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Fall Newsletter (Sept 2022)

From Rev. Ted's Desk: "Re-Join the Miracle"

Do you remember the story of "the Gerasene Demoniac"? In both Mark and Luke's Gospels there's this story of a man possessed, made crazy with demons. Jesus casts the demons out and *restores the man to his friends and community*.

Did you catch that? The key sign of the afflicted man's recovered health and wellness is that *he can again be safely amongst his friends*.

Even before COVID, the government of the United Kingdom recognized an epidemic of isolation in 2018 by actually appointing a "Minister of Loneliness." Like every country in the developed world, Britain realized that the erosion of human connection has terrible social consequences. Months and years of COVID have made those consequences even more dramatically obvious in *every country* - because like those biblical demons, COVID took us from our friends and community.

For the sake of our well-being, we at Trinity are working to build back the communities that literally save and sustain our lives. In everything that happens in and around Trinity, you will find the re-emergence of community and connection, wellness and support - through our foodbank, the recovery programs and the Scouting troops that we host; the Apple Pie project, the meals, the arts, the Infant Food Shelf, our Vacation Bible Camp; the people who make our outreach and visitation happen; to say nothing of the many, many folks who gather in person to celebrate faith in regular dynamic Sunday worship!

This is a story of resurrection. Of coming back to life and health. Of shaking off the demons and being restored to our family and friends. Come back and be a part of another new Jesus miracle unfolding!

See you on Sunday,



Hello Trinity Friends!

On the eve of Vacation Bible Camp - after a 2 year hiatus, I am feeling hopeful and excited about the fall. We are eagerly anticipating a return to some the activities and groups that we have so dearly missed - resuming with caution but with much excitement as well! We have missed each other and there will be a lot of catching up to do! As we begin to gather again, there will be some losses we will need to grieve together - but there will also be some opportunity to explore, vision and dream of how we want our Trinity community to emerge from a difficult couple of years. If there is one thing I know about our Trinity family, it is that we are a faith-filled, hard working and caring community committed to living out the call to be the church - inside and outside the Trinity building.

As we move into the fall, I would love to have some coffee time conversations with anyone interested in visioning new ideas and activities. Many of Trinity's long standing groups have continued to flourish by listening to the needs and interests of the members. If you have ideas that you would like to share about any of the existing groups - or if you have an idea for a new group - please feel free to make suggestions.

If you'd like to get more involved with the Trinity family - either by teaching Sunday School, lay reading, singing in the choir, greeting people at the door, helping in the kitchen, volunteering at one of our food shelf outreach programs, etc. please let a staff member or our Board Chairperson know! Whether you are new to Trinity or a long attending member, whether you are a youth or a youth at heart, whether you are musical, theatrical, love to garden, bake, provide outreach or have a warm smile, there is something for everyone. If you have a talent that you want to offer, we have a volunteer opportunity to match it.

This fall, we rally back to church on Sunday September 11th. We will have a special joy filled service, officially kick off Sunday School and covenant with our Sunday School and Children's ministry leaders. In the afternoon, **everyone** is invited to attend our annual Church picnic at Camp Tillicum. It is a fantastic way to spend time with your Trinity friends and family while enjoying good food, fellowship, games and an evening vesper's service on the shores of Lake Nipissing! See the flyer later in the newsletter for more information.

Please be sure to spend some time looking through the newsletter, check out the website and/or Facebook page and re-acquaint yourself with Trinity United Church - perhaps this is the year that you decide to try something new.

Grace and Peace,

Lisa Blais, DLM

Faith Formation and Outreach Minister



The fall season will soon be upon us, and we are excited to be returning to a more “normal” fall after 2 1/2 years of ‘Covid’ protocols.

During the spring, the Choir returned to “live” rehearsals in the Fireside Room, and our Sunday music was a combination of virtual selections, and in-person leadership by a small group of choir members each Sunday.

We will return to regular Thursday practices on Thursday, September 8, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The “Music Pods” at the front of the church have been removed, and we look forward to returning to the choir loft.

We will be preparing special music for Thanksgiving and Remembrance Sunday, Advent and Christmas, as well as anthems for each Sunday worship service. We also hope to have hymn sings prior to the service on the first Sunday of each month.

Our Senior Choir will also be presenting a Christmas Cantata during Advent. This special presentation will be accompanied by a small instrumental ensemble and has a great variety of music. Watch for more information in the Christmas newsletter.

With the return to a more regular Sunday worship format, we will have fewer (or, no) virtual selections. However, our tech team will still be very busy ensuring that we sound and look right in the sanctuary and on our weekly live-stream, and Cogeco services.

The choir is very grateful to Lisa Blais for her expertise at mixing our voices each week for virtual selections. Lisa’s talent and patience are greatly appreciated. We also thank John Roberts, who uses his wonderful technical skills to put the whole service together, and to get our broadcast “on the air”. John has also mentored Michael Miller, and Eve and Erin Harrison to learn to run our “tech” table. Thanks to all of you. Marcel, Rowan and Amelia MacDonald do a great job of balancing our mics and making sure that the sound system is working.

Without this special tech team, our services could not be shared outside of our sanctuary. Many people, shut-ins and others, enjoy Trinity’s services because of the great team effort that we have.

Our choir and director appreciate the wonderful support that they continue to be given by the Trinity congregation and special thanks goes to Laura Farris-Einarson for her gift of flute accompaniment to many of our music selections.

Betty Farris, Minister of Music

Trinity Covid Response Team

A big shout out to the Trinity Covid Response team that has met regularly at every twist and turn of the Covid 19 pandemic. They have followed public health guidelines and reviewed the science and carefully considered the best options to keep our church family safe during this ever changing pandemic.

Some people may have been frustrated with the level of care that was taken, but the Covid teams hopes you understand that the needs of our community's most vulnerable members has consistently been the priority. The Covid response team has discussed and adjusted policies and procedures for face masks, vaccines, signage, capacity limits, social distancing, hand sanitizer, roped off pews, cleaning procedures, creative communion, alternate offering plate options, singing, the choir, vaccine clinics, active screening, passive screening, new food shelf procedures, working from home, user groups, apple pies, coffee time, Sunday School ...the list goes on and on.

The Covid Response Team, the staff, the “tech” team, the volunteers have all led us safely through these “unprecedented” times, and they continue to do so. I don’t think anyone imagined this committee would still be meeting two and a half years later!

I would highlight the current Covid procedures in place but that might just change by the time this gets to you, so I will just remind you to check Lisa’s Friday email or call the church office for the most up to date Covid procedures. Masks are optional in most settings at Trinity but are always welcome.

Take care and stay healthy,

Your Covid Response Team:

Cindy Brownlee, Ted Harrison, Lisa Blais, Wanda Gleason, Betty Farris, Bob Cook, John Roberts, Bonnie Rae Bailey, Sue Miller

... from the Board Chair

Camping with Dogs

Our family enjoys camping and we have camped for many years. Something new for us this year was camping with dogs. Tent camping with dogs. Tent camping in the rain with dogs. Tent camping in the rain with two big dogs! I will admit there was great hesitation and a little apprehension that grew into pessimism as the weather forecast looked less and less camping friendly. What were we going to do with wet (yes, they smell like wet dog!) bored dogs in a tent for two days of rain?

My worry was unnecessary. There was a lot of rain, but there was a break in the rain for a part of every day that allowed us to take the dogs for walks. We took them to the beautiful, enclosed dog park with a great beach. They enjoyed swimming and playing with other dogs, and we got to meet some very nice people. When it was raining the dogs were content to curl up and nap on their blanket, on a tarp, under the picnic table while we enjoyed card games with the family. We had a great camping trip and so did the dogs.



There is excitement in the air as the fall activities resume and we continue with our Faith Forward 2030 project. As I have learned from camping with dogs, we need to be open to a little adventure, creativity, and the willingness to try new things. It could lead to a great deal of fun with our church family, a chance to share friendship and laughter as we celebrate and worship together.

And...I am thankful for the rain. We were able to enjoy a campfire without fear of forest fires. I enjoy the tomatoes, zucchini, cucumbers and flowers from my little garden that has been well watered.

Blessings,
Cindy Brownlee, Board Chair

Job 5:10 "God provides rain for the earth; he sends water on the countryside."



This fall marks an exciting time in our Faith Forward 2030 church futuring journey as we to plan for a sustainable, vibrant and faithful United Church community. To help direct our future path, from October to sometime after Christmas we will be focusing our work on learning more about where we are as a community and what we believe we can contribute to sharing God's word and work? Later this fall, we will be approaching you, other members and church users for your thoughts about Trinity and how, and what, we should be doing in North Bay as

we move our Faith Forward towards 2030 and beyond.

As part of figuring out where we should be going, we need to know where we are and what we'll look like in 2030 if we stick with the status quo. To assess where our current path will take us, we will be following a two-pronged approach. For Trinity, we'll look at what the makeup of our congregation and the folks we serve will look like in 2030. We're also going to forecast our financials and we're trying to predict the future of our building as best we can.

The second prong involves us trying to get a handle on what our role needs to be in the broader North Bay United Church community. Our plan is to reach out to the other churches in the Bay to learn more about how they are preparing for the future and ask the question of whether this is something we wish to tackle together or as independent parts of the bigger picture. We anticipate getting more clarity on these questions next spring.

There will be opportunities to listen and share as we decide together who we are as a faith community, what we believe, what is important to us and what God is calling us to be. We are committed to following up our discussions this fall by taking actions together to become the church we are meant to be. So, stay tuned for the next steps as we walk forward in faith together.

Cindy Brownlee and Glenn Brophey
Faith Forward 2030 Co-chairs

... from the Finance Committee

Trinity's income year to date for July 31, 2022 totalled \$183,915, an \$8,500 increase over the same period last year. Regrettably, our General and PAR offerings combined actually decreased by 20% compared to 2021. The shortfall in offerings was offset by a small increase in amounts through Canada Helps on our website, the \$7,500 Ontario Government FBCO Grant, a \$5,000 grant from the North Bay Community Foundation for our Infant Food Shelf, and the \$5,330 raised towards our Brick Repair Project. Building rental paid in advance for July and early August also brought in \$8,800 between the movie productions and Dreamcoat summer program with an additional amount still to come.

Our total expenses at July 31, 2022 were \$231,419 - an increase in expenses of \$25,450 over 2021. This leaves us with a deficit to date of \$47,500. Some of the more notable items contributing to the increase in expenses - \$3,600 increase in heat expenses, a \$3,500 repair bill for our boilers, and of course the \$25,000 spent on the Brick Repair Project. We thank all of you who participated in the Secret Book Club 2022 or gave directly to the Brick Repair Project Fund to get us started on recovering this expense – we are 1/5 of the way there!

We hope you all had a lovely summer and we look forward to gathering for worship and to hopefully return to more in person fundraising activities in the fall. As always, your contributions to support Trinity in our everyday operations and for our Special Projects are very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted by Michelina Beam on behalf of John Hafidson and the Finance Committee.

The Worship Committee needs you!

We are looking for new members. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know other members of the Trinity congregation and to assist Reverend Ted with the worship needs of the congregation. We provide appropriate support and assistance to the Minister for the conduct of worship services. If you have any concerns or comments pertaining to worship services, please contact a member of the committee.

We are also looking for volunteer Lay Readers, Ushers and Open/Close/Lift Operators each week. These people are necessary to make the space welcoming, to help with the seating, to make the sanctuary fully accessible and to assist Rev. Ted. Could we ask you to think about these 3 jobs and let us schedule you in for at least one Sunday (or as many Sundays as you want) for at least one of these positions? Here is a brief description of what each job entails. Training will be provided!

Lay reader - read scripture and prayers from the lectern, with direction from Rev. Ted. One person per Sunday

Usher – make everyone feel welcome, help visitors and members find a seat (if necessary), keep order at the entrance of the sanctuary, distribute bulletins, be aware of where the emergency exits, first aid kit, fire extinguishers and the defibrillator are located, tidy up sanctuary and count the offering after the service. 2 people per Sunday.

Open/close/lift operator – open the building one hour prior to service, turn on lights, clear snow and ice from entrances if necessary. Operate the lift. After the service and coffee time, turn off all lights, lock doors. One person per Sunday.

Thank you in advance for your comments and support.

Rev. Ted, Bonnie-Rae Bailey, Claudette Brown, Rod Carley, Wanda Gleason, Chris Ford, Marian Robinson, Jean Rideout and Barb Roberts.

Respectively submitted by Bonnie Rae Bailey

The UCW Report

The UCW is slowly coming back “to life” after Covid. We had 3 meetings in the spring, one of which was a luncheon. Not all the ladies have joined with us, however. We hope more will come in the fall. We catered to one funeral by making prepared plates for the number we were told to expect. This idea worked well, and is something to keep in mind for later endeavours.

The Annual General Meeting for the Canadian Shield Region will be held at Chisholm United Church on October 4th and 5th. Please put these dates on your calendar. All ladies are cordially invited to attend. It will be fun to get together with people we haven't seen for going on 2 years.

Hopefully starting in September we can get back to doing the work that the UCW is called on to accomplish. As we approach these tasks, we ask for God's guidance to be the best group that we can be.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Biondi, President

The Prayer Shawl Report

On looking in the closet, we seem to have a number of baby blankets. We seem to be really short of lap robes/shawls for men. As you pick up your knitting needles/crochet hook, keep the men in your prayers as you create these wonderful masterpieces.

As these items are created, let us be reminded that it is the prayers that are given as we work, that add to their comfort. Thanks to all who make these cozy items.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Biondi, Leader

Welcome Back to Sunday School at Trinity

It has certainly been a long-anticipated return to Sunday School! We've missed the kids very much over the past 2 years and they've missed each other. We are so excited to be gathering together again. We want all to feel comfortable and welcome, whether you attend regularly, occasionally, are just visiting, or are perhaps newly returning to in-person worship post-pandemic. As always, the safety and well-being of our children and volunteers remains top priority. All Sunday School teachers follow our safety and hygiene protocols purposefully and thoughtfully, and we will be constantly monitoring health and safety recommendations, adapting as necessary.

Our classes are aimed at children ages 4-13. The fun and spiritual lessons include games, crafts, cooking, storytelling, and discovery-based learning. Typically, we operate with 3 congruent groups divided by age. (We anticipate smaller numbers as we navigate our new normal and will be gradually returning to this rotational model.) Our staffed nursery is again available for younger children, and we are always happy to have older youth volunteer as helpers in classes!

We are actively looking for more Sunday School volunteer teachers to join our team! If you have any questions at all regarding Sunday School, or are interested in volunteering, please feel free to reach out to Lisa, Carling, or Marcel. We hope to see many of you at our Rally Back Picnic on Sunday, September 11th, where our theme will be "Let's Make a Splash!"

Carling Lutecki & Marcel MacDonald
Sunday School Co-Superintendents

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH AT TRINITY

Look for several exciting activities launching later this fall and in the new year for both Children and Youth. Take a look below at a couple of highlights

Sunday School Christmas Pageant - We are excited to return to a **live and in-person** Christmas Pageant on Sunday December 11th— more details later this fall.

Mustard Seed Theatre will return in the Spring!

Youth Group – a brand new youth group will start later in September – more details to follow

Trinity Families is looking at a Family Day retreat weekend in February 2023

Mossy Church activities will start up this fall — speak with Amanda Silk or Karen Johnson for details. Stay tuned for more activities to be announced later in the fall

The Trinity Testosterone Men's Canoe Adventure, 2022

The "Trinity Testosterone Tradition" continued this past June, when 17 Trinity guys joyfully braved wind, rain and bugs -- enjoying God's creation, meaningful worship, hard work and great food! Particular thanks to Dave McKenney, Rick Calhoun, and Ryan Rozicki for their over-and-above contributions to another great trip. Next year's spots will be cherished and limited, as usual! Sign-up, as always, will begin next Easter weekend.

Tuesday Morning Coffee Group
Tuesday Mornings 9:30 – 11:30

Join us Tuesday September 6th for our welcome back potluck! We would love to have you join us for conversation and coffee (or tea).

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. 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 a.m. Cost is \$3.00 per week.

Job Opportunity – Coffee Group Nursery

The Tuesday Morning Coffee Group is looking for a nursery caregiver who would be able to provide childcare Tuesday mornings from 9:15 – 11:45 starting as soon as possible. Childcare experience preferred. Please note that this job requires completion of a Vulnerable Sector Criminal Reference check. Remuneration is \$30 each Tuesday. For more information or to submit a resume please contact Lisa Blais at blais.trinity@gmail.com or call (705)474-3310.

Mossy church

Come one, come all, and bring a friend! to our upcoming Mossy Church Events. Mossy Church events are held throughout the year with the goal of connecting with God, nature and our Trinity Family. The activities usually have a recreation, worship and social twist and will engage all ages! All are welcome!

Upcoming Events (very tentative and subject to change...):

Sunday, October 2, 2022 2pm **The Nature Party** @ Samuel de Champlain Park (Mattawa)

Sunday, October 30, 2022 6:30 pm **All Saints Theatre** @ the Silk-Shaver's (777 Larocque)

Sunday November 27, 2022 6:30pm **Martinmas Lanterns** @ Nipissing University

Friday, January 20, 2022 5:30pm **Breaking Bread** @ Nordic Ski Club

Please speak to Amanda Silk or Karen Johnson for more details!

Women's Wellness Weekend @Cairn

The ladies of Trinity would like to announce their absence from the church, workplaces, kitchens and homes of Trinity Families on the weekend of Friday September 23 – Sunday September 25, 2022 in order to take care of some very important self-care and wellness business.

Ladies: you are cordially invited to join us at Cairn Camp's Women's Wellness Weekend! Leave your apron and Coleman stove at home, and be sure to bring a friend! We have quite a few already registered so don't miss out on the most beautiful time of year in the Muskoka's.

"Get away from the busyness of everyday life and spend a weekend dedicated to your physical, spiritual and mental wellness within a community of women, immersed in the beauty of the Muskoka's. This weekend will feature a blend of session options, from high ropes and zip line, to yoga and mindfulness meditation, to crafting and canoeing, or even booking a massage..."

For more details and to register online, please go to: <http://www.ilovecamp.org/womens-wellness-weekend.cfm>

(Once you have registered, please also shoot Amanda an email at canoecreature@gmail.com, so she can co-ordinate accommodations with Cairn directly.)

See Amanda Silk or Karen Johnson for more information!

Formerly Loved Treasures

The North Bay Oddfellows continue to run a lightly-used furniture store at 126 McIntyre St E, across the street from Trinity. We have a special relationship as together we seek to care for our neighbours. Their motto: "Affordable lightly-used furniture and appliances for people who need them." If you have items to donate, please contact Howard Kizell at 705-471-0806.

Trinity's Vacation Bible Camp went on a QUEST FOR THE PARABLES from August 22nd to August 26th.

Trinity VBC program was attended by 41 campers and youth helpers plus leaders! We have had an amazing time decoding the meaning of the parables each day, playing games and learning some cool gymnastics moves, learning some music, making awesome food and crafts, and much more!

There are many people to thank. Hearty thanks to Janice Brownlee, Jean Mitchell and the wonderful kitchen crew for keeping us all so well fed this week!

Thanks to Tommy Temagami and Nipissing Jones for being our special guests this week.

Extra special thanks to all our leaders: Hannah McCallum, Erin Harrison, Janice Knapp, Michael Miller, Andrew Whitehead and David Lashbrook.

Thanks to our junior helpers (many of whom were former VBC campers): Amelia MacDonald, Abigail Sanders, Kaydence Einarson, Lauren Moore, Duncan Lashbrook, Braunwyn McKenney, Questa Jackson and Malcolm Boivin.

Thanks to Rowan MacDonald and Rob Sanders for video editing.

Big thanks to the AOTS, UCW and all those who donated money or food to ensure that every child who wanted to attend, could!

And finally a big thank you to Marcel MacDonald my co-leader/creator for many years!

See you in July 2023!!!

Submitted by Lisa Blais



Apple Pie Project 2022

We are once again on track for our beloved Apple Pie Project.

Our goal is 1,000 pies this year. Here are the dates to put in your calendar.

September 12, 13; mixing dry pastry and spice bags

September 19, 20; rolling out pie bottoms

October 1; Picking apples

October 2; washing apples

October 3, 4, 5, 6; assembling pies.

There are jobs for everyone, no special skills required!

If you would like to volunteer for this fun event, please give me a call.

Darlene Laferriere (aka the Apple Pie Lady) 705-474-7847

Upcoming Dates: Get them on your Calendar!

Sunday September 11th: **Rally Back Day** Service, plus **Afternoon Picnic**
Monday September 12th Apple Pie Project begins (see Schedule Page 6)
Sunday September 18th: after Sunday service, join us for a **congregational lunch** during which local author and Trinity Member Rod Carley will read from his new short story collection, "**GRIN REAPING.**" Rod will answer questions and sign copies of his book!
Saturday September 24th: Meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council in Sudbury
Sunday September 25th: **Saint Francis Sunday** (*you're welcome to bring a friendly live pet or animal memento to church!*)
Sunday October 2nd: World-Wide **Communion** Sunday.
Sunday October 9th: **Thanksgiving Sunday** and **Baptism Sunday** (*families interested in baptism on this Sunday should be in touch with the Trinity office ASAP!*)
Sunday October 30th: Feel free to wear your **Hallowe'en** costume to church!
Saturday November 5th: UCW Christmas Tea and Bazaar????
Sunday November 6th: **Remembrance Sunday**
Sunday November 20th: AOTS Sunday
Sunday November 27th: First Sunday in Advent. **Communion Service**

Let's Make a Splash
Church Family Picnic
Fun and games, good food, music and lakeside vespers service
Sunday, September 11th, at 3:00pm
YMCA's Camp Tillicum on beautiful Lake Nipissing
Bring a salad or appetizer, plate and fork, bathing suit and lawn chair.
(Sandwich meat, buns, refreshments and dessert are included)
Everyone is welcome

Trinity United Church
Find us on
YourTV
truly local
Sundays
8:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Cable 12 / HD Cable 700
Trinity United Church
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**RECORDED WORSHIP IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON
TRINITY'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL
www.youtube.com/c/trinitynorthbay.
IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO ACCESS THE INTERNET AND
WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A DVD OF THE WORSHIP
SERVICE DELIVERED, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH
OFFICE (705-474-3310) TO REQUEST ONE.**