

Trini Tidings 2019



Fall

**Trinity United Church
Portage la Prairie, MB**

Phone: 204-857-4471

e-mail: trinityu@mts.net

Website:

www.trinityunitedportage.ca

Trinity's "why" goal...

To build an inviting community so that we can connect and engage meaningfully with God, ourselves, and others.

Saturday Breakfasts are Back!



Mark your calendars for the upcoming Breakfasts at Trinity

Saturday mornings
from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
(no cost – donations are gratefully accepted)

Saturday, October 5
Saturday, November 9

COMING UP IN SUNDAY WORSHIP at TRINITY Sunday Services and Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

September 22, 2019

"Noah: the Obedient Eccentric"
Sunday School Begins

September 29, 2019

"What's With All the Sheep?"

October 6, 2019

"God Inspires"
World Communion Sunday

October 13, 2019

"Giving Thanks for Ordinary
Extraordinary People"
Thanksgiving Sunday

October 20, 2019

"A New Way of Life"
Sacrament of Baptism

October 27, 2019

"Where in the World?"
hosting the ALF Youth Retreat
Lunch following worship

November 3, 2019

"Leaving a Legacy"
All Saints Sunday
In Memoriam



Trinity's Special Events Calendar

"The Ridiculous Journey: Following a Nobody from Nowhere"

Sunday, September 22
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Breakfast at Trinity
Saturday, October 5
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

"The Ridiculous Journey: Following a Nobody from Nowhere"

Sunday, October 6
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

"The Ridiculous Journey: Following a Nobody from Nowhere"

Sunday, October 20
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

ALF 2019 Youth Retreat
October 24 – 27

Grief Team Training Session
Sunday, November 3
following worship

"The Ridiculous Journey: Following a Nobody from Nowhere"

Sunday, November 3
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Breakfast at Trinity
Saturday, November 9
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

The Scott Woods Show
Wednesday, November 13
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

The "Epic Fail" Retreat
Saturday, November 16
8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

UCW Annual Tea
Saturday, November 23
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.



ALF 2019 Where in the World?

ALF 2019 is coming to Trinity **October 24 - 27**. Can you help? We will be looking for kitchen workers to help feed youth all weekend. You could volunteer to help for one meal or several. If you're not available that weekend, you can help by making cookies, muffins, or dainties in advance or providing other food donations. Look for sign-up sheets at the church, or speak to Kim Guy (204-857-3551) if you can help.



Are you interested in baptism for your child? Our next baptism opportunity is **Sunday, October 20**. If you are interested, please contact Beth (trinitybeth@mts.net or 204-857-4471) by Friday, October 4.

What would Jesus buy?



What does our monthly credit card bill say about our stewardship? There is a lot of talk these days about “family values.” I am often curious how these values manifest themselves. How do we know when we live values we profess with our lips? The Bible frequently speaks of “bearing fruit,” when our faith takes on some form to demonstrate that it is active and engaged. As James might say, “Faith without works is dead.” So here’s a simple exercise in “family values.” Next time you get your monthly bank statement or your credit card bill, read it carefully. What were your major purchases? Who were these items bought for?

At a critical point in Jesus’ ministry, his brother and mother confront him and ask him to stop what he is doing lest he deprive his family of a close relation. His rebuke is stinging when he asks, “Who is my brother, who is my mother?” He answers his own question when he says that those who perform acts that fulfill his vision are his family.

Read Matthew 25:35 - 36 and you get a sense of what that vision is: the naked clothed, the homeless housed, the stranger welcomed, the prisoner visited. Does your bank statement read that way?

If the vast majority of our purchases are for things that have nothing to do with Jesus’ vision, or even our vision, why are we buying them? Who told us we have to? Do they bring us peace of mind, satisfaction, or real joy?

Isn’t it time we had a serious conversation with ourselves, with someone wise and thoughtful, perhaps in prayer? Given what we have, what we need, and what this vision that stirs us requires, what are we doing with the resources we’ve received?

The time for that conversation is now.

*Written by Kevin Little,
for The United Church of Canada
www.united-church.ca*

**Financial Update
May – August 2019
Goal - \$46,902
Given - \$48,055**



**Please help!
Thank you.
Giving Goals
September - October
\$26,496
Let’s keep it up!**

Are you on P.A.R.?

Have you thought about making your church donation by P.A.R. (Pre-Authorized Remittance)? Through PAR, automatic monthly withdrawals are made from your bank account. PAR is easy to set up, simply email or call Jacquie at the church office (trinityu@mts.net or 204-857-4471) or come in some day during office hours (9-12 or 1-4), and she will walk you through the process. If you are already on PAR, don’t forget that you can increase or decrease your PAR donation by contacting the office any time.



UPDATE 2019

Trinity Funerals since the
May 2019 TriniTidings

Funerals

Phyllis Jean Love
May 9, 2019

Lawence Richard Orville Henry
May 20, 2019

Einar Axel Bergson
June 8, 2019

May Victoria (Vickie) Johnson
June 12, 2019

Murray Alden Young
June 25, 2019

Edward James Connery
June 26, 2019

Dorothy Martha White
June 27, 2019

Bradley Haldon Beddome
August 16, 2019

Doris Irene Kjartanson
August 20, 2019

Lorna “Maxine” Schroeder
August 23, 2019

Mae Sara Sanderson
September 14, 2019

Trinity's Memorial Fund



*"Tis a fearful thing
to love what death can touch.
A fearful thing
to love, to hope, to dream, to be-
to be,
And oh, to lose.
A thing for fools, this,
And a holy thing,
a holy thing
to love.*

*For your life has lived in me,
your laugh once lifted me,
your word was gift to me.
To remember this brings painful
joy.*

*'Tis a human thing, love,
a holy thing, to love
what death has touched."
(Yehuda HaLevi)*

In this season of Fall, we remember the rhythm of loving and letting go as we watch the leaves we so enthusiastically greeted as new buds of life a few short months ago change colour and fall to the ground to become fertilizer for next season's growth. So too it is with life and death. As humans we love and live and die. This is holy and beautiful but it is also painful and hard. Too often, it seems like we are just beginning to learn how to love one another well when the time comes to say goodbye and learn the painful art of letting go. One way in which we can continue to honour the love we have shared and allow it to become fertilizer for new growth is through gifts to the Memorial Fund. Trinity's Memorial Fund is used for worship and

Christian education purposes to support the on-going life and vitality of our congregation. We give thanks for the life and love of the following persons in whose memory we have received Memorial Fund donations since May:

*Betty Kramble
Roy Tibbett
Lorena Pogue
Tam McEwen
Vickie Johnson
Lucille Murray
Murray Young
Glenn Arnott
Bert Bazin
Maxine Schroeder
Arnie Barr*

*Gifts were also received to the
Operating Fund in memory of
Lucille Murray and Tam
McEwen.*

Do you like to sing?

Kids age 5-15 are welcome to join the junior choir. We'll sing at church on Sunday mornings (church is at 10:30 a.m.), and we'll have a practice the Thursday before (7 – 7:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary).

Our first practice on Sept 26. Mark your calendars for these Sundays (and the Thursday before too!):

September 29

October 27

December 1

December 24

(Christmas Eve – early service)

January 26

March 15

April 12

(Easter Sunday)

May 10

Singers interested in being part of the Senior Choir are welcome to join us for practices, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.



Games Night

Our regular Games Night begins on **September 23 at 7:00 p.m.**



We have had an increase in

attendance recently and hope it continues.

Regular games of Bingo, Crokinole, Uno, Trouble, and occasionally others, are enjoyed by the attendees and volunteers, followed by lunch.

Prizes for Bingo are always welcome; note pads, mugs, CDs, shampoo, body wash, and other toiletries are popular. Some enjoy ornaments for their rooms/homes. Favourites of course are snacks (chips, chocolate bars and drinks)

Anyone wishing to join us is most welcome.

Library News



Do you like to read? Ever tried some of the good reads in Trinity's library? We do have more than books, including the new United Church magazine called "Broadview". It is very timely and covers much more than church news (that too). Give it a try and be surprised!

The library works on an honour system with no borrowing time limit, but enjoy and then please return the materials.

Need help to find something? Tell Jacquie or Barbara Jones and we'll help you. Good reading!

Sunday Evening Video Study

Coming this Fall we will be offering a bi-weekly Sunday Evening study using The Work of

the People's video series "The Ridiculous Journey: Following a Nobody from Nowhere". It will begin on Sunday September 22 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. and include our supper meal. As supper will be provided the first week (we'll figure out supper plans further once we know the shape of the group), please register in advance through the Trinity office. You can mark the dates in your calendar now:

September 22, October 6, October 20, November 3, November 17, December 1.

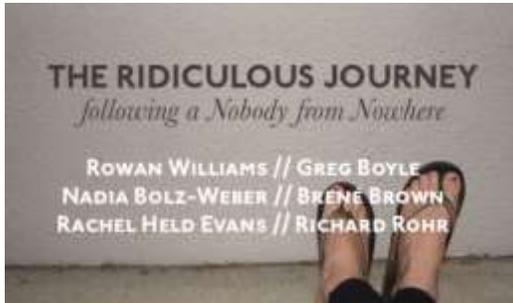
Any interested persons are welcome. For those who wish to use this study as an exploration towards baptism or confirmation, we will celebrate that step in early January.

Here is an excerpt from the introduction to the study...

THE RIDICULOUS JOURNEY Following A Nobody from Nowhere

A search for purpose and meaning in the events and choices of our lives. A costly journey with an unknown destination. A Middle Eastern homeless man from twenty centuries ago and why he still stirs the souls and imagination of so many.

Each of us gets to choose the paths we will travel. They will of course contain unforeseen surprises of both the welcome and unwelcome sort.



Where shall we go you and I?
Shall we go along together?
How shall we get there?

And how will we know
when "there" is now "here"?
"Come, follow me,"
a voice interrupts.
Who is this?
A wandering

homeless man.

Why should we give up all of this

to follow this nobody from nowhere?

It is a ridiculous journey.

Which, of course, is the only kind there is.

So, let us begin ...



ALF 2019
Where in the World?

ALF is coming to Trinity in October! This

youth retreat has been running since there was a television show called ALF that the kids thought was cool (yes, the late 1980s). So it was called "ALF" and leaders tried hard to merge it with a theme like "All about Friends" or "And Let's have Fun" or even "Adolescents Living with Faith". Eventually, the leaders stop bothering to try and come up with a link, and just called it ALF. And ALF it still is! There are several ways you can be involved with ALF at Trinity this fall. If you are in gr7-12, you should come! If you are just a little older, come and be a leader! If you are quite a bit older, you can help in the kitchen, or even provide a place for leaders to shower in your home during the day on Friday October 25. No matter what your age, you should come and join us for Worship and Lunch on Sunday, October 27. It will be a lively church service with participation from the youth who have spent the weekend at our church!

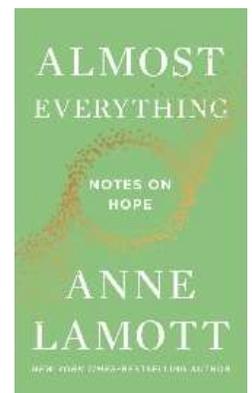
Friday Study Group

We meet on Fridays from 10:15 to 11:45 at Queen's Court (someone will greet you at the door). New members are always welcome. Contact the church office or Beth to find out what chapter we are on.

This Fall, we are studying Anne Lamott's book *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope*. In this funny yet profound book, Lamott explores how we find a hope that can sustain us amid all the frustrations of everyday life. Her book will offer us an opening to explore our own faith journeys and the places we find grace and hope as well as the frustrations. Join us to consider such questions as:

- What inspires hope for you?
- How have people who irritate you changed you or helped you grow?
- What brings you joy?
- What does unplugging mean to you?
- How do you release hate? and
- What nurtures your curiosity?

Each week will have a chapter from the book to read as preparation. If you cannot come one week, you can read the section in the book to stay connected with what the group will be talking about. We have a copy of the book on reserve in the Trinity library so that those who don't want to own their own copy can come in some time during the week to read the chapter for the week.



The “Epic Fail” Retreat

BRENÉ BROWN



Is your life going perfectly according to plan? Are you free from disappointment, regret, frustration, uncertainty and stress? If so, then this retreat is NOT for you. But if, like the rest of us, your life isn't picture-perfect all the time, then this retreat might be for you. Sometimes, life is a real pain. That doesn't mean there is anything wrong with us or that we aren't being faithful with our lives. If you are looking for a safe space to be real about the ups and downs of life and to look for God in the midst of it, then this retreat is for you. Join us **Saturday, November 16 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Trinity United Church.** The retreat begins with a continental breakfast and includes a hot lunch. Some of the themes we will explore include: owning our own story, practicing self-compassion, laughter can be holy, embracing vulnerability, resisting the “quick fix”, letting go, and noticing grace. **Pre-registration is required by Monday, November 4 so we can plan for meals and have adequate supplies.** Suggested fee is \$50 to cover the cost of meals (\$15), supplies and some of the time that went into preparing and leading the retreat. However, cost should never be a barrier for anyone who wants to participate. Pay what you can and free is an option. To register, call the Trinity Church office at 204-857-4471 or email trinityu@mts.net

The United Church is accepting donations to respond to the needs of those affected by Hurricane Dorian's devastation. As of mid-September, United Church people have given over \$15,000 to support global partners responding to humanitarian needs in the Bahamas. Help is still needed. You can donate on-line through the United Church of Canada website (<https://www.united-church.ca/hurricane-dorian-relief>) or through your offering envelope or the church office. **If donating through Trinity, please make cheques payable to Trinity and sure to note "Emergency Response—Caribbean Relief (Dorian)" on the face of your cheque.**

All are Welcome Here

“All are welcome here. But, we extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, confused, filthy rich, comfortable or dirt poor.



We extend a special welcome to wailing babies and excited toddlers.

We welcome you if you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself.

You're welcome here if you're just browsing, just woke up or just got out of prison.

We don't care if you're more Christian than Mother Teresa, or haven't been in church since Christmas 1977.

We welcome those who are over 60 but not yet grown up,

and to teenagers who are growing up too fast.

We welcome keep-fit-moms, football dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters.

We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps, or if you don't like “organized religion.” (We're not keen on it either.)

We welcome those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here just because mom or grandma is in in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither.

We offer a prayer to those who could use a special prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids, or got lost on their way to a cottage and ended up here by mistake.

We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters, young, old – and you!”

UCW Annual Tea Saturday, November 23



2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Donations of baking, crafts, sweets, jellies, knitting, etc. will be gratefully received. More information to follow.

Everyone is welcome!

An Old Time Country Christmas... with The Scott Woods Band



The Scott Woods Band will be here at Trinity, **Wednesday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m.** Tickets are \$30/adult, \$15/child and can be purchased through the office.

Join Scott Woods and his talented band for this uplifting 2-hour live family-friendly show, featuring lots of your favourite Christmas carols, fun fiddle tunes, as well as Traditional Country and Gospel songs. Scott will keep you entertained with his keen wit, his prowess on the fiddle, and of course his trick fiddling. Enjoy impressive guitar solos by "The Telecaster Master" Steve Piticco, and smooth vocals and yodelling by Naomi Bristow, "Canada's Yodelin" Cowgirl. 14-year old Leo Stock, also known as "Spaghetti Legs" will demonstrate sensational step dancing, and Scott's sister Kendra Woods Norris adds sweet harmonies, and levity to every show.

Making Space for Grief

St. Benedict's Retreat Centre (just outside Winnipeg) is offering a retreat focused on grief from **Friday, November 15 at 7 p.m. to Saturday, November 16 at 1 p.m.** For more information or to register see www.stbens.ca or call (204) 339-1705

Thank you!

Thank you for all your support as I've met my many challenges over the past few years. There were so many phone calls, visits, food, inquiries, prayers and kind thoughts. I've missed being with you. With gratitude,
Louise McManus

Hospital Visits

Trinity's ministers are pleased to visit you while in hospital, but they can't do so unless they know you are

there. If you would like the ministers know that you are in hospital so they can look in on you when they are at the hospital, please have someone contact the church.



Check us out on social media



Website trinityunitedportage.ca
Facebook Group "Trinity United Church Portage la Prairie"
Instagram "trinityportage"
Twitter "@ChurchPortage"



ALF 2019
Where in the World?

Portage la Prairie, MB
October 25 to 27, 2019

ALF is a Region-wide youth retreat for grades 7 to 12, held annually on the SAGE Weekend. This is a great opportunity for young people to come together and have fun exploring a theme in both small and large groups, giving individuals the chance to discover and deepen their faith in God, in the comfort and safety of their peers, young adult mentors and chaplains. For more information, go to <http://www.mnwo.ca/youth-and-young-adults/>

To register, follow this link:
<https://form.jotform.com/91834922103251>

If you are over 16 and want more info about the possibility of being a home group leader, contact Matt for an application. (mkenyonccc6@gmail.com) He and his team partner are already working on putting together a great team of leaders.

And remember that if family finances are tight, there is a place on the registration to request assistance. We don't want that to stop anyone from being able to come, if they wish to be there!

Could you help Trinity extend a word of caring to people in times of grief? If so, the Grief Team would love to welcome you. We are planning a training session after worship on **November 3** for current and prospective visitors after worship. Mark the date on your calendar now.

