and many other supporters.

**Mandate:** *'Using the many blessings of the Trinity church family to enrich life and faith through the arts.'*

Trinity Arts was formed decades ago as a vehicle to enable the sharing and enrichment of the arts at Trinity, as a gift to our church and our wider North Bay community. Events have included organ recitals, concerts, visiting choirs, and drama troupes. Trinity Arts also inherits the legacy of the "*Trinity Players*," who used Trinity's people and facilities for local theatre productions. Lately we've cooperated closely with "*Mustardseed Productions*," "*The Hosts*" band, and "*The Watershed Shakespeare Festival*" on projects, fundraisers, and community enrichment.

#### **2016 Projects included:**

- Hosting concerts (e.g. Michael White's two Led Zeppelin tribute concerts);
- The winter Trinity Coffeehouse (which raised money for the Trinity Families retreat);
- "Christmas, a Humbug" with music by Jim Harney and Friends (a fundraiser for the Gathering Place).

**Looking Ahead:** In 2015, "*King Lear*" established Trinity as a great friend of the arts in North Bay and created a great deal of "buzz." It enriched our worship and our sense of community, and gleaned a significant national article in the *United Church Observer*. Trinity Arts is excited for the 2017's with several projects around a production of "*Romeo & Juliet*" enriching our church and our city in May!

Respectfully submitted with deep gratitude to our arts-loving community,

*Rev. Ted for Trinity Arts, February 2017.*

### **Union Cemetery Report**

Circa 1915, four North Bay churches, Trinity United, St. Andrew's United, Calvin Presbyterian and First Baptist joined together and established "Union" Cemetery which, thanks to many dedicated volunteers, has faithfully served the local community ever since.

The cemetery functions under the Cemeteries Act of Ontario. It also maintains its own Rules and Regulations, which may be amended from time to time to meet Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations guidelines. The Cemetery is financially self-supporting with the exception of an annual \$200.00 donation from each of the four churches. The Cemetery's revenue is derived from plot sales and burial fees and the proceeds are used to pay all operating expenses including facility maintenance and perpetual care. Any excess funds are held in Trust in accordance with the Cemeteries Act.

The current members of the Union Cemetery Board are: Henry Drenth - Chairman (Calvin), David McKee - Treasurer (Calvin), Everette Armstrong - Secretary (1st Baptist), Ted Thomson (Calvin), Stuart Bailey (St. Andrew's), Rod Desjardin (St. Andrew's), and Ross Brewer (Trinity).

#### Statistics for 2016

Burials - 2 Casket, 12, Cremation; Plot Sales - 3 Casket, 3 Cremation.

Submitted by Ross Brewer

## AOTS Report

AOTS is the men's Christian fellowship of the United Church of Canada. AOTS derives its name from the statement by Christ in Luke 22:27, "I am among you as one that serves." One of the key aims of AOTS at Trinity United Church (TUC) is to provide encouragement and assistance to work among the youth of the church and community. With this mission and common purpose, the AOTS is truly the company of good men, continuing the discipleship of Jesus Christ.

The group at TUC has been active for over 60 years. With an active membership of 26 men and over 50 registered members our church is fortunate to have one of the most active men's groups in the United Church. The AOTS at Trinity also has several members from other churches in our area who enjoy and contribute to our fellowship.

Hope2Kenya	\$200
Winterlude	200
Mustard Seed	850
Youth Forum	500
Niagara Youth Event	500
Scouts Canada 1 <sup>st</sup> North Bay	500
Family Weekend	400
Powasson UC Book Store	200
Trinity More Voices	200
Trinity General Fund	2000
Trinity Fort McMurray	500
Pizza for Pie Lunch	200
Tim's Cards for Students	225
Santa Claus Parade	40
Air Base Museum	100
Mother's Day Flowers	38
<b>Total Donations 2016</b>	<b>\$6,653</b>

AOTS meets the first Saturday of every month at 8:00 am for breakfast and then reconvenes for a fellowship and business meeting in the Fireside Room at TUC. There is often a guest speaker at the beginning of the meeting to speak about a topic of interest to the group. Some speakers are from within the group and others are invited from the church or community. Speakers this past year included Rev. Richard Smith, a member of AOTS, speaking about the musical Harp in his ministry as a Chaplain at North Bay Regional Hospital. At some meetings, the group visits a local site of interest. Examples this past year included a visit to the NORAD museum at North Bay Air Force Base, and a visit to see a Tiny House On Wheels in construction.

2016 was another very successful year for AOTS. Our work is facilitated through fund raising events including Gift Card Sales, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Easter Ham Sales, Soup Tasting Supper, and the gift cards. This past year, the AOTS at Trinity had gift card sales of over \$100,000 which netted over \$3700. In 2016, AOTS made the following donations:

On a personal note, it has been an honor for me to have served as Chair among the company of good men of the AOTS at Trinity United Church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kirk Ready (AOTS Chair, 2016)



# AOTS Financial Statement to 31 December 2016

Register Balance 12 January 2016				\$ 4,170.06
	Receipts	Expenses	Difference	
Breakfasts	\$ 1,785.00	\$ 1,537.96	\$ 247.04	
Gift Cards	\$ 100,365.16	\$ 96,661.98	\$ 3,703.18	
Pancakes	\$ 766.00	\$ 285.20	\$ 480.80	
Hams	\$ 4,360.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 1,660.00	
Memberships	\$ 340.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 40.00	
Good Friday	\$ 540.00	\$ 725.00	\$ (185.00)	
Sunrise Service	\$ 50.50	\$ 40.00	\$ 10.50	
Ladies Night	\$ 570.00	\$ 965.00	\$ (395.00)	
Donations	\$ 100.00	\$ 6,953.40	\$ (6,853.40)	
Totals	\$ 108,876.66	\$ 110,168.54	\$ (1,291.88)	\$ (1,291.88)
Register/Bank Balance 31 December 2016				\$ 2,878.18

## 2016 donations

Hope2Kenya	\$ 200.00
Winterlude	\$ 200.00
Mustard Seed	\$ 850.00
Youth Forum	\$ 500.00
Niagara Youth Event	\$ 500.00
Scouts Canada 1st North Bay	\$ 500.00
Family Weekend	\$ 400.00
Powassan UC Book Store	\$ 200.00
Trinity More Voices	\$ 500.00
Trinity General Funds	\$ 2,000.00
Trinity Fort Mc Murray	\$ 500.00
Pizza for Pie lunch	\$ 200.00
Tim's Cards for Students	\$ 225.00
Santa Claus Parade	\$ 40.00
Base Museum	\$ 100.00
Mothers' Day Flowers	\$ 38.40
	\$ 6,953.40

## 2017 Budget

	Receipts	Expenses	Difference
Breakfasts	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 100.00
Gift Cards	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Pancakes	\$ 900.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 600.00
Hams	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 1,600.00
Memberships	\$ 500.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 125.00
Good Friday	\$ 600.00	\$ 800.00	\$ (200.00)
Ladies Night	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (400.00)
Sunrise Service	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ -
Donations	\$ 100.00	\$ 5,925.00	\$ (5,825.00)
Totals	\$ 109,340.00	\$ 109,340.00	\$ -

Respectfully Submitted

Bill Brownlee



## Greetings from UCW

Just an update on some of the UCW activities from 2016. Of course our meetings are the second Monday of the month, held in the Fireside room at 1 pm. We have various programs that the ladies present themselves or we may have a guest speaker. A wide variety of topics are all very interesting and informative.

Our UCW's mandate is to help put an end to child poverty. Our purpose is to help, guide, show respect, kindness and to pass on God's message through this ministry.

We continue to support various ministries in the church such as: Trinity Food Shelf, Infant Food Shelf, Trinity Arts, Families First, Vacation Bible Camp, PacksacSmiles, and many more.

The annual Christmas Tea & Bazaar, was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who participated.

We still have our regular end month Friday lunch, Sunday luncheons (4 per year), and of course helping out where we are needed.

On behalf of the UCW ladies I would like to thank all of you who helped us and supported us in any way in 2016. It is very appreciated. Also thank you to the ladies, because of your commitment, our group is fulfilling our ministry. Blessings to all of you.

Respectfully, Submitted

Roxanne Chartrand, President UCW

## United Church Women Budget 2017

Objective Mission and Service	3200.00	
Presbyterial Expenses	300.00	
Trinity United Church - Official Board	3250.00	
Lift Maintenance	1000.00	
General Kitchen Expenses	400.00	
Guest Minister supply	200.00	
Flowers	100.00	
Gifts and Memorials	400.00	
Christmas Cheer Baskets	150.00	
Delegates' Lunches to annual Presbyterial Meeting	50.00	
Trinity Food Shelf	400.00	
Trinity Infant Food Shelf	400.00	
Mustard Seed Junior	200.00	
Trinity Families	200.00	
Trinity Vacation Bible Camp	200.00	
Christmas Gift Bags	100.00	
<b>Donations -</b> Huntington University Building Fund	300.00	
VON - Meals on Wheels	100.00	
Bible Society	50.00	
Packsac Smiles	500.00	
North Bay Regional Health Centre	200.00	
Nipissing Serenity Hospice	200.00	
Hilde Toll Fund	100.00	
		12000.00
<b>How to be raised</b>		
Envelopes	4000.00	
Friday Luncheons	3000.00	
Sunday Luncheons	1200.00	
Catering	800.00	
Tea and Bazaar	3000.00	
		12000.00

## UCW 2016 Treasurers Report

Register balance January 4 2016 2310.15

### Receipts

Envelope Offerings	4664.00	
Monthly Luncheons	3610.80	
Sunday Luncheons	1984.45	
Funeral Catering	775.00	
Tea and Bazaar	3145.00	
Donations	1045.00	
Total Receipts		15974.25
		18284.40

### Disbursements:

Mission and Service	3200.00
Presbyterial Dues	300.00
Trinity Official Board	2800.00
Lift Maintenance	2000.00
Guest Minister Supply	125.00
Guest Speaker	50.00
Life Membership Pins	120.00
Bank Charges	24.00
Flowers Lilies	221.19
Christmas Cheer Baskets	100.00
Gifts and Memorials	410.00
Bazaar and Kitchen Expenses	424.19
Food Expenses (catering and monthly luncheons)	329.51
Delegates' Lunch to annual Presbyterial Meeting	50.00

### Donations:

Trinity Food Shelf	400.00
Trinity Infant Food Shelf	200.00
Mustard Seed	200.00
Fort McMurray Fire	300.00
Huntington University -Building fund	300.00
VON Meals on Wheels	100.00
Bible Society	50.00
Packsac Smiles	400.00
North Bay Regional Health Center	200.00
Hilde Toll Fund	100.00
Hope 2Kenya	1400.00
Godspell	200.00
	14003.89

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Bank Balance December 28, 2016	5804.78	
<b>Uncleared cheques</b>	- 3455.00	
Balance as of Dec. 31 2016		2349.78

#### 4 Trinity Report

In January, 2016 a group of four members of Trinity United church got together to raise money to be used for general funds for Trinity and **4 Trinity** was born.

Four team members with four different ideas to try.

First we launched our group at the annual A.O.T.S. Soup tasting event by selling four different types of *Home-made Salad Dressings*.

In February and March we sold *The Advent Family Trivia Game* (created by one of our own) to members of various churches.

For the entire month of May we ran a *Talent and Services Silent Auction* which wrapped up on the last Sunday in May.

Our last item was in November when we relaunched the selling of Christmas cookies at Trinity with a *Cookie Walk*.

Thanks to your generous support we raised \$3,900. Your support was much more than financial, including lots of great items for the auction and dozens and dozens of cookies. Thank you!

We had a lot of fun and we encourage anybody who has an idea and the time to undertake some fundraising to discuss your ideas with either our group or the Stewardship Committee.

In 2017, the **4 Trinity** group will focus on the Talent and Services Silent Auction which will be launched on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> 2017 with the final day of bidding on Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup> 2017. We'll also do the Cookie Walk again in November. We also will be selling the remaining Easter games too.

Submitted by: Barb Roberts

#### Tuesday Morning Coffee Group Report

Each Tuesday, throughout the school year, the group meets for coffee or tea, fellowship and fun. This year the coffee group has enjoyed a wide variety of activities and topics such as group cooking, guest speakers, crafts, self-improvement, healthcare, and of course, laughing and eating together! The cost of running the program is covered through the weekly fee, donations and the ever popular Fudge Fundraiser! Sincere thanks to the wonderful caregiver Marcel MacDonald for providing a fun, safe and stimulating environment for the children. The group is led by Christine Kuehl and her leadership is appreciated. All women are invited to come out anytime – on a regular or occasional basis. Look for our ad in the Gateway Advertiser each month or pick up a seasonal schedule from the table outside the church office. You can also find the group on Facebook.

##### Income

Program fees and donations \$1,326.40

Balance in Account: \$1096.69

##### Expenses

Babysitters/supplies \$1126.00

Submitted by Lisa Blais

#### Prayer Shawl Group Report

A prayer shawl blessing was held on Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>. About 10 shawls were blessed. We now have a fair supply. If anyone wants one, they are available for the taking. Just ask at the office if you don't know where they are stored.

We have received many notes of thanks. As they are sent in, they are posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Judy Biondi, Leader.

## **Scouts Canada - 1st North Bay Report**

We continue to sponsor Beaver, Cub, and Scout programs. As well we have one Venture who meets as part of the District group and a new Rover program for older teens and twenties has been established with four participants in the District group.

Our Beaver program continues to be lead by Dave McKenney assisted by Joe Bradbury, Ryan Rozicki, and Eric Brownlee. Twelve Beavers are enjoying a program of games, crafts, stories and songs. I continue to be amazed at what Dave and helpers achieve with these 5 to 7 year olds. Programs of note this year include: apple turnovers at apple pie time, an indoor tent camp, baked pretzel night, and creating bedside wooden beavers.

Our Cub program serves twenty youth this year under the capable leadership of David Birosh assisted by Joe Libreiro, Roxanne Ferguson and Jared Horseman. Preparation for various camps, as well as a visit from an Air Force person for Remembrance Day and a visit to the Air Force museum on the base, and learning how the deaf communicate using sign language were some of the program highlights. They also bought and sent 12 shoeboxes through the Christmas Shoebox program and collected items for the Food Bank.

Fourteen Scouts have been enjoying a program emphasizing camping and the outdoors. Angus Simpson along with his helpers Dizzy Castle, Ken and Crystal Norman direct the scouting program. Winter activities included a navigational snowshoe challenge across Otter Lake and participating in the Area winter camp. In the spring we visited Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park and then we won many prizes at the annual scout rendezvous camp. The program ran through the summer where the scouts met outdoors every meeting. Highlights of the summer program included a pioneering tower project, paddling a birch bark canoe and a weekend canoe trip. With the arrival of autumn we visited Niagara on the Lake to re-enact the Battle of 1812. For Remembrance Day we asked a veteran from here in North Bay to come talk to us and we held our first winter camp in December.

We thank our leaders for their time and special talent in dealing with our youth. Scouting began in North Bay in Trinity in 1923 and over the years has had lots more ups than downs. At the moment we have a strong organization led by the caring people named in this report. There is always room for leadership with the youth or on the Group Committee, an adult support group.

You can volunteer by calling Lisa at the church and she will direct you to the right person.

Submitted by Anne Graham

## **Youth and Young Adults Report including I - DYG (Interdenominational Youth Group)**

The youth and young adult groups continue to be an active part of the life at Trinity. Trinity youth lay read, teach Sunday School, help with Trinity projects, usher, greet, serve Communion and are always there to lend a hand when needed.

Youth at Trinity participate in the activities of the North Bay Presbytery Youth programme as well as the Inter-Denominational Youth Group (I-DYG). They also attend wider Church events such as Worshiplude, Rendezvous, Manitou Youth Forum and this year's Niagara Youth Conference.

The Youth Group provides a major outreach project each Christmas. The Christmas Bag Outreach project provides over 150 Christmas bags for youth and adults in our community. This year the bags were delivered to North Bay Regional Health Centre for patients in the Mental Health Units, as well as the Long Term Care facility; The Crisis Centre (Futures and Four Elms Residences); Nipissing Attendance Centre; Ojibway Women's Lodge and the Christmas Day Dinner outreach. Thank-you to all the people who donated items and money to this wonderful outreach project! Special thanks to Sharen Liddell for sewing hundreds of hats and mitts for the bags over the last several year, Steve Hutchinson for helping to deliver the bags, and to Ryan Rozicki, Jean Rideout, Rob and Cindy Brownlee, the I-DYG Youth Group members for all their help shopping, sewing, and packing. Thank-you to the Trinity Congregation for their support as always!

Submitted by Lisa Blais



## Vacation Bible Camp Report

This past year, on August 15 - 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - 54 children were “Castaways” for bible adventure. Children had the opportunity to learn some fish tales from the bible with the help of Captain Soggy Bottom and familiar bible characters. I would like to extend deep gratitude to my co-creators Marcel MacDonald and Melissa Peddie for helping envision and organize our fun and exciting VBC program each summer. Huge thanks also to Jean Mitchell and all the many people who helped out each day in the kitchen feeding our hungry crew! I would also like to thank our summer student Carrie Graham who helped to create and organize many of the activities; Hannah McCallum and Caitie Blumson for their leadership in crafts, games, experiments, and cooking; Ryan Rozicki for cleaning up after us and lending a hand whenever we needed it; Rob Sanders for all editing work on our daily videos; and Rev. Ted, for being such a good sport as always. Thanks to Darlene Laferriere, Dave McKenney, Blake Beam for their willingness to help us out with our amateur movie making and to the Mayor’s Office and to Twiggs for allowing us to use their locations for our VBC videos! Thanks also to the Heritage Railway and Carousel for accommodating our very large and enthusiastic group! Last but not least, heartfelt thanks to you, the Trinity family, for supporting this amazing outreach year after year!

Income from donations and registrations	\$3,265.25
Expenses – honorariums and supplies	\$1,659.58
Submitted by Lisa Blais	





## Sunday School Report

Each Sunday morning at Trinity, you are sure to encounter some of our youngest members of our Church Family in almost every room of the Church. Our Sunday School children are comfortable and at home here at Trinity, which is wonderful! Our Sunday School continues to be a place of great fun and learning. Ask any of our children about what they have learned in Sunday School and you are sure to receive an enthusiastic response. On any given Sunday, you may find our kids in the kitchen making fish pizza, or in the gym playing disciple games, or in the Sunday School room making a bird feeder, or in the fireside room creating a prodigal son movie - perhaps Sunday School should be called *Funday School*!

We continue to use the Rotational Model of Sunday School, in which the children are divided into three age related groups that rotate through different activities each week. For three weeks the children participate in activities such as cooking, crafts, games, science and discovery, drama and storytelling - reinforcing the same story for the three weeks. We use a combination of pre-written lessons such as the Spark Curriculum as well as lessons written by Lisa Blais.

Our Sunday School includes approximately 40 children, 15 teachers and 8 youth helpers. Our nursery care is provided by the fabulous Carrie Graham, with occasional help from other caring people. We are incredibly fortunate to be joined most Sunday mornings by Darlene Laferriere, who leads the children in a theme related song. This year our Sunday School themes were prayer, radical healing, Paul, the gospel according to Dr. Seuss, The Bible, Joseph, and Moses. The Children wrapped up the year with another wonderful Christmas Pageant, *Manger Tales*, directed by our fabulous house director, Darlene Laferriere. Each year, the pageants seem to be better and better! Special thanks to our accompanist, Eric Brownlee, and Caroline Harrison, our fantastic costume coordinator.

Our Sunday School is successful because of the support and willingness of our Church family and our amazing team of helpers. Thanks to our creative and talented teachers: Diane Cook, Caroline Harrison, Ryan Rozicki, Melissa Peddie, Cindy Brownlee, Michelina Beam, Karen Johnson, Linsey Mutch, Janice Brownlee, Hannah McCallum, Eric Brownlee, Brenda McLay, Jeff Mailloux, Marcel MacDonald, Phyllis Chayer, Rob Brownlee and Lisa Blais. Thanks also to our excellent and enthusiastic helpers: James Scanlon, Chris Vega, Colton Chaput, Sandra Brownlee, Carling Lutecki, Samantha Peddie, Clara Clark, Julia Whitehead and Alex Beaton.

Each Sunday, the children collect money that is used to support outreach organizations that the children choose. Last year, the children chose to support the Trinity Infant Food Shelf, the Mission and Service Fund, Packsac Smiles and Hope2Kenya.



Finally, we would like to acknowledge and thank Cindy Brownlee for her years of dedication, love and guidance of our Sunday School program as our Sunday School “Super”intendent. Cindy retired from her position last summer. We are grateful for her many gifts which she so generously offered and continues to offer.

Thank-you to the wider church family for welcoming, encouraging and supporting the many activities that our Sunday School children participate in.

Submitted by Marcel MacDonald, Sunday School Superintendent and Lisa Blais, Designated Lay Minister

## Mustard Seed Report

Bravo Mustard Seed on a fantastic run! There were 18 cast members who ranged in ages from 5 to 13. It was a younger cast this year but they certainly put on a wonderful show!

It truly takes a village to put on a production like this - special thanks to the following people: Darlene Laferriere, Brenda McLay, Jim Liddell, Hannah McCallum, Caroline Harrison, Joe Drinkwalter, Samantha St. Pierre, Andrew Robinson, Chris Clarke, Anne Graham, Mark Robinson, Marcel MacDonald, Michelina Beam, Ryan Rozicki, Don Rideout, Shirley Thom and all the people who helped lug stage pieces and distributed posters. Special thanks to all those who knit or crocheted our fabulous animal hats and also to the AOTS and UCW who were our show sponsors. Thanks to Trinity United Church community for supporting this wonderful ministry!

Mustard Seed was created in 2007 to provide opportunities for Christian youth to build community around a common love of theatre. We have presented *Godspell*, *Creation*, *Cotton Patch Gospel*, *Free to Be...a Family*, *Garden Varieties*, *Once Upon a Parable*, *Ultimate Superstar*, and *Dream On*. This year's production was called *The Sailor's Bible*.

**The Mustard Seed Players in 2016 were:** Amelia MacDonald, Rowan MacDonald, Eve Harrison, Colton Chaput, Beatrice Lloyd, Andrew Whitehead, Jenna Robertson-Palmer, Shayla Wright, Braunwyn McKenney, Erin Harrison, Abigail Sanders, Julia Whitehead, Kaydence Einarson, Katie Lashbrook, Grayden Robertson-Palmer, Michael Miller, Carley Bruner, and Sydney Bruner.

**Revenue: Ticket Sales and Donations**  
\$ 2320.00

**Expenses**  
\$879.48

\*\*Please note that Godspell revenue and expenses are not included in this report. It will be fully reported in next year's annual report. \*\*

Submitted by Lisa Blais





## Trinity Families Report

Trinity Families continues to offer many activities to members at the church. The Facebook continues to be the main means of informing members of activities throughout the community, organizing outings and events. Partly because of VBC, Mustard Seed, an amazing Sunday School and the various events Trinity Families runs. We feel the Trinity Families is meeting the needs of the families and IS succeeding in its mandate to make new families feel welcome, draw them in with fun, affordable activities and provide them a positive social environment in the church.

### Activities Included:

Parent's board-game night  
an Outdoor Movie Night  
Sunday Afternoon Battalions Hockey Game  
Annual Halloween Potluck Costume Party  
Sound of Music Sing-along at the Capitol Centre

Once again, there were three larger events that were organized:

- Annual Red Hot Chili Competition: The Chili competition was attended by approximately seventy people who enjoyed delicious chili and great music. Thanks to Brian Risk who organized all the music.
- Santa Claus Parade Float: for the first time in several years, Trinity Families submitted a float into the North Bay Christmas Parade. The theme was comic books and Trinity's float was the Manger theme featuring a baby superman and the Hall of Justice. A special Thanks to the dedication and hard work of Chris Vega and Jackson Charette, for organizing and building the major set-pieces on the float.
- The Christmas Walk Dinner: As has been our tradition, Trinity Families hosted a Lasagna Supper on the evening of the Downtown Christmas which raised approximately \$300.00. This event brought in many families from outside the church and continues to be an excellent outreach event.

Trinity Families organized its first annual Family Retreat. This was an amazing success! Even though the weather was extremely cold (-40!), twenty families came out to enjoy everything Spirit Point had to offer. Over all, thirty-two adults and thirty-six children attended. Activities included: trust games, board games, arts and crafts, skating, milk-jug curling, a winter carnival, a late-night sing-along and board games. Even though Spirit Point offered Trinity an excellent deal for the rental of the facilities, registration fees only covered about half the cost, therefore, the group needed to fund-raise to meet the \$5000.00 expense. This year the cost will be more so the cost of the retreat will increase. Because of this Trinity Families has held several fund-raisers to meet the expenses.

Submitted by Marcel MacDonald





