

# Trinity United Church 2022 Annual Report



### TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

111 McIntyre St. E. North Bay, ON. P1B 1C5  
tel. 705-474-3310 email trinitynorthbay@gmail.com  
website www.trinitynorthbay.ca  
Youtube www.youtube.com/c/trinitynorthbay

### STAFF 2021

Minister..... Rev. Dr. Ted Harrison  
Minister Emerita ..... Rev. Kathleen McCallum  
Designated Lay Minister..... Lisa Blais  
Minister of Music ..... Betty Farris  
Office Administrator..... Wanda Gleason  
Administrative Assistant..... Jean Mitchell  
Treasurer ..... Michelina Beam  
Night Reception ..... Maurice Laporte  
Custodian ..... Don Hickey

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. . . *from the Minister*

### **“You Must Be Born Again”**

Shortly before we experienced a worldwide pandemic, the United States Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy embarked on a listening tour to determine what was ailing modern Americans. He concluded then that the population was already suffering a very different pandemic: *a crippling pandemic of loneliness!* At least 60% of Americans reported feeling alone, and that number rises to 75% amongst younger generations. Murthy warns that loneliness can literally be more life-threatening than cancer-- “*Loneliness,*” concludes the Surgeon General, “*is absolutely a public health crisis.*” At about the same time, the United Kingdom created a new government entity: a “Minister of Loneliness” to combat the same escalating problem!


*Again, this was before the COVID pandemic.* The months and years of that pandemic have served as a magnifying glass for the loneliness that was already so corrosive in our culture. When humans are isolated, every other kind of suffering is compounded, as we are effectively cut off from the compassion and support that others can offer. Human connection is necessary for human flourishing.

The causes for our loneliness vary—from social anxiety, to the burdens we shoulder that keep us locked out from others, our mental health, anxiety about disease, caregiving requirements, demanding schedules, or sometimes our own sickness or limitations.

I consistently rely on one analogy for the year 2022: You know when you think you’ve finally recovered from a cold-- you finally have a day that you feel pretty good-- but halfway through that day, you need to go back to bed? That was the whole year of 2022. *Somehow we had a bad day, for a full year!*

That was the cost of our loneliness and isolation, which had already accumulated and multiplied before the days of COVID. COVID amplified what continues to ail our culture. *And a vibrant and supportive church family is a huge part of the cure.*

Many of us are determined to *build back better*-- to learn from our struggles, to reach out to partners, to embrace creativity, and offer a greater fullness of life into the future. But we know that’s easier said than done. Sure our faith says, “You must be born again”-- but we are not naive. Re-birth, regeneration, being born again-- *labour is hard work!* But with strength and vision from God and one another, we will do this faithful life-giving work, together.

Faith Forward, 

. . . *from the DLM*

As I prepare to write my submission to the Annual report, I begin as I always do, by looking through the calendar to remind myself of the events of the previous year. It is a little bit like opening up a time capsule – offering a brief glimpse into the events and activities we participated in, the ministries that we supported, and how we shared God’s love in our community. Although our calendar was not nearly as full as it has been in previous years, I am always amazed at the generosity of the Trinity people who give so abundantly of their time, talents and resources! We would not be the thriving congregation we are without the faithful, grace filled, caring people that are part of the Trinity community – those who attend Sunday worship either in person or online and those who support our ministries and events every other day of the week. Trinity is a vibrant and vital part of our community.

A large part of my job involves collaborating and working with others, so you will see hints of my job duties reflected throughout the newsletter. I am so fortunate to have the opportunity to work with many creative, dedicated and talented people. Some of the highlights of the year for me have been creating a successful Vacation Bible Camp program with Marcel MacDonald and others; working with Darlene Laferriere on Mustard Seed and the Sunday School pageant; supporting the Christian Education Committee’s ministries and activities; providing assistance to the Food Shelf; Chairing the Canadian Shield Regional Council’s Right Relations Team; assisting the Technology Committee in providing online worship services, putting together virtual choir pieces with Betty Farris and our fantastic choir, and preparing weekly correspondence to our Church family. I am also grateful to work with a wonderful staff team who are supported by a caring, faithful and hardworking Board.

As you flip through the pages of this report you will get a brief glimpse into the heart and soul of Trinity United Church. Behind every photo and within every report is a story that tells of the care, dedication, faithfulness and talent of our wonderful church family. Thank-you for your willingness, support and dedication throughout the year and for continuing to make Trinity a welcoming place for people to connect with one another in faith, friendship and God’s work in our world.



As we begin to navigate our way through a post-pandemic world and explore our vision for Faith Forward 2030, we will continue to face some new challenges. We will need to ask ourselves what needs to be let go of to make room for something else, but through our deep faith, our commitment to our community, our bold vision and some hard work, we will face these challenges together.

Grace, peace and gratitude!

Lisa Blais, DLM  
Faith Formation and Outreach Minister

### *... from the Minister of Music*

The Trinity Senior Choir has enjoyed providing music for weekly worship services during 2022. However, depending on Covid19 protocols, music was provided in many different forms! All services were live-streamed via You-Tube each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. They were produced each week in the sanctuary, even when attendance was restricted.

The music was a combination of virtual and live selections. “Live” selections were supported by 3-4 singers in our music pods. The sound crew, led by Marcel MacDonald, ensured that we were properly set up with microphones, and did full sound checks prior to worship. Bit by bit, allowable attendance was increased, and congregational singing was allowed. Our services were also aired 2-3 times each Sunday on Cogeco Cable (Your TV), but with a 1 week delay.

During the early part of the year, approximately 20-24 choir members participated in the virtual choir. At times, we were assisted by John Henderson, Emmanuel United Church, Laura Farris-Einarson on flute, and Chris Clarke on percussion. Betty, our choir director and accompanist, also got to sing each week as a virtual soprano/alto!

Throughout the year, the You-Tube virtual services and our virtual choir were made possible by our technical team, led by John Roberts, Sound and Video Technician extraordinaire. Lisa Blais did an incredible amount of work preparing all of our sound files, often pairing them with words and other video enhancements. John took all of our sound files and videos, and inserted them into the appropriate part of the service.

As we become more experienced with the virtual choir selections, we prepared more difficult selections (anthems and cantata music) for special times such as Easter. A few “socially distanced” choir practices were held.

The process for producing the virtual music remained the same as in 2020 and 2021. (This was outlined in detail in the 2021 Annual Choir Report.)

Over 100 musical selections (hymns or anthems) involving 1000’s of music files, were produced in all. Thank you to all our “virtual musicians” for their faithful sharing of talent each week. Now that we have built a “library” of hymn selections, we are able to re-use them if necessary.

The live music was made possible with our plexiglass “music pods”, which were constructed during the fall of 2020. Finally, they were removed during the summer of 2022! Weekly Thursday evening choir practices resumed in September 2022 and we returned to the choir loft for Sunday services!

The Senior Choir roster now numbers about 33! We welcomed three new members and had 3 retirements this past fall.

After a three year absence, the choir once again presented a Christmas cantata. ‘I Hear the Prophet Call’n’ by composer Pepper Choplin, was presented on Christmas Sunday. Approximately 12 musicians accompanied the cantata, conducted by Betty, our Minister of Music. This cantata was well-received both in our sanctuary and by on-line worshipers.

On Christmas Eve, the service was accompanied by a 21 piece orchestra, mostly members of Trinity and/or the JOY Band. The choir sang several selections, including “A Star, Shining in the East”, a reprise from the cantata.

A new keyboard was dedicated in December, a gift to the church by Alvin Moyer and family. It makes possible the sound of chimes (along with many other instruments)! The original chimes on the front wall of the sanctuary, also donated by the Moyer family, were unrepairable due to the non-availability of parts. Thank you to the Moyers for this generous contribution to musical worship at Trinity. The chimes were put to good use during the cantata!

The Senior Choir thanks the congregation for their continued support and we look forward to sharing our faith through music with you in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Farris, Minister of Music

### *... from the Chairperson of the Board*

This past year saw Trinity mostly emerge from Covid restrictions and slowly and carefully returning to pre-pandemic activities with increased opportunities to gather, to celebrate, to socialize, to fundraise, to worship, and of course, to eat together. We are thankful that our community has begun to come out the other side of what's been a truly challenging couple of years.

There were the usual ongoing concerns about finances and our aging building (building, bricks and vandalism to name a few), but 2022 did not present the church board with a major building crisis other than some frozen pipes early in the year. Our major roof project, fireside room ceiling collapse, frozen pipes, thankfully are all now all behind us. In addition, our worrisome financial concerns near the end of the year saw our financial supporters step up to reduce our deficit to a much more manageable level. Our constitution and by-laws are in good shape, including a new memorial fund policy, updated use-of-church policy, and wedding and funeral fees. We are blessed to have a full complement of our ministry team and church staff who continue to be wonderful. We have seen the return to larger Sunday morning congregations, including Sunday School, while still offering amazing opportunities to worship virtually through local television on YourTV and on YouTube to a more national and global audience. The church board leadership, along with all the committees of the board, continue to work tirelessly to serve Trinity and the wider North Bay community.

Our Covid response team has not yet been dissolved but does meet far less frequently. Hopefully there will no longer be a need for this team in the near future. Our beautiful old building still requires our ongoing attention and financial support. The bricks require annual repair and therefore ongoing substantial investment. Our boiler is also getting old and needing more attention. We are blessed to have such a supportive congregation who help meet these needs while still permitting Trinity to continue with its many groups and valuable outreach activities such as the Food Shelf and Infant Food Shelf.

The beginning of the resolution of the pandemic and building crises this past year did provide us with something extra...a window of opportunity to begin a look towards our future. A small team of board members gathered to begin this look with a project that has come to be called "Faith Forward 2030". This team of Trinity board chairs (past, present, and future) were joined by our exceptional finance folks, building and grounds rep and Rev. Ted along with some wise friends from Canadian Shield Regional Council, to take a good look at Trinity. We are looking at where we are today, where we are going, and how we want to get there. This is an opportunity to see where the spirit is calling Trinity to be in the future to proactively ensure that Trinity can continue to be a welcoming and vibrant community of faith today, tomorrow, in 2030 and beyond. Faith Forward 2030 also initiated meetings with the board/council leaders from our sister United Churches in North Bay with plans to continue to meet regularly. These meetings are an opportunity to share successes and concerns, work together and develop opportunities to build community with our other North Bay and area United Church leaders and faith communities to embrace the future together.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Brownlee  
Chair of the Board



This is an exciting time at Trinity as we progress through our Faith Forward 2030 futuring journey planning how we can maintain and grow our vibrant and faithful United Church community.

We began with a small group of Trinity board members who have been working together to address the short and long term vision for Trinity and the wider United Church community in North Bay and Area. Before we could figure out where we are going, we first had to have a look at where we are right now. Careful evaluation and research has been done to determine our demographics, our financial situation and our property needs. This has involved much consultation and research including surveying the many groups that meet at Trinity. This information was used to create a comprehensive report that will be shared with the congregation in the very near future as we move toward the next steps.

The Faith Forward 2030 project also restarted regular meetings of church lay leaders from Trinity, St Andrews, Omond, Carmichael and Emmanuel United Churches. We welcome the expert input to these meetings from Melody and Diane from our Canadian Shield Regional Council. Together, these church leaders have decided to continue to meet regularly to discuss and share future planning together. There is also an initiative to build community and friendships between the churches by sharing worship together for each of the fifth Sundays in 2023. All churches will close their doors and gather for worship at another United Church rotating to each church. Tentatively our turn to host the fifth Sunday comes up on October 29<sup>th</sup> 2023. We look forward to seeing what other ideas will be revealed at these meetings.

At Trinity, 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 excited to see the spirit at work as we walk forward in faith together.

Faith Forward team; Trinity—Cindy Brownlee, Glenn Brophey, Bob Cook, John Roberts, John Hafliidson, Michelina Beam, Ted Harrison, Canadian Shield Regional Council - Melody Duncanson-Hales, Diane Matheson-Jimenez

## ***Canadian Shield Regional Council (CSRC) 2022***

Shortly before the Covid pandemic changed everything, the United Church has shifted its governance structure-- instead of Presbyteries (like North Bay Presbytery) and Conferences (we were in Manitou Conference, which covered North Eastern Ontario), we now have Regions. The “Canadian Shield Region” (CSRC) reaches from the Quebec border to Thunder Bay, and as far south as Burk’s Falls. The CSRC continues to adjust and learn how to function within this new governance structure-- it is a slow process with occasional feelings of isolation and disconnection to the wider church. This is especially true for the individuals who were used to working within the Presbytery and Conference system.

A regional council is a decision-making body responsible to serve and support Communities of Faith within its bounds, and provides necessary oversight. The CSRC is one of 16 regions spread across Canada. It consists of the pastoral charges in the former Manitou Conference, Algoma Presbytery and those in the Eastern Time Zone of the former Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Conference. We in Manitou Conference thought we had a large area before--but now we are really challenged to figure how to be a cohesive group within a much bigger area!

Membership consists of all ministry personnel (both active and retired) in the region plus lay representatives from each Community of Faith. Lay membership is based on the number of resident members in the Community of Faith. Trinity has 2 representatives and does qualify for 3 representatives. Don Haslam and Janice Brownlee are presently the lay representatives from Trinity. If you would be interested in learning more about this role, please speak to Don or Janice and they will be happy to describe the opportunities that come with this role.

The CSRC’s governance structure consists of an Executive, a Pastoral Relations Commission (Rev. Ted is a member of this commission) and a Support to Communities of Faith Commission. There are resource teams for Right Relations (Lisa Blais is team lead), Mission Grants, Finance, Property (our own Rev. Gord Roberts is team lead), Affirming, Youth and Young Adult. Please refer to the website at [www.canadianshieldrc.ca](http://www.canadianshieldrc.ca) for more information on the structure, function and membership of the Resource Teams. New members are always being sought.

The Regional Council gathered in Sudbury in September, 2022. This was the first face-to-face meeting since before the pandemic. The meeting was held at St Andrew’s UC. It was lovely to finally meet individuals who you had only encountered through ZOOM. Michael Blair (General Secretary of the national church) and Jennifer Henry (staff at the national church) were the guests. The future of the United Church was discussed. The meeting included worship, business, workshops and an evening banquet where ministry personnel who had reached significant milestones in their service were acknowledged and celebrated. Sunday morning we gathered together for worship and communion before beginning the journey back to our homes.

Canadian Shield RC shares resources with Shining Waters RC. Shining Waters RC is just to the south of us and includes Toronto. Rev Peter Hartmans is the Executive Minister for both regional councils. Administrative staff are shared by both and there are plans for more joint learning events and other opportunities to gather and work together.

More gathering together will continue to happen as COVID restrictions are relaxed. ZOOM meetings will continue to be an important part of our way of connecting given the size of our region and the expense of travel. We are still learning how to do our work in this new structure and it is important that we continue to evaluate how we are doing and how we can improve the way we do our work.

In the 2023 Annual Report, we are likely to report on the June 2023 “Festival of Faith” that is being hosted by the CSRC at Canadore College here in North Bay on the occasion of the United Church’s 98<sup>th</sup> birthday. We hope many Trinity folks will take advantage of this great opportunity, here in our own backyard!

Respectfully submitted,  
Janice Brownlee



## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 2022

Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of Trinity United Church held by ZOOM on Sunday, March 6, 2022 with 49 persons participating.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson Cindy Brownlee at 1:00 pm.

*“Trinity United Church acknowledges that we are meeting on aboriginal land that has been inhabited by Indigenous people from the beginning. As settlers, we are grateful for the opportunity to meet here and we thank all the generations of people who have taken care of this land – for thousands of years. In particular, we gather on the traditional territory of the Nipissing First Nation Anishinaabe. This territory is covered by the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850.*

WORSHIP: Rev Ted led us in the gathering worship.

### APPOINTMENT of RECORDING SECRETARY:

**MOTION:** Doug Bott-Baxter/Brad Stenning moved that Janice Brownlee be appointed the Recording Secretary for the 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting of Trinity United Church, North Bay.

**CARRIED**

### APPOINTMENT OF MEETING CHAIR:

**MOTION:** John Roberts/Bonnie Rae Brownlee moved that Cindy Brownlee be appointed as meeting chair for the 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting of Trinity United Church, North Bay.

**CARRIED**

### CORRESPONDING MEMBERSHIP/VOTING PRIVILEGES:

**MOTION:** John Haflidson/Dave McKenney moved that Adherents of Trinity United Church, North Bay, be granted corresponding membership and the privilege to vote on temporal (non-spiritual/non worship) matters.

**CARRIED**

### IN MEMORIAM:

Rev. Ted Harrison read the names of members and friends (page 5 of the Annual Report) who passed away during 2022 and following a moment of silence he led us in prayer.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE 2022 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

**MOTION:** John Roberts/Anna Wright moved that the agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

### REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE March 7, 2021 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

**MOTION:** Bill Brownlee/John Haflidson moved that the minutes (page 6,7,8 of the Annual Report) of the March 7, 2021 annual congregational meeting be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

### BUSINESS ARISING:

#### CHEQUE SIGNING AND AUTHORIZATION:

**MOTION:** John Roberts/Darlene Laferriere moved that in accordance with our Constitution (3.0, 7.2, and 9.0) and Bylaw (5.0) and following the procedure recommended by Royal Bank and best practice requiring two (2) signatures to authorize cheques, we designate the following five (5) people to have signing authority on our bank accounts. Any 3 persons holding a position of Officer of the Church – Chair, Vice-Chair, Past-Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer, Envelope Secretary, Chair of the Trustees.

**CARRIED**



**MOTION:** Doug Bott-Baxter/Richard Shaver moved that in accordance with our Constitution (3.0, 7.2) we designate the following two (2) people to have signing authority on our investment accounts: Chair of the Trustees, Member of the Board of Trustees.

**CARRIED**

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS OVERVIEW

Bob Cook reported

New Custodian hired in September – Don Hickey

Plumbing in the Kitchen – large deep sink – the drain was cleared and the leak repaired

Vandalism resulted in 3 windows on the Main Street side of the church were broken – the windows were repaired and all the lower windows were covered by wire mesh

Sharps container (with assistance of the NBDHU) was installed in the Garden Area – significant reduction in the number of needles, blow pipes that used to be found on the ground on a daily basis

The E on the Trinity United Church by the Ferguson Street door was replaced – thanks to Rob and Shannon Sanders who used their 3D printer to make the E

Flashing repaired on the McIntyre Street entrance

Boiler – 3 of 4 motors were repaired this year – the boilers require constant attention

Repair of frozen pipes in the Minister's office (75% of the cost of the repairs covered by donation from the congregation)

New lighting ( with a generous donation from Howe's Lighting) – installed in the women's washroom

New chairs have been purchased for the Fireside Room

Attention must now be directed towards brick repairs – will proceed in 2022

Regular maintenance continues on an ongoing basis

### COVID – 19

Board continued to meet virtually – hoping that we will soon be able to return to in-person meetings. Feel it is important to return to cooperation talks with the other United Churches in North Bay – Trinity plans to write a letter to the other Churches and to the Canadian Shield Regional Council to encourage the resumption of these discussion aimed at ensuring the future of the work and witness of the UCC in the North Bay area.

COVID response team met regularly over the past year to ensure we were in compliance with the changing Public Health guidelines – it was important to find the balance between normal activities and public health restrictions

Over the past year we experience periods when everything seemed 'normal' followed by periods of everything being locked down.

Mandatory vaccine policy was implemented in October requiring individuals participating in activities at the church had to show proof of vaccination. The exception was worship – a congregational survey was distributed to ensure the views of the congregation concerning the vaccination policy – as a result the requirement for proof of vaccination was extended to include worshipping at Trinity

The team is now working to remove the vaccination requirement and slowly and carefully moving to more in-person activities

### HYBRID SERVICES (IN PERSON AND ON LINE)

John Roberts reported

Hybrid service model – the service was livestreamed when we were able to worship in the sanctuary and recorded when we were once more locked down.

Technology equipment moved to the back of the church beside the audio equipment advantage being easier to integrate streaming with audio.. The audio is very important. Thank you to Marcel MacDonald and Rowan for managing the sound board.

Optics – 3 cameras -2 are attached on either side of the balcony railing and one is used for the Story Cam.

3 TVs were added – 2 at the front of the church and 1 on the balcony railing. Goal is to eventually need only one person to run the equipment but may need 2 if there is a lot of music.

About \$20,000 has been spent with an additional \$10,000 in donated equipment.

## Future Plans

Integrate streaming PC with QU-24

Auto tracking camera functionality

Reduce video lag on TVs in the Sanctuary

Increase internet bandwidth – very poor in downtown North Bay

Encourage more operators and editors (no experience necessary)

Encourage return to Sanctuary

## NEW BUSINESS

### CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Trinity United Church Constitution – revisions as explained in the summary document which has been reviewed by the Canadian Shield Regional Council and recommended by the Board of Trinity United Council.

Note: this is a special motion which requires 2/3rds vote in favour.

**MOTION:** Rick Shaver/Cassie Bott-Baxter moved that the revisions to the Constitution of Trinity United Church be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

Trinity United Church By-Laws – revisions as explained in the summary document which has been reviewed by the Canadian Shield Regional Council and recommended by the Board of Trinity United Church.

**MOTION:** John Roberts/Bob Cook moved that the revisions to the By-Laws of Trinity United Church be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

### REPORTS for the YEAR 2021

#### YEAR IN REVIEW

Lisa Blais (DLM) presented a photo montage of happenings at Trinity and of its members over the unusual year of 2021.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

Brad Stenning and Rick Shaver reported that they have reviewed the financial statements of Trinity United Church and those of the committees and groups within Trinity United Church and have found them to reflect the financial position of each of the groups.

The reviewers recognized the work done by Michelina Beam, treasurer of Trinity United Church.

**MOTION:** Brad Stenning/Bonnie Rae Bailey moved that the Reviewers' report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

### APPOINTMENT of REVIEWERS for the Year 2022

**MOTION:** Bob Cook/John Roberts moved that the Reviewers for 2022 be Brad Stenning and Rick Shaver.

**CARRIED**

### FINANCIAL REPORTS

John Hafidson reviewed the financial summary report for 2021. Total income of \$355,594 and expenses of \$356,111 leaving us with a small deficit of \$517. He expressed thanks to the amazing Trinity family for their generous donations throughout the year. He expressed appreciation to the Finance/Stewardship Committee and acknowledged the work of Michelina Beam, treasurer in ensuring all our financial obligations were met. The floor was opened for comments and questions.

### PROPOSED BUDGET for 2022:

A summary of the proposed budget 2022 was presented by Treasurer Michelina Beam. Income for 2022 was estimated at \$386,300 and expenses at \$385,950 leaving a small surplus of \$350. The United Church assessment is around \$13,000. There is still \$16,000 to pay for the ceiling repair (this is the ceiling in the hallway, nursery and offices). The cost to repair the ceiling in the Fireside Room was covered by insurance. Michelina reminded us that the roof repair was paid off in June and that is a cause for celebration. The floor was opened for questions and discussion.

**MOTION:** John Hafidson/Bonnie Rae Bailey moved that the Financial Report for 2021 be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**CARRIED**

**CARRIED**

**CARRIED**

**CARRIED**

**CARRIED**

**CARRIED**

Having completed the business before us Cindy Brownlee asked for a motion of adjournment. Brad Stenning moved the adjournment of the meeting The meeting was closed with Rev. Ted offering a benediction.

## ***Building & Grounds***

This year, our church building turns 117 years old. With age comes character along with some creaks and groans. We have our fair share of those. The challenge that faces us is prioritizing which creak and which groan is addressed first.

It is logical to anticipate that over time, repair and upkeep costs will increase. Inefficiencies in building design will result in an increase in utility costs. What is meant by that? A good example is that when in 1905 construction started, no insulation was added to the exterior walls. (this design has contributed to the deterioration of our bricks). By 1956, when the Cochrane Hall extension was added, exterior walls included 1.5 inches of fibreglass (R6) insulation. The vapour barrier was integrated into the insulation wrap. A far cry from the construction standard of R40 today. The result is that to heat the building we are using a tremendous amount of energy.

Over the next few months, your B&G committee plans for conduct an energy audit and architectural consultation to determine where our priorities should be focussed. We have witnessed over the past years, that the brick deterioration seems to be accelerating. Areas that were addressed last year for example, must be examined again this year. We had hoped that a large investment last year would mean fewer dollars this year. This is not the case. Our greatest concern remains the bricks at elevation and their condition. Last year, the brick mason found a loose brick on the face of the tower over 40 feet up. The potential liability for the church is significant.

Repairing the bricks as we have over the past decades is not sustainable. A longer-term solution should be examined, hence the need to have an architect assist us. While such a consultation is not free, it will be money well spent once a solution is implemented. We should be prepared for what may be an exterior character change to the face of the building once a solution is found.

Good news is that The United Church of Canada is providing eligible congregations up to \$30,000 in grant money to help reach their carbon reduction goals by 2050. The key to accessing the money is having an approved plan and matching dollars. Part of our need for an energy audit is linked to our goal to maximizing our grant eligibility. Your B&G committee is focussed on areas with the greatest return while matching our priority needs. Be confident that right now we are saving all of our improvement receipts for future claims to applied against this grant.

But what have we done?? Thanks to your generosity, we were able to quickly address the issue of frozen pipes from winter 2022. The pipes froze in part because of our boiler pump failed. We have taken some proactive steps to address future failures as there are six pumps that keep us warm. We are closely examining our boiler as well to establish a best guess for its longevity. With thanks to Howe's Lighting for some significant price reductions, we are changing fluorescent fixtures to more energy efficient LEDs. Wanda's office and the lady's washroom were beneficiaries of this work during the past year.

The crew has addressed some of the air leakages in the building. We know that sealing these openings has already saved significant costs. We will continue to address these as we can. Finally, I wish to provide a hearty note of thanks to our long-term committee member Tony dePencier. After countless years of working to care for our building, he is stepping back from his role. His knowledge and work ethic have always been greatly appreciated.

Bob Cook, Chair  
Building and Grounds

## ***Christian Education & Outreach***

The Christian Education and Outreach Committee at Trinity United Church is responsible for coordinating and overseeing programs for children, youth, and adults. We support the work of our Food Shelf ministries through special offerings such as Lent, Thanksgiving, and White Gift Sunday. Covid-19 lockdowns were still in effect throughout different parts of the year; however, we were still able to accomplish many of our goals.

### **Maintain, coordinate and have general oversight of a vibrant multifaceted Christian Education program for the Congregation**

Thank you to the many volunteers who facilitated our programs in 2022, such as Trinity Food Shelf, Infant Food Bank, Sunday School, Trinity Families, Mustard Seed, Vacation Bible Camp, Mossy Church, and Rally Back Picnic. Reports from the Sunday School, Mossy Church, Vacation Bible Camp, and Mustard Seed can be found later in this report.

Due to Covid the Spirit Point Family Weekend and the Women's Retreat were cancelled.

### **Investigate and promote ways in which the Congregation may serve the local community.**

Trinity operates a Monday Food Shelf program and a Wednesday Infant Food Shelf program. Reports for both of these programs can be found later in this report.

Anne Smith and Sue Miller represent Trinity on the Compassionate Committee for the Homeless of North Bay. Along with members from a number of other faith communities throughout the area who have joined together to address the immediate needs of the homeless, the outreach events include “Backpacks of Love” and “Soles for Souls”.

Thank you to all who have supported these two events in 2022. A more detailed report can be found later in this report.

Each year with support from Trinity Youth, we provide over 150 Christmas gift bags for those who might otherwise not receive the joy of getting a gift at Christmas. The Christmas Bag Outreach program provided gifts to the Crisis Centre, the Nipissing Attendance Centre, the North Bay Regional Health Centre Mental Health Units, True Self, Ojibway Family Resource, and more!

### **Promote the Lenten, Thanksgiving, White Gift, and the Trinity Food Shelf offerings**

We thank the congregation for their generous donations to these programs throughout the year. Our Food Shelf programs operate solely on donations from the Trinity congregation and wider community. Your donations help to keep our shelves stocked so we can provide emergency support to those in need. Our White Gift program helps to provide Christmas gifts to over 150 people in our community.

### **Promote the membership of the Church by Profession of Faith**

We welcomed the following at the Presentation of New Members on June 12, 2022; Gloria Kelusky, Janice Louise Knapp, Susan Laberge, Marcel Larente, Brenda Lecours, Heather Grace McKercher, Suzanne Elizebeth Miller, Anne Smith, Karen Vincent and Jacques Vincent.

If you are interested in being received into membership at Trinity United Church later this year, please be in touch with Rev. Ted or the Church office.

### **Identify issues of social justice in the community in which the Congregation might be involved**

Please see the report from Anne Smith and Sue Miller on the Compassionate Committee for the Homeless of North Bay.

Trinity United Church is blessed with these volunteers who are part of the Christian Education and Outreach Committee, Linsey Mutch, Amanda Silk, Anne Smith, Cindy Brownlee, Recording Secretary Caroline Harrison, Sunday School Co-Superintendents Carling Luteki and Marcel MacDonald, Sandra Brownlee, Co-Chairs Diane Cook and Sue Miller, and supported by Lisa Blais, our Faith Formation & Outreach Minister.

Respectfully submitted,  
Co-Chairs Sue Miller & Diane Cook

### ***The Compassionate Committee for the Homeless of North Bay***

Anne Smith and Sue Miller are members of the Compassionate Committee on behalf of Trinity. They participate in monthly meetings which includes a guest speaker who speaks to what is needed in the community or what their organization is doing to help the homeless in North Bay.

Backpacks of Love: The committee of volunteers packed 57 hygiene bags filled with donated toothbrushes, toothpaste, soaps, antiperspirant, lip balm, socks and more. In addition to the hygiene bags, bags of toilet paper, underwear, can openers, ponchos, reusable bags, and devotionals were donated to the North Bay Crisis Centre, the Indigenous Friendship Centre, the Gathering Place and the Aids Committee of North Bay; frontline organizations who provide much-needed assistance to the homeless in North Bay.

Soles for Souls: Five car trunks were filled with hats, mitts, scarves, and thermal socks, and 60 pairs of brand-new winter boots were donated to the homeless. In addition, the committee received coats, blankets, and warm clothing that were also donated to the homeless.

True North Chevrolet gave \$500 and individuals donated essential items and money during the drop-off days.

Organizations like The Aids Committee of North Bay, Healthy Community Ambassador Program, Open Arms Café, Boots on the Ground and Hope Awaits Ministries Men’s Shelter were very excited and thankful to receive the brand-new mitts, thermal socks, and boots to clothe the homeless in the frigid winter weather.



The Compassionate Committee for the Homeless of North Bay are very grateful to Trinity who agreed to provide space and support for hosting an information evening at Trinity in early December called “What you need to know about helping people who are experiencing homelessness”. The following people presented:

Benj Nelson - Ambassador Program of Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Rhea Funnell – DNSSAB, Stacey Mayhall – AIDS Committee of North Bay. About 80 people attended and the feedback was positive. The committee is planning to have another information session late in 2023.

The Compassionate Committee also does activities related to promoting social justice for those experiencing homelessness. During 2022 several letters were sent urging politicians to keep Housing First a priority. In September an email was sent to all the candidates for mayor and council to ask them about their plan for dealing with homelessness and the housing crisis in our community. The District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) decided to become a Built for Zero Community which means that they are working with the Canadian Alliance to End Homeless (CAEH) on a plan to end homelessness in our community. Our committee sent a letter of support.

Please sign up on Facebook to receive updates at @compassionatecommitteeofnorthbay

Report from Anne Smith & Sue Miller, Trinity United Church representative on the Compassionate Committee for the Homeless of North Bay.

### ***Communications & Technology***

Thank you to Ross for providing important updates of upcoming events by publishing our Advent, Spring and Fall Newsletters as well as the Annual Report, and maintaining the “Wayside Pulpit” (the sign on the front of the church). And thank you to everyone who contributed content.

#### **Streaming:**

We live streamed every service held in Trinity in 2022, and made the recordings available on YouTube and on Cogeco. The YouTube viewer statistics were down a bit, but still significant. According to YouTube’s “channel analytics” there were 10,313 views in 2022, for a total of 2,758 hours of watch time. I find the 10,313 hard to rationalize, but I think that it includes some people who watch the service several times for short durations, and likely different parts each time. And there are others who attended the service in person on the Sunday but checked something out later on YouTube. We do though know that many people from North Bay and from afar watch our streamed services. The view and hours of watch time in 2022 were down from 2021 stats by 35% and 27% respectively – I consider that a good thing, and it’s reflected in the ever-growing number of you worshipping with us in-person on Sundays.

Live streaming and posting our YouTube and Cogeco recordings (I’ll refer to these as “online services”) are both valuable communications. Whether it’s a person who has to miss church due to illness or travel, someone new who’s checking our church out for the first time, or someone else, our online services are a valuable ministry.

I’m worried though, that our online services might be keeping our in-person attendance down. I’ve been reading about what “church” is – and how online services fit in - and I think I can summarize most of it by saying that our church is people, not the building, and not our online services. And the people are the church both as they gather and in-between the gatherings. Our goal is to provide our online services for people who need them, but hopefully they won’t be a convenience that hurts in-person gathering.

*“We might not mean to start a bad habit, but people don’t go from running marathons to sitting on the couch by saying, I’m just going to skip training for a couple of years.” No, they miss one day and then a week and then a month. That’s how people break the church habit, too. A live stream provides another opportunity to keep from missing a week, when you don’t intend to, but life forces you to be away.”<sup>1</sup>*

*“You may not be able to return right away. You might need to exercise caution for yourself or those you love. You might need to keep watching from a distance for a while. But when the time is right, God’s people can and must gather again, and I hope you’ll join in.”<sup>2</sup>*

Hopefully we’ll see the number of worshipers in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings get back to pre-COVID early in 2023.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the live streaming and recording; including Erin, Eve, Michael, Rowan, Marcel, Rob B and Lisa. I am particularly grateful that they covered my absences so well.

#### Surveillance System:

Trinity was successful in receiving a \$7,500 “Ontario Grant to Support Anti-Hate Security Measures for Faith-Based and Cultural Organizations.” Our plans are to significantly enhance our surveillance system which includes five outdoor cameras and replacements for two old indoor cameras. The most anticipated camera is the one we’ll install in the Ferguson alley, which will hopefully help us address some of the crazy stuff that happens in there. We also installed a replacement server and a network switch to handle the extra cameras, and a replacement UPS. The biggest single cost will be the installation of the cabling for the outdoor cameras. All these upgrades will be completed by the end of March, 2023. Thank you to Michelina and John H for applying for and getting this grant.

#### Hardware and Networks:

We made various improvements to our technology infrastructure. These included a new “mesh” router system that gives us good Wi-Fi and a wired connection in both the Fireside Room and the Sanctuary. Another improvement was a new modem which provides more reliable Internet. More reliable, but unfortunately not faster. And finally a new PC for Rev. Ted. Definitely faster.

The movie crews working in our building in the summer caused two problems. I was away at the time, which aggravated the situation. They caused an Internet outage, which Lisa and Michael got working again before Sunday. And one of the Sanctuary TVs was out of commission for a few weeks due to an adapter which went missing from the boardroom. We had another extended Internet outage caused by our accidentally cutting a cable in the boiler room during some plumbing repair work.

Respectively submitted by:

John Roberts,

Communications and Technology committee chair

<sup>1</sup> ChurchProduction.com – “Top 6 Reasons Your Church Should Be Live Streaming”

<sup>2</sup> Crossway.org – “10 Reasons to Come Back to Church after COVID-19”

### ***Finance & Stewardship***

Preliminary 2022 financial reports show annual income of \$382,875, which is within 1% of budget and almost 8% higher than last year. Thank you to all the people who donated or contributed in one way or another to generate this income during the past year.

Offerings income of \$265,130 accounted for 69% of total income and was 4% below budget. Fundraising income of \$23,231 was about \$5,000 below budget while building rentals of \$21,600 was a substantial increase over 2021.

Total Expenses of \$393,060 were within 2% of budget but unfortunately about \$37,000 higher than last year. Major contributors were higher heating costs, brick work and repairs to water pipes and the boiler.

Comparing total 2022 income and expenses results in a deficit of \$10,154. Please note that this amount will probably be reduced and the above figures will change slightly after yearend adjustments by Treasurer Michelina and final evaluations by our auditors.

The tremendous generosity of Trinity folks toward the end of the year resulted in a substantial reduction of the deficit from over \$50,000 reported in the November 2022 newsletter. Your contributions are much appreciated. What a dedicated and generous community of faith!

Several members of the committee contributed to the Faith Forward 2030 initiative during the year.

The Finance and Stewardship Committee meets monthly to carry out the functions outlined in the Church By-Laws. Members in 2022 were: Bill Brownlee, Michelina Beam, Natalya Brown, John Haflidson, Brenda Holbein and Gordon Roberts. Our treasurer is Michelina Beam and our envelope and Par Administrator is Wanda Gleason.

Respectfully submitted,

John Haflidson, Committee Chair.

## ***Ministry & Personnel***

Our committee has had numerous interactions with our staff over the past year. Covid was still a major factor in how these discussions were handled. Our members include Bryan Boothe, Anna Wright, John Peddie, Darlene Laferriere, Don Haslam and Brad Stenning.

As a committee, our responsibilities are: consultation and support for matters involving the staff, when necessary; overseeing the relationships of staff to each other and to the congregation; making regular reviews of working conditions, responsibilities and compensation for staff; revising position descriptions for the pastoral charge staff as needed; conducting annual performance reviews for the staff; ensuring that pastoral charge staff are able to use their opportunities for continuing education and to maintain contact with the Canadian Shield Regional Council Pastoral Relations Committee.

Trinity is a very alive ,vibrant community even with the trials of covid.

We enjoy our younger families and faith and activity of our "older" congregants. We are very community friendly and active outside the walls of our church . Remember, the church is not the building but the people who worship there. We thank the congregation for their continued support of our staff . We are looking forward to a busy and rewarding 2023 church year at Trinity.

Respectfully submitted by

Your M&P Committee

## ***Pastoral Care & Visiting***

This year the committee welcomed five new members elected at last year's Annual Congregational Meeting, bringing our total involvement to 13 people. Although the impact of COVID on church community gatherings has diminished, there continues to be those who find themselves on the fringes of church activities. As in the past, the main activity of the committee involves maintaining a network of empathetic presence and listening support to Trinity folk, especially those who are at risk of experiencing isolation. Each committee member has taken on the task of keeping in touch with a group of people from a list of over 70 people who are 80 and over. Others who are isolated by virtue of their life circumstances are also included.

Expressions of caring have been maintained through regular telephone calls and sometimes personal visits. Compassionate concern has also been expressed through special cards prepared and sent by Sandra Rozicki. As always, this network of caring includes our Ministers, Lisa Blais and Rev. Ted who communicate needs for special attention.

The program of giving special attention to people of the Trinity family who are 90 years of age and older has continued. Personalized cards created by Bill Brownlee have been delivered by committee members and combined, where possible, with a personal visit to help celebrate this special milestone.

Concerns over the spread of infections has continued to be a challenge for in- person visiting at many of the care facilities, depending on their assessments of risk. As a result of institutional concerns communion services for residents in nursing homes and special care facilities have not yet resumed.

The committee has, however, reinstated the task of recruiting volunteers to be Greeters at Sunday morning worship services. Our committee also welcomed new members to the church with a reception involving the sharing of a special cake after the church service.

As we move into a new year, it appears that care for people in hospital through personal visits on behalf of Trinity will once again be possible. The process of facilitating those visits has begun.

Recognition and appreciation is extended to Joanne Bernier, Claudette Brown, Carolyn Crawford, Rob Farris, Wanda Gleason, Brenda Holbein, Maurice Laporte, Viola MacVicar, Jean Mitchell, Sandra Rozicki, Pat Sadler and John Sheridan for their dedicated efforts to share the love of Christ in this valuable ministry of caring.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Smith, Chair

## ***Worship***

The committee consists of Rev. Dr. Ted Harrison, Betty Farris, Jean Rideout, Claudette Brown, Marian Robinson, Rod Carley, Wanda Gleason, Chris Ford, Barb Roberts and Bonnie Rae Bailey. Thank you to these people for their ongoing work to help Trinity's services run efficiently, while making it safe and welcoming.

Retiring members are Jean Rideout with 11 years on the committee and Claudette Brown with 5 years. Thank you to both for your contributions and dedication to Worship and the Trinity Board. The 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 ushers, lay readers, and the lift operators, preparing the chancel for each service, preparing Communion, and assisting with Baptism services.

Once again, pandemic protocols affected our services with the cancellation of In-person worship for January under order of Public Health. Worship was held with Rev. Ted, Betty, a lay reader and sometimes a soloist in the sanctuary with the technology team live-streaming the service on the YouTube channel. The congregation was allowed to return to the sanctuary in February and continued with no further pandemic interruptions for the rest of the year. Protocols of proof of vaccine status, distancing and masking were gradually reduced as the year progressed. By the end of the year, masking was required in the Lift and the Main Street side of the sanctuary with masking encouraged but not required in the rest of the building. All pews became available and the plexiglass pods for the soloists were removed from the choir loft by August. The full choir slowly returned to the sanctuary in the fall. Attendance on Sunday mornings continued to increase through the year with 200 in attendance on Christmas Eve.

Rev. Kathy McCallum and Rev. Lillian Roberts led the services while Rev. Ted was away; Rev. Kathy on June 19 and Rev. Lillian on September 4 and October 16. AOTS led the service on Nov 20. Brenda McLay filled in for Betty on Oct 16.

Communion was served on March 6 for Lent, April 17 for Easter, June 12 for Trinity's Anniversary, Oct 2 for World Communion, Nov 27 for Advent and Dec 24. All of these services used communion packets, except for Christmas Eve when congregants were invited to come forward to receive the Communion Elements.

During July and August, Lay readers were shared between Trinity and St. Andrew's.

Thanksgiving decorating was done by Sandy Haslam for October. In preparation for Advent, the sanctuary was decorated for Christmas under the direction of Nancy Dewar-Stenning. She was assisted by Noreen and Ross Brewer, Glad Banks-Bryer, Keith Bryer, Barb and John Roberts and Lillian Roberts.

The Joy band and the full choir provided the music for the Remembrance Day Service on Nov 6. The stage was set up in the sanctuary and remained through the Christmas season to accommodate the Choir Cantata on Dec 18.

The Longest Night Service on Dec 21<sup>st</sup> was held jointly with St. Andrew's,

The 4 weeks of Advent included Communion (Hope), White Gift (Peace), Children's Pageant (Joy) and Choir Cantata (Love).

Thank you to Rev. Ted who continues to inspire us with his insightful messages. We appreciate his leadership, wisdom, compassion, and humour. Thank you to the Minister of Music, Betty Farris, who along with the choir add so much to the service with their music. The Worship Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the congregation for their willingness to carry out the necessary tasks for the worship services to run smoothly each week.

Respectively submitted by Bonnie-Rae Bailey

## ***Trustees***

Those who graciously agree to serve as a Trustee for Trinity's congregation commit to a five-year term. Fortunately, being a Trustee is not usually an arduous task and the term length ensures stability to the group charged with the responsibilities designated in accordance with the Trusts of Model Deeds set out in The Manual: The United Church of Canada: Appendix II.

The Board of Trustees has remained unchanged from the previous year, Jean Mitchell, John Roberts, Jean Rideout, Sue Elliott, Sandra Rozicki and Don Bain, continuing to be committed to the work of the Trustees, and Bob Cooney, who had completed his terms, graciously continuing in his role as liaison with our insurance broker. My term expires this year. I have agreed to serve a second term and at the discretion of the Trustees will continue to serve as Chair.

Sandra Rozicki remains as Trustee Secretary with myself serving as the representative to the Building and Grounds Committee.

The Board of Trustees is entrusted with those matters related to the fixed and fiscal property of the congregation,

By far the largest and most significant duty the Trustees have is to ensure that the church building and contents are adequately insured. As we are all aware, the cost of insurance has increased dramatically in the past few years. Trinity's insurance cost for the period of June 2022 to June 2023 is approximately \$22000.00. In order to aid congregations facing this heavy financial burden the United Church has launched a self insurance program aimed at a significant reduction of cost. Individual ministries currently participating in the UCC Protect program will receive premium reductions of 15 – 30 %. We will have to obtain an updated appraisal of our property.

Fortunately, this year we did not have any major catastrophes requiring support from our insurance.

Kirk Elliott, Chair

### ***Sunday School***

As we slowly began to navigate the return to public gathering in 2022, we focused on re-establishing our Sunday School program. Our attendance numbers in classes were generally much lower than our pre-pandemic levels, but we do continue to see slow growth heading into 2023! The children continued to enjoy learning through our various activities, including singing, storytelling, crafting, games, and cooking. Thanks to our teachers: Linsey Mutch, Caroline Harrison, Cindy Brownlee, Diane Cook, Carling Lutecki, Marcel MacDonald, and Lisa Blais.

Happily, we were able to bring our annual Christmas pageant back in person this year. Just a Little Christmas was directed by Darlene Laferriere, with musical accompaniment by Betty Farris, and costumes by Caroline Harrison. Special music offerings were provided by Jared and Michelle Johnson, and Sophia and Victoria Karasseva. We look forward to more fun and growth in the coming year!

### ***Trinity Families***

Trinity Family activities were put on hold for 2022, but we do anticipate a return in 2023, with several activities already planned for us!

Submitted by Carling Lutecki

### ***Mustard Seed***

Mustard Seed did not present a children's performance in 2022 but we are looking forward to a brand new musical in June 2023!

### ***Youth Group***

Like many other groups, the youth group did not operate as "normal" in 2022. We are looking forward to getting back to regular meetings in 2023

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 need in our community. Thank-you to all the people who donated items and money to this wonderful outreach project and thank-you to the Trinity Congregation for your support, as always!

Submitted by Lisa Blais

### ***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!

We are thrilled to report that Mossy Church continued into its second year with 4 events. We began the year inviting participants to create Good Friday Easter Gardens, which represented their Gethsemane. In June, we talked about the honourable harvest when we went fishing at Champlain Park. October took us for a hike at Samuel de Champlain Park where we found belonging at a Nature Party where we were re-introduced to God's Creation.

Our annual All Saints Theatre Event at the Silk-Shaver house was a hit as attendees wandered through the forest enjoying a production of "A Fool's Tale".

submitted by Karen Johnson and Amanda Silk



### ***Monday Morning Food Shelf***

The Monday Food Shelf, as an essential service to those in need in our community, continues to offer food support throughout the year. For the year 2022 the Monday Food Shelf provided 612 baskets to clients on the 39 Mondays that we were open. This included 389 single baskets and 222 family baskets. The number of family members served (adults and children) was 628 so we provided Food Assistance to a total of 1017 persons.

In addition to the regular basket items, we also provided a number of extras including fresh fruit and vegetables, clothing and toiletries. Whenever we had additional donated food items available these were also shared with our neighbours in need. The average price for a single basket is \$14 and \$22 for a family bag (not including the extras).

The numbers have been increasing slowly but are not yet back to pre-Covid levels. The increasing trend appears to have carried over into early 2023. Recently we have been seeing an increase in people experiencing homelessness using our Food Shelf.

Thank you to the Trinity congregation and the wider community who have donated to the Food Shelf throughout the year. We are grateful to Dreamcoat Fantasy Theatre and Studio 12/Renee's Dance Connection for holding a food drive to stock our shelves. Thank you to Cobbs Bakery and the Salvation Army for regular donations of bread and rolls.

We are especially grateful to all our regular volunteers who keep the Monday Food Shelf running. We have a rotation of volunteers who handle intake and packing bags. That includes Sandy Foster, John Haflidson, Marian Robinson, Pat Sadler, Judy Szumik, Lillian Roberts, Heather McKercher and Joe Drinkwater. Jackson Beam and Bonnie Beam have had to retire from the Food Shelf and we have welcomed Chris Ford to our roster. Jean Rideout, Pat Sadler and a few generous donors keep our shelves stocked. Marian Robinson manages our finances. This past year John Mitchell retired from the clothing distribution – we are grateful for his support throughout the years – thank you John! Laura has very capably taken over our clothing distribution. Jim Liddell is our Food Shelf coordinator and Lisa Blais is our staff support.

Our food shelf ministry is a very valued and valuable service to our community. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.

Submitted by Jim Liddell and Lisa Blais, on behalf of the Monday Food Shelf

*If you are more fortunate than others — build a longer table not a taller fence*

### ***Infant Food Shelf***

Since September 2014, the Trinity Infant Food Shelf has assisted low-income families and their infants under one year of age, access to critical baby supplies. Since inception in 2014, the IFS has helped over 422 families access nutritional food and baby supplies in a timely manner. Previously, in order to feed their infants, low-income families were forced to shop around to different food banks for breast feeding supplies, formula, diapers, nutritious baby food, and basic infant supplies. Often, this caused a constant change in their infant's diet which resulted in severe gastro reactions {Colic like symptoms}. The stress of coping with an infant who is screaming in pain for long periods of time is very hard on the caregivers. A lack of basic necessities to help stimulate brain development during the first critical year of life and education around safe sleep, child development also places these infants at a higher risk of developmental delays.

During Covid, our delivery model changed to limit face to face interaction with Families and their infants. While this helped fill the gap for providing funds for baby supplies, the educational component and direct support to families was limited. In February 2022, we slowly re introduced the original delivery model and by September thanks to returning volunteers and new faces our program has expanded our outreach to include literacy with the provision of children's books, and the Infant Boutique in partnership with CAS.

The Infant Food Shelf is open to any family or caregiver requesting assistance monthly and is open Wednesday's from 10am to 12noon, 40 weeks per year. Our roster of volunteers includes Anne Smith Co Chair, Janice Brownlee, Bonnie-Rae Bailey, Pat Clysdale, Darlene Floyd, and Judi Rose, who provide hands on support and education to the families that attend.

None of this would be possible without the generous support of many individuals and families, community partners including the AOTS men's club, Restoule and Nipissing Knox Churches, the Joy Band, Oddfellows, RTA, Ecole St. Vincent School, MTO union, plus many other donations of hand made items.

Submitted by:  
Linda McLay, Co Chair

### ***North Bay Union Cemetery***

Volunteers from four North Bay churches; Trinity, St. Andrew's, First Baptist and Calvin administer the North Bay Union Cemetery. The current members of the Board are; Henry Drenth, Chairman, David McKee, Treasurer, Stuart Bailey, Jim Cluff and Ross Brewer.

The cemetery functions under the Cemeteries Act of Ontario and operates under the Rules and Regulations of the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations guidelines. The Cemetery is financially self-supporting with the exception of an annual donation of \$200.00 from each of the four member 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.

#### Statistics for 2022

<u>Plot Sales</u>	Cremation 12, Casket - 1
<u>Burials</u>	Cremation 19, Casket - 4

Submitted by Ross Brewer

### ***Apple Pie Report***

The apple pie project was once again a huge success.

In a unique partnership we made the pie shells in the Canadore Culinary Arts kitchen with the assistance of Chef Derek Lawdy. This was a learning experience for all of us but it saved us time because of the ability to fast freeze the pie shells.

All of our volunteers enjoyed the social aspect of apple picking, apple peeling and assembling pies. There was much laughter and chatter! We continued to observe the COVID protocols as recommended.

Thank you to everyone who made this project a success. There were over 70 volunteers who made 1,100 pies. After expenses, the total from sales and donations was \$13,634.94.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Laferriere (aka the Apple Pie Lady)

### ***4 Trinity Fundraising***

The 4 Trinity Fundraising committee is a small group who's mission is to raise general funds for Trinity. The main fundraiser has been the Cookie Walk which is held towards the end of November. Each year this fundraiser seems to be growing with support from church members and members of our community outside of Trinity. This past Nov. we raised the most amount of money to date.

Thank you all who support us with your time and energy.

The 4Trinity Fundraising Team

### ***Tuesday Morning Coffee Group***

Each Tuesday from 9:30 – 11:30 am, throughout the school year, the group meets for coffee or tea, fellowship and fun. This year the coffee group, like many other groups, was impacted by Covid. The Coffee Group met when restrictions allowed and then resumed regular meetings this past Autumn. The cost of running the program is financed through the weekly \$3 fee, donations and the occasional Fundraiser!

This year a new caregiver was hired. Sincere thanks to Karen Ronald! 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. Updates are posted on the Tuesday Coffee Group Facebook page and shared via email.

Submitted by Lisa Blais

## AOTS

AOTS stand for “As ONE That Serves” which is taken from the statement by Christ “I am among you as ONE that serves” (Luke 22:27).

Our group aims to promote fellowship, deepen the spiritual life of men, and develop an effective program of Christian service by providing encouragement and assistance to work among the youth of the church and community.

Between 15-20 men gather on the first Saturday of each month for breakfast followed by a business meeting. During the meeting, we strive to have engaging speakers that expand our knowledge of the community around us. This year for example, we were able to hear from Lisa Blais on the downtown mission that Trinity provides the local community; from Glenn Brophey on the move to electric vehicles; and from Darlene Tripp on tips on how to organize your home. Each guest speaker receives the coveted AOTS mug.

This year, we were able to provide supporting funds that enhance youth programs at the church along with some general support for the church general fund. Donations were provided to the Trinity Vacation Bible Camp, Scouting North Bay and the Trinity Family Day Retreat. Our ability to offer this support is possible through the gift card program. Started by the late Ed Rose, this fundraiser generates nearly \$5,000 profit each year with over \$125,000 in gift cards purchased. To find out more on the program and how you can participate (without any additional cost to yourself other than the face value cost of a gift card), speak to any AOTS member.

We were pleased this year to introduce the AOTS Road Show. Through Rev Ted, the AOTS reached out to other area United Churches offering to deliver a Sunday worship service. The goal of this outreach is to share our men’s ministry with other congregations. We were pleased when Emmanuel United asked us to join them. John Sheridan, an AOTS member and Designated Lay Minister led the service. The honorarium for the service was donated to the Mission and Service Fund.

In the coming year we hope to be joined by other men interested in Christian fellowship and by guest speakers who are wanting the Mug!

Bob Cook, President

AOTS Financial Statement to 31 December 2022				
Register Balance 1 January 2022				\$ 7,121.79
	Receipts	Expenses	Difference	
Gift Cards	127,715.00	123,738.48	\$ 3,976.52	
Breakfasts	1,960.00	1,571.21	\$ 388.79	
Dues	340.00		\$ 340.00	
Donations		3,742.00	\$ (3,742.00)	
Events	10.00	167.77	\$ (157.77)	
Jackets etc	190.00	0.00	\$ 190.00	
Puddings	890.00	300.00	\$ 590.00	
Bank/Register Balance 31 December 2022	\$ 131,105.00	\$ 129,519.46	\$ 1,585.54	\$ 8,707.33

### Donations 2022

Cub Camp	\$150.00
Backpac Smiles	\$300.00
Bible Camp	\$692.00
Trinity Commitment	\$2,000.00
Food Shelf	\$500.00
Picnic	\$115.79
Mothers Day Flowers	\$51.98
Infant Food Shelf	\$1,000.00 gift cards
Student Gift Cards	\$250.00 gift cards
Trinity extra	\$1,000.00

\$25 Orchards Gift Cards

170 @ \$20

included in Gift Card expenses

## **UCW**

The UCW is slowly getting back to normal. We have been having 8-10 ladies out to a meeting. I think some of us are still respectful of Covid. We have been able to pick up some of our activities, so it is good to be doing things again.

There have been some changes that the Pandemic sponsored!! One is the demise of the Friday Luncheons the other is the changes in the bazaar. Our numbers have dwindled, and the rest of us have aged. For those 2 reasons, we decided to eliminate the Friday Luncheons. It would be easier to have a lunch after church, than the effort it takes to put on a Friday Luncheon. This past year (2022), the bazaar was all on one floor. This made it much easier for the ladies, as well it allowed everyone to be part of the function. While it was not as successful as other years, the ladies were happy with the results.

One thing the Pandemic taught us was that we have to be careful of conflicts. It is not within our capabilities to have functions 2 days in a row, or possibly even 2 weeks in a row.

Near North UCW continues to be active. There will be a spring gathering, date to be decided.

Regionally, Canadian Shield UCW gave monies from collection and the silent auction at our annual meeting to support the clean-up from Hurricane Fiona.

Nationally, we have a new initiative. It is called Healing Fund. It is a Bursary to support Indigenous Women. It will run until our 65th Anniversary in 2027.

As we continue along a hopefully more normal path in 2023, we will try to be accepting of the changes the Pandemic has thrust upon us. We pray for grace to include these new ideas, and ask for guidance to find other possibilities to grow our group.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Biondi  
President.

UCW Treasurer's Report 2022		
Balance in register		2494.13
	Receipts	
Offerings		3715.00
Luncheon		105.25
Bazaar		1545.00
Donations (Funerals, Personal)		2400.00
Total		10259.38
	Disbursements	
Staff Christmas Gifts		375.00
Bank Fees		22.50
Expenses (Funeral Catering)		273.16
Don Hickey (clean kitchen cupboards)		1000.00
Total		1670.66
	Donations	
Trinity Tech Team (donation to Trinity Board)		200.00
AMFC (Madagascar)		500.00
Total		700.00
Bank Balance Dec.31		9008.04
Outstanding cheques		125.00

## **Prayer Shawl Group**

It has been amazing the response this group has had during the Pandemic. With the rate the shawls have moved, many have experienced the comfort and warmth they offer. It seems that having them in the Sanctuary, keeps them "front and centre" in people's minds. The last blessing was in December 2022, and there were about 20 shawls. Isn't it amazing what a ball of wool, and a crochet hook, or 2 needles can do!

Please continue to keep these cuddly wraps in your prayers. You can participate through prayer, donations of yarn, making a shawl, or by selecting one to take to someone who needs some extra comfort.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Biondi  
Leader.

### ***North Bay Scout Group***

Final pieces of the individual local groups merging into the new North Bay Scouting Group have been completed. Where we previously were dependent on the old West Ferris Group funds we are now operating within funds from three previous groups into one with signing authority given to the Group Commissioner, Treasurer and Group Registrar. Our Group Committee members are: Julie Carson – Group Commissioner; Anna Wright – Group Registrar; Rita Deschene; Group Treasurer; Cynthia Jackson – Fundraising.

In September we were pleased to again be able to return to ‘in-person’ Scouting and even more pleased to have use of Trinity for our weekly meetings for all sections – Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Ventures/Rovers.

The Beaver program has seen surge, with 23 registered youth and we are currently at capacity due to the limited trained Scouters at this time. While most are relatively new to the program, we also have 11-12 third year Beavers that will move up to Cubs for next fall. Ryan Rozicki continues to manage the section with help from Sandy Hodgins, Steve Spack. In September three new parents indicated an interest in helping and we have begun Tuesday evening training sessions to help prepare and get them active. And a fourth one has just recently expressed interest. The Beavers held their first overnight camp at Trinity in October, we thank you for the use of the space. For many of the youth it was their first ‘camp’ experience.

Our Cub program remains steady with 20 registered youth. A few have siblings in Beavers, so meeting on the same night has benefited both sections. Long time Scouter, Dave McKenney retired this summer but Hillary Hamilton has been assisting as contact Scouter for now. Hillary also supports Troop so we have been actively training up others to take over this role. Kathleen Padvaikas, Ryan Burnison, Kelly Miles, and Carson Lawday (youth leader) have been joined by new Scouters Emma Langdon-Hodgins and Jason Gauthier. We have had one Scouter move from Midland join us, Nic Schulze. We have also recruited two new parents that will be helping with the planning aspects and camps. The two are taking part in the Tuesday evening training sessions. Led by Hillary a submission was made to our new Scouts Canada Grizzly Den, and funds were received for an overnight camp at Santa’s Village in Bracebridge in September. The youth had a fantastic time and have since had a second overnight camp, this time at the local Camp Caritou.

Our Scout program is still strong with 12 youth and three Scouters – Hillary, Desmond Green and new to us Scouter, Brian Vrouvas. Led by a vibrant very motivated youth Troop leader they also received a donation from the Scouts Canada Grizzly Den and took part in a four night camping experience in Blue Mountain this summer. This youth planned the event, created a presentation, and then presented to the Grizzly Den group. Four of the youth from Troop were also able to participate in the international trip to Kajo 2022 in Finland this past summer. The section had also held three other overnight camps this fall.

The Ventures program has two youth and meets in conjunction with the Rover Crew (18-26 age group) which also has two members. These 4 young adults have been together since Beavers/ Cubs and share a strong bond. They are supported by three seasoned Scouters, Derek Lawday, Roger Cook and Dizzy Castle. Three members were able to participate in the international trip to Kajo 2022 in Finland this past summer. They have also planned and executed a late fall camp at our Timberlake location where they helped to clean-up and upgrade portions of the camp that were in need of repair.

A group of 15 (9 youth & 6 adults) travelled to Finland in July 2022 for FinJam or Kajo 2022. This Finnish National Jamboree is held every 6 years and was for Scouts and Venture age youth. We were in Helsinki for three days before heading to camp for a week. We then camped for a week with 13,000, and another 5000 joined us for the day only on Tuesday. We were in a small city in the beautiful Finnish wilderness, complete with saunas and surrounded by a beautiful lake. The youth were impressed by the organization of everything, and how even at camp almost everything was recycled. In fact, we recycled more at camp than we can here in our homes in North Bay. We then travelled to London for five days before we return to North Bay. They enjoyed London but on the first day the youth pointed out that Helsinki was a much cleaner city. This group appreciated the support received from the Trinity Church community through the several fundraising campaigns we conducted before leaving. As the group looks to plan for other possible international camps we hope to continue in this collaborative relationship.

With regards to fundraising there are now four National campaigns that help support our group: Apple Day, Scout Popcorn, Scout Coffee and Scout Seeds. Again, the church community continues to provide patronage to these events. We had a very successful Apple Day in October. After two years away from this event, it was nice to be out in the community and be seen again. With the help of Dave McKenney, we did work with Hubbert’s for Maple Syrup sales that helped the group as well. And Company Scouter Derek Lawday was able to give back to Trinity by helping with making dough for your annual apple pie sales.

Moving into 2023 we are hopeful for further growth in both youth and the expansion and development of the leadership team. We look forward to many more adventures and experiences. We truly value the sponsorship from Trinity United and its church community. Please let us know if you would like for a church member to join our monthly Group Committee meetings to learn more about what we do.

Yours in Scouting – Julie Carson



STATEMENT OF NORTH BAY GROUP  
JANUARY 2022 TO DECEMBER 2022

INCOME

BALANCE AS DEC 31/21	\$ 9,749.66	
APPLE DAY	3,224.50	
REGISTRATION	930.00	
MAPLE SYRUP	8,026.00	
FINLAND	1,416.20	
TRIP	250.00	
DONATIONS	95.00	
ALMAGAMATION	1,324.96	
TOTAL		\$25,016.32

EXPENSE

TIMBERLAKE	1,002.94	
BADGES	758.13	
SCOUTS	197.06	
BANK CHARGES	30.00	
LEADER TRAINING	245.60	
PRC	132.30	
DONATION(REMEMBRANCE)	127.62	
FINJAM PAYMENT	6,650.00	
EQUIPMENT	571.61	
PROMOTION PAYMENT	176.08	
MAPLE SYRUP	5,526.75	
TOTAL		\$ 15,418.09

PROFIT/LOSS	\$ 9,598.23
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